

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL



YEAR 7 (11+) ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

January 2020
for entry in September 2020

ENGLISH

Name: _____

School: _____

Time allowed: 5 minutes reading time, then 1 hour exam.
You are advised to spend approximately 35 minutes on Section A
and 25 minutes on section B.

Equipment needed: Pen and lined paper

Information for candidates:

1. Dictionaries are NOT allowed.
2. Write your name and school on this page.
3. You may NOT make notes on this exam paper during the 5 minutes of reading time. After the first 5 minutes of reading time you may write on this paper.
4. Write your answers on the separate paper provided. Please put your name on all the sheets of paper you use. Answer both Section A and Section B.
5. You should write in full sentences and pay attention to both spelling and punctuation.
6. The paper will be marked out of 35. The marks for each question are indicated in square brackets []. 3 marks are available for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

SECTION A

Total marks available for this section are 20

In this extract, the boy Pip is visiting an old lady, Miss Havisham, for the first time.

5 She was dressed in rich materials – satins, and lace, and silks – all of white. Her shoes were white. And she had a long white veil hanging from her hair, and she had bridal flowers in her hair, but her hair was white. Some bright jewels sparkled on her neck and on her hands, and some other jewels lay sparkling on the table. Dresses, less splendid than the dress she wore, and half-packed trunks, were scattered about. She had not quite finished dressing, for she had but one shoe on – the other was on the table near her hand – her veil was but half arranged, her watch and chain were not put on, and some lace for her bosom lay with those trinkets, and with her handkerchief, and gloves, and some flowers, and a Prayer-book, all confusedly heaped about the looking-glass.

10 It was not in the first few moments that I saw these things, though I saw more of them in the first moments than might be supposed. But, I saw that everything within my view which ought to be white, had been white long ago, and had lost its lustre¹, and was faded and yellow. I saw that the bride within the bridal dress had withered like the dress, and like the flowers, and had no brightness left but the brightness of her sunken eyes. I saw
15 that the dress had been put upon the rounded figure of a young woman, and that the figure upon which it now hung loose, had shrunk to skin and bone. Once, I had been taken to see some ghastly waxwork at the Fair, representing I know not what impossible personage lying in state. Once, I had been taken to one of our old marsh churches to see a
20 skeleton in the ashes of a rich dress, that had been dug out of a vault under the church pavement. Now, waxwork and skeleton seemed to have dark eyes that moved and looked at me. I should have cried out, if I could.

25 ‘Who is it?’ said the lady at the table.

‘Pip, ma’am.’

‘Pip? Come nearer; let me look at you. Come close.’

30 It was when I stood before her, avoiding her eyes, that I took note of the surrounding objects in detail, and saw that her watch had stopped at twenty minutes to nine, and that a clock in the room had stopped at twenty minutes to nine.

35 ‘Look at me,’ said Miss Havisham. ‘You are not afraid of a woman who has never seen the sun since you were born?’

From ‘Great Expectations’ by Charles Dickens

¹Lustre – shine or brightness.

1. What impression do you get of Miss Havisham in the first paragraph? Remember to include examples from the passage to support your ideas. [6 marks]
2. How would you describe the meeting between Miss Havisham and Pip? [4 marks]
3. How does the writer create a sense of horror and decay in the passage? Remember to include examples from the passage to support your ideas. [10 marks]

Please turn over...

SECTION B

Total marks available for this section are 15

Choose **ONE** option:

EITHER

1. Look at this painting, and write a short story based on it.



OR:

2. Write a story which features the stopping of time.