



# OUNDLE

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School

Junior Entrance and Scholarship Examination 2014

## English

Time allowed: **1hour**

### *Instructions*

- *Please write your name at the top of each piece of paper you use*
- *Answer as many questions as you can*
- *There are two Sections: Section A and Section B*
- *Answer in full sentences unless asked to do otherwise*
- *Remember to leave yourself enough time to check your work*
- *Dictionaries are not allowed*

*Good Luck*

**Section A** You should spend approximately **35** minutes on this section.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

*Please note : some questions have more marks than others.*

**Snow and Isolation**

5 He woke in the morning to a curious whiteness. His window was muffled. It had snowed. He got up and opened his door, and shuddered. Ugh! How cold! All white with a dark leaden sea, and black rocks curiously speckled with white. The foam was no longer pure. It seemed dirty. And the sea ate at the whiteness of the corpse-like land. Crumbles of snow were silting down the dead air.

On the ground the snow was a foot deep, white and smooth and soft, windless. He took a shovel to clear round his house and shed. The pallor of the morning darkened. There was a strange rumbling of far-off thunder in the frozen air, and through the newly-falling snow, a dim flash of lightning. Snow fell steadily down in the motionless obscurity.

10 He went out for a few minutes. But it was difficult. He stumbled and fell in the snow which burned his face. Weak and faint, he toiled home. When he had recovered, he took the trouble to make some hot milk.

15 It snowed all the time. In the afternoon again there was a muffled rumbling of thunder, and flashes of lightning blinking reddish through the falling snow. Uneasy, he went to bed and lay staring fixedly at nothingness.

20 Morning seemed never to come. An eternity long he lay and waited for one alleviating pallor on the night. At last it seemed the air was paler. His house was a cell faintly illuminated with white light. He realised the snow was walled outside his window. He got up in the dead cold. When he opened his door, the motionless snow stopped him in a wall as high as his breast. Looking over the top of it, he felt the dead wind slowly driving, saw the snow- powder lift and travel like a funeral train. The blackish sea churned and champed, seeming to bite at the snow, impotent. The sky was grey but luminous.

25 He began to work in a frenzy to get at his boat. If he was to be shut in, it must be by his own choice, not by the mechanical power of the elements. He must get to the sea! He must be able to get at his boat!

But he was weak, and at times the snow overcame him. It fell on him and he lay buried and lifeless. Yet every time he struggled alive before it was too late and fell upon the snow with the energy of fever. Exhausted, he would not give in.

(The Man Who Loved Islands D H Lawrence)

1. In no more than **four** sentences explain what is happening in this extract. (2 marks)
2. Why do you think the whiteness was “curious “ (L 1) ? (2 marks)
3. Explain in your own words how:
  - a) the sea can be “leaden” (L2)
  - b) the land can be “corpse-like” (L4)
  - c) the air can be “dead” (L5) (3 marks)
4. How deep was the snow on the **first** morning and how deep was it on the **second** morning? (2 marks)
5. What do you think the writer means when he claims that the snow “burned his face” (L11)? (2 marks)
6. Looking at Lines 10-12, explain why the man “toiled” home. (2marks)
7. Choose and explain what **two** of the following **four** phrases means in the context of the passage:
  - a) motionless obscurity (L9)
  - b) staring fixedly at nothingness (L15)
  - c) alleviating pallor (L16)
  - d) faintly illuminated (L17) (4 marks)
8. Find **one** simile, metaphor **or** personification and explain what it suggests to you. (4 marks)
9. What does the character urgently wish to do and why does he feel this way (L23-25)? (4 marks)
10. Reading the final paragraph (L26-28), what conclusions can you draw about the person being described?  
Explain your views in detail. (6 marks)

(Total: 30 marks)

**Section B** You should spend approximately **25** minutes on this section.

Leave time to check through your work.

**Choose ONE of the following THREE options:**

**EITHER**

**OPTION 1**

Write a short story or piece of descriptive writing which begins with ONE of the following sentences:

- a) As my eyes adjusted to the dark, I could make out a mysterious shape.
- b) When the wind picked up and the sky turned an ominous black, the boy knew it was now or never!
- c) Through the window of the compartment, she watched her parents growing smaller as they stood waving on the platform.

**OR**

**OPTION 2**

Books offer us imaginary places into which we can escape.

Think about a story you have read in which the setting was so inviting that you wished you could travel there or so convincing that you felt that you really were there.

Describe the story and its setting, explaining clearly what appealed to you and why.

**OR**

**OPTION 3**

Write your own story based upon the picture below. Think about creating a sense of atmosphere through the words and phrases you employ. Try to make your setting as evocative as possible.



(Total : 30 marks)