



**ST. NICHOLAS COLLEGE  
RABAT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATIONS  
FEBRUARY 2017**

<b>LEVEL 7-8</b>
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<b>YEAR 7</b>	<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>TIME: 2 HOURS</b>
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Marks			
Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

**SECTION A: LANGUAGE** **15 MARKS**

1. Look at the table, then read the paragraph and fill in the blanks including the following adverbs of frequency: usually, sometimes, never, soon, always, rarely, often. One of them is extra. The first one (0) has been done for you. (5 marks)

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Maria						
Mother						
Lucy and Lina						
Father	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent
The boys						
The dog						

The Jameson family have a busy life style. The older daughter, Maria (0) **always does** (do) her homework after school. Mrs Jameson, the mother, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis during the week. Lucy and Lina, the twins, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the cinema. Mr Jameson, their dad, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (miss) work and is only home during the weekend. The two younger boys (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (play) rugby in the afternoon. Luckily, the dog, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the vet!

2. **Fill in the gaps with the comparative or the superlative forms of the adjectives given. The first one (0) has been done for you. (4 marks)**

In a survey of 2,000 British kids in a teenage magazine, the kids voted that science teachers are the (0) **most boring** (boring) of all. The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoyable) subjects in the survey are art, PE and English. English is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (popular) than maths. That's possibly because many students find maths (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (difficult) than English and their maths marks are (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (bad) than their English marks. For the majority of students PE is the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (easy) subject of all, and the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (funny)! 16% of the kids love school and 70% think it's OK - it's (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (good) than staying at home all day. Perhaps the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (bad) thing of all about school is homework. Most 15-year-old students spend 1 hour 28 minutes on homework each week.

3. **Complete the postcard by filling in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you. (6 marks)**

Dear Adrian,

Greetings from Scotland! I (0) **think** (think) Edinburgh (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) the most beautiful city in Britain. We (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) in a small but comfortable hotel in the centre, near the castle. It (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (not/be) cheap but much cheaper than London. The people here (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) very friendly and helpful too. We (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) the castle and Holyroodhouse last week. Yesterday we (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Edinburgh zoo and did some shopping. The Royal Mile has lots of souvenir shops that sell traditional Scottish souvenirs. My whole family really (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (love) the food here. There are a lot of cosy cafés everywhere that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (serve) delicious cakes. Yesterday I (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) too many scones. The only problem is the weather. It's cold and when it (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (not/rain), the sky is covered with clouds. I (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (have) to go now as I (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (not want) to be late for dinner.

See you soon,

Cecil

**SECTION B – Reading Comprehension**

**20 MARKS**

**Read the Text which is on a separate paper and answer the questions below.**

1. **Say whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F):** 2½ marks [ ]
- a. John was shorter than the teachers. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. John was a real prince. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. The narrator liked to boast that he was good at school. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. The narrator had already made plans to walk home with someone. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. John was very competitive in school subjects. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why does the narrator say that the school register put it as ‘Dafte John’ rather than ‘John Dafte’? 2 marks [ ]

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3. a. How did the narrator feel about John? 1 mark [ ]

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- b. What made him feel about John in this way? 1 mark [ ]

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4. Why was it difficult for John to find someone his own size? 1 mark [ ]

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5. What was unusual about ‘the Monday morning after half term’ (line 12)? 1 mark [ ]

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6. What excuse did John give for coming to school in that state? 1 mark [ ]

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7. How did the narrator know that John was lying about his injuries? 2 marks [ ]

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8. John had to look ‘a long way down’ (line 29) to see the narrator. What does this tell you about the narrator? 1 mark [ ]

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9. Why do you think that John wanted the narrator to be clever? 2 marks [ ]

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10. Why was the narrator surprised when John asked him for help? 1 mark [ ]

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11. What is the meaning of the following words as used in the passage? 3 marks [ ]

a. excel (line 4) \_\_\_\_\_

b. nervous (line 28) \_\_\_\_\_

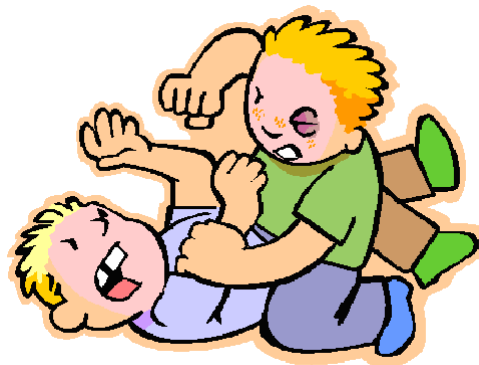
c. gloomy (line 44) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Who do the following words refer to? 1½ marks [ ]

a. We (line 4) \_\_\_\_\_

b. he (line 47) \_\_\_\_\_

c. You (line 55) \_\_\_\_\_



**Part I: Poetry – Unprepared Text**

Read the poem and answer all the questions that follow.

10 marks

**Who is looking at the moon tonight?**

by *Brenda Williams*

- |    |   |   |    |
|----|---|---|----|
| 1  | Do you ever wonder<br>When you look up at the sky<br>Who else is looking at the moon<br>As the night goes by?                                   | Could the moon be watching you?<br>Smiling, as the moon can do<br>Looking down on distant lands<br>Watching children holding hands.           | 15 |
| 5  | Perhaps somewhere in a distant land,<br>Other children like to stand<br>And watch the moon high in the sky<br>As the night goes by.             | Children of the world unite<br>Stand together just one night<br>Think of others just like you<br>Many children watching too.                  | 20 |
| 10 | If only you could hold their hand,<br>Another child in a distant land,<br>If only you could talk a while,<br>Perhaps together, laugh and smile. | The world becomes a smaller place<br>When children of a different place<br>Stand together for a while<br>Perhaps to talk, or laugh and smile. | 25 |



Watch and wonder, by and by  
Who is looking at the sky?

1. At first glance, the poem seems to be simply about children who are looking at the night sky. Yet, it is much deeper than that. What do you think the poem is about? What message is the poet trying to pass on to the reader? (2 marks)

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2. **Fill in the blanks.** (2 marks)

The poem is made up of \_\_\_\_\_ stanzas and \_\_\_\_\_ lines. The persona or the speaking voice in the poem is that of \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What examples of figures of speech are the following: (3 marks)
- a. 'Smiling as the moon can do' (l. 10) \_\_\_\_\_
- b. 'The world becomes a smaller place' (l.17) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. 'Watch and wonder, by and by' (l.25) \_\_\_\_\_
4. The poet repeats words like '*smile*' and '*laugh*'. Why do you think this is so? (1 mark)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
5. Quote **TWO** lines from the poem that brings out the poet's wish for unity amongst all the children around the world. (1 mark)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
6. Give the rhyme scheme of the whole poem. (1 mark)
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Part II: Prose – Unprepared Text**

**Read the following passage and answer all the questions below.**

**10 marks**

Suddenly they heard footsteps coming towards them through the woods. The squirrels looked at each other in alarm and Mrs. Bushy Tail shot up the tree like a flash of lightning. Mr. Bushy Tail stayed behind for a moment or two in order to scatter some fallen leaves over the nuts in the hole, and then he too scampered quickly up the tree.

Mr. Bush Tail was just that second too late to escape being seen.

'Oh! Look! A squirrel! See, Elsie, a squirrel.... there ..... on that branch!'

'Oh, David, so it is! Why, there are two of them!'

For a few minutes they stood there talking and laughing and gazing up into the tree. Their eyes invading every possible private corner of that tree. Mr. and Mrs. Bushy Tail looked down and to their horror saw that at the foot of the tree, just in front of their little storehouse, stood a boy and a girl. Suddenly the boy noticed the little heap of leaves and bent down upon his knees.

'Look, Elsie! Look at what they have been doing!'

'Nuts!' exclaimed Elsie. 'They were hiding them when we came along. They are watching us now to see what we will do!'

Two pair of bright little eyes followed David as he picked up a nut from the hole, cracked it with his teeth, and began to munch.

'Try one, Elise.' The girl picked up a large nut, but suddenly dropped it again into the hole.

‘David! It’s not fair.’

‘Why not? We’ve found them and they don’t belong to anybody.’

‘Yes, they do. They belong to the squirrels. The squirrels have worked hard to gather these nuts, and it is their winter store. They are winter sleepers, and might starve to death if they cannot get food during the cold months. Think of what we should feel like if we lived in a hut in a wood and some great giant came along and stole all the food we had stored for winter.’

David dropped the second nut he was holding and looked ashamed. ‘It does sound mean,’ he said. ‘I didn’t think of it like that.’

Mr. Bushy Tail was trembling with fear and anger, and his little wife was almost in tears. They were robbing their bank!

(Adapted from “*Buried Treasure and Other Stories*” by Angus MacIver)

1. The phrase “the squirrels looked at each other in alarm” (l. 1-2) shows that they were \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)
2. The words ‘scampered quickly’ (line 4) show a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ movement. (1 mark)
3. The children were \_\_\_\_\_ to see the squirrels. (1 mark)
4. The phrase, “Their eyes invading every possible private corner” (line 9), shows that the children’s action was not \_\_\_\_\_ by the squirrels. (1 mark)
5. What does the phrase “their horror” (line 10) refer to? (1 mark)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. This passage is written in the \_\_\_\_\_ person. (1 mark)
7. Find **one** example of a simile. (1 mark)  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Find **one** example of a metaphor. (1 mark)  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What does “They were robbing their bank!” (l. 28) show about the squirrels? (1 mark)

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10. What would you have done had you been in David’s place? (1 mark)

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**SECTION D – Composition**

**25 MARKS**

**Write between 150 and 200 words on ONE of the following.**

1. If you could be invisible for one day, what would you do? Write a **story** about the events of this imaginary day.
2. Your English cousin was here on holiday for two weeks this summer. You became friends and are going to communicate by email. Send him/her an **email** in which you write about how you spent the rest of the holidays and describe your feelings about going to a new school. Your email address is [stephvella@gmail.com](mailto:stephvella@gmail.com) and your cousin’s is [lesliesmith@gmail.com](mailto:lesliesmith@gmail.com). Use these email addresses to complete your email.
3. Write a **story** about the pictures below. Give it a suitable, catchy title!

