

11+ Entrance and Scholarship Examination

English Practice Paper

Time allowed: 1 hour

Full name _____

Read these instructions carefully:

- Write in blue or black ink.
- Write your responses in this booklet.
- Answer all the questions in Section A and one from Section B.
- Spend 30 minutes on each question.
- No dictionaries allowed.

Section A – Reading and Understanding – 30 minutes

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

An extract from Heidi by Joanna Spyri

After Deta had disappeared, the Uncle sat down again on the bench, blowing big clouds of smoke out of his pipe. He did not speak, but kept his eyes fastened on the ground. In the meantime Heidi looked about her, and discovering the goat-shed, peeped in. Nothing could be seen inside. Searching for some more interesting thing, she saw the three old fir-trees behind the hut. Here the wind was roaring through the branches and the tree-tops were swaying to and fro. Heidi stood still to listen. After the wind had ceased somewhat, she walked round the hut back to her grandfather. She found him in exactly the same position, and planting herself in front of the old man, with arms folded behind her back, she gazed at him. The grandfather, looking up, saw the child standing motionless before him. "What do you want to do now?" he asked her.

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"I want to see what's in the hut," replied Heidi.

"Come then," and with that the grandfather got up and entered the cottage.

"Take your things along," he commanded.

"I do not want them any more," answered Heidi.

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The old man, turning about, threw a penetrating glance at her. The child's black eyes were sparkling in expectation of all the things to come. "She is not lacking in intelligence," he muttered to himself. Aloud he added: "Why don't you need them any more?"

"I want to go about like the light-footed goats!"

"All right, you can; but fetch the things and we'll put them in the cupboard." The child obeyed the command. The old man now opened the door, and Heidi followed him into a fairly spacious room, which took in the entire expanse of the hut. In one corner stood a table and a chair, and in another the grandfather's bed. Across the room a large kettle was suspended over the hearth, and opposite to it a large door was sunk into the wall. This the grandfather opened. It was the cupboard, in which all his clothes were kept. In one shelf were a few shirts, socks and towels; on another a few plates, cups and glasses; and on the top shelf Heidi could see a round loaf of bread, some bacon and cheese. In this cupboard the grandfather kept everything that he needed for his subsistence. When he opened it, Heidi pushed her things as far behind the grandfather's clothes as she could reach. She did not want them found again in a hurry. After looking around attentively in the room, she asked, "Where am I going to sleep, grandfather?"

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"Wherever you want to," he replied. That suited Heidi exactly. She peeped into all the corners of the room and looked at every little nook to find a cosy place to sleep. Beside the old man's bed she saw a ladder. Climbing up, she arrived at a hayloft, which was filled with fresh and fragrant hay. Through a tiny round window she could look far down into the valley.

"I want to sleep up here," Heidi called down. "Oh, it is lovely here. Please come up, grandfather, and see it for yourself."

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"I know it," sounded from below.

"I am making the bed now," the little girl called out again, while she ran busily to and fro. "Oh, do come up and bring a sheet, grandfather, for every bed must have a sheet."

"Is that so?" said the old man. After a while he opened the cupboard and rummaged around in it. At last he pulled out a long coarse cloth from under the shirts. It somewhat resembled a sheet, and with this he climbed up to the loft. Here a neat little bed was already prepared. On top the hay was heaped up high so that the head of the occupant would lie exactly opposite the window.

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Multiple Choice Questions:

Find each word/phrase in the text and work out which description best describes the correct meaning. (Tips: the meaning of the whole sentence will help you). Circle the answer you think is correct:

1. 'fastened' (line 2) (2 marks)

- a. Hungry b. As quickly as possible c. Fixed upon d. Resting

2. 'a penetrating glance' (line 15) (2 marks)

- a. An angry look b. An angry blow c. A deep blow d. A deep look

3. 'needed for his subsistence' (line 27) (2 marks)

- a. Required for his survival b. Used for parties
c. Used for his treatment d. Required for looking after Heidi

4. 'nook' (line 31) (2 marks)

- a. Bed b. Corner c. Kitchen d. Basket

5. 'coarse' (line 41) (2 marks)

- a. Because b. Rough c. Silky d. Expensive

Long Answer Questions:

- 6. How is the grandfather presented in this passage? Explain how the writer creates a sense of his character. You should make points and support them with evidence (quotations) from the text. Aim to make at least five different points. (10 marks)

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7. How is Heidi presented in this passage? Explain how the writer creates a sense of her character. You should make points and support them with evidence (quotations) from the text. Aim to make at least five different points. (10 marks)

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Section B – Writing – 30 minutes

Choose ONE of the following questions. Each one is worth 30 marks.

Either:

1. Write a short story titled: *A Strange Meeting*

Or

2. Write a letter to a friend in which you describe moving to a new home.

Or

3. Write the text for a leaflet persuading children to spend more time outdoors.

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