

Name.....

Date of Birth.....

Current School.....

Princethorpe College



YEARS 7 and 8

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2011

ENGLISH PAPER

ONE HOUR

Examiner's Initials

Section A

Section B

Total %

SECTION A

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

In this passage the pupils are on a week's school trip to Whitby. Fliss and Lisa are friends and on the previous night Fliss had a frightening experience in her bedroom. It opens at breakfast time the following morning.

1 They gathered in the lounge after breakfast. Mr Hepworth had fixed a large map of the
2 coast to the wall. He pointed. "Here's Whitby, where we are. And here," he slid his
3 finger northward along the coastline, "is Staithes, where the coach will drop us this
4 morning. Staithes used to be an important fishing port like Whitby, and there are still a
5 few fishermen there, but it is a quiet village now. Captain Cook worked in a shop at
6 Staithes when he was very young – before he decided to be a sailor."
7 "Will we be going in the shop, Sir?"
8 "No, Neil Atkinson, we will not. Unfortunately it was washed away by the sea a long
9 time ago. However, if we are very lucky we might see a ghost."
10 There were gasps and exclamations at this. "Captain Cook's ghost, Sir?" asked James
11 Garside. The teacher shook his head, smiling. "No, James. Not Captain Cook's. A
12 young girl's. There's a dangerous cliff at Staithes, a crumbling cliff, and the story goes
13 that when this girl was walking under it one day, a chunk of rock fell and decapitated her.
14 Who knows what decapitated means? Yes, Steven Jackson?
15 "Sir, knocked her cap off, Sir."
16 "No, Michelle Webster?"
17 "Squashed her, sir?"
18 "Closer, but not right. Ellie-May Sunderland?"
19 "Sir, knocked her head off, Sir."
20 "Correct." He leaned forward, peering at the girl through narrowed eyes. "Are you all
21 right, Ellie-May – you look a bit pasty?"
22 "Yes, Sir."
23 "Sure?"
24 "Yes, Sir."
25 "Right. Well, there's a bridge over a creek at Staithes, and that's where the headless
26 ghost has been seen. We'll be having a look round the village, then walking along the
27 clifftop to Runswick Bay. That's here." He jabbed at the map again. A boy raised his
28 hand.
29 "What is it, Robert Field?"
30 "How far is it Sir?"
31 The teacher shrugged, smiling. "A few miles. We'll find somewhere to eat our packed
32 lunches along the way, and the coach will be waiting at Runswick to bring us back here.
33 Right – it's a lovely sunny morning, so let's get started."
34 Lisa saved Fliss a seat on the coach. As they roared along the coast road, she said, "We
35 stayed awake in our room ever so late last night, talking. Telling jokes and all that. It was
36 brilliant."
37 You were all asleep before midnight though," said Fliss.
38 "How d'you know?"
39 "I passed your door at midnight. There wasn't a sound."
40 "What were you doing, passing our door at midnight?"

41 “I went to the toilet. Or at least I think I did.”
42 “How d’you mean, you think you did – don’t you know?”
43 Fliss pulled a face. “No. It’s all mixed up with this horrible dream I had.”
44 “What was it about, your dream?”
45 Fliss told her friend about the strange noises that had seemed to come from the linen
46 cupboard, the number thirteen on the door, the footsteps she thought she’d heard later.
47 “It all seemed so real, Lisa. But then this morning I looked, and of course there was no
48 number on the door and the sun was shining and everybody was shouting and messing
49 about on the landing, and it didn’t seem real any more. D’you know what I mean?”
50 Lisa nodded. “Sure. It was all a dream – you didn’t go to the toilet and you weren’t
51 outside our door at midnight so you don’t know what time we went to sleep, right?”
52 “Right. Except –“
53 “Except what, Fliss? What is it?”
54 “After the toilet, I dreamed I washed my hands, right? And it was one of those spurdy
55 taps where the water comes all at once and goes everywhere. Some went on the floor.
56 Quite a lot, in fact. There didn’t seem to be anything to mop it up with, and anyway I
57 was too scared to hang about so I left it.”
58 Lisa shrugged. “Dream water in a dream bathroom. So what?”
59 Fliss looked at her friend. “It was still there this morning.”

SECTION A

Answer **ALL** the questions in Section A and the question from Section B.

- Allow 30 minutes for Section A.
- Look carefully at the marks given for each question.
- Be sure to write enough to earn all the marks.
- Use full sentences when answering.

Questions

1. What impression do you get of Mr Hepworth? Select two quotations and comment on what each one tells us about him.

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(4 marks)

2. Where does the writer use humour in this passage? Comment on one example of humour.

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(2 marks)

3. Explain clearly, what Mr Hepworth's plans are for the day's outing.

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(4 marks)

4. What impression do you get of the relationship between the teacher and the pupils? Give reasons for your answer.

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(4 marks)

5. What impression do you get of the behaviour of the pupils? Explain your answer.

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(4 marks)

6. Why do you think the writer has included so much conversation in this passage?

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(1 mark)

7. Explain how the mood of the passage changes at the end.

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(2 marks)

8. What evidence is there that Lisa and Fliss are good friends? Include details from the passage in your answer.

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(4 marks)

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