

For markers only:

Section A: /25

Section B: /25

Total: /50



Emanuel School

I 3+ English Entrance Examination

I hour

Name: _____

School: _____

Do you speak any languages at home other than English? If so, please write the name of the language here:

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the passage in Section A and try to answer **all** the questions in **full sentences**.
- Spend 30 minutes on this section.
- Then spend 30 minutes on Section B (composition).
- You are told the number of marks available for each question.
- Check through your work carefully at the end of the exam.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

Spend up to 30 minutes on this section.

Read the extract carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

In this extract, an Indian boy is travelling across the Pacific Ocean on a cargo ship carrying animals from a zoo when a storm strikes.

It was when I looked up at a lifeboat on the bridge castle¹ that I started to worry. The lifeboat wasn't hanging straight down. It was leaning in from its davits². I turned and looked at my hands. My knuckles were white. The thing was, I wasn't holding on so tightly because of the weather, but because otherwise I would fall in towards the ship. The ship was listing to port³, to the other side. It wasn't a severe list, but enough to surprise me. When I looked overboard the drop wasn't **sheer** any more. I could see the ship's great black side. 5

A shiver of cold went through me. I decided it was a storm after all. Time to return to safety. I let go, hotfooted it to the wall, moved over and pulled open the door.

Inside the ship, there were noises. Deep structural groans. I stumbled and fell. No harm done. I got up. With the help of the handrails I went down the stairwell four steps at a time. I had gone down just one level when I saw water. Lots of water. It was blocking my way. It was surging from below like a riotous crowd, raging, frothing and boiling. Stairs vanished into watery darkness. I couldn't believe my eyes. What was this water doing here? Where had it come from? I stood nailed to the spot, frightened and **incredulous** and ignorant of what I should do next. Down there was where my family was. 10 15

I ran up the stairs. I got to the main deck. The weather wasn't entertaining any more. I was very afraid. Now it was plain and obvious: the ship was listing badly. And it wasn't level the other way either. There was a noticeable incline going from bow to stern. I looked overboard. The water didn't look to be eighty feet away. The ship was sinking. My mind could hardly conceive it. It was as unbelievable as the moon catching fire. 20

Where were the officers and the crew? What were they doing? Towards the bow I saw some men running in the gloom. I thought I saw some animals too, but I dismissed the sight as an illusion crafted by rain and shadow. We had the hatch covers over their bay pulled open when the weather was good, but at all times the animals were kept confined to their cages. These were dangerous wild animals we were transporting, not farm livestock. Above me, on the bridge, I thought I heard some men shouting. 25

The ship shook and there was that sound, the monstrous metallic burp. What was it? Was it the collective scream of humans and animals protesting their oncoming death? Was it the ship itself giving up the ghost? I fell over. I got to my feet. I looked overboard again. The sea was rising. The waves were getting closer. We were sinking fast. 30

¹ *bridge castle* – raised part of the boat where the captain sits to command the vessel

² *davits* – a crane-like device for raising or lowering the lifeboat

³ *listing to port* – leaning to the left side

Section A: You have 30 minutes to answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

Write in full sentences, unless you are asked to do otherwise. Remember to **check your spelling, punctuation and grammar carefully**, as three marks are awarded for the accuracy of your answers.

1. In your own words, explain all of the evidence from paragraph 1 (lines 1-6) that the ship is in trouble. [4 marks]

[illegible]

2. What do you think is the source of the 'deep structural groans' (line 9) which the narrator can hear inside the ship? [2 marks]

/2

3. (a) What is compared to a 'riotous crowd' in line 12? [1 mark]

/1

3. (b) How is this description effective in helping you to picture the scene? [2 marks]

/2

4. (a) Select and copy out a phrase from paragraph 3 (lines 16-20) which emphasises how surprised the narrator is to find the ship sinking. [1 mark]

/1

4. (b) How is this description effective? [2 marks]

/2

5. (a) 'I thought I saw some animals too, but I dismissed the sight as an illusion crafted by rain and shadow' (lines 22-23). What does the narrator mean here? [2 marks]

/2

5. (b) Why do you think that the narrator hopes this is true? [2 marks]

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/4

7. Explain **in your own words** what you think the following words mean. They are in **bold** in the passage so that you can find them easily. You do not need to use full sentences.

[2 marks]

sheer (line 6)

incredulous (line 16)

/2

Mark for SPaG:	/3
Total mark for Section A:	/25

Please turn over for Section B – Creative Writing

Section B: CREATIVE WRITING

Spend up to 30 minutes on this section.

Answer the following question:

1) Imagine that you are the narrator. Write an account of what happened next. [25 marks]

- You do not need to bring the story to a conclusion, but try to make it an exciting episode.
- Base what you write on the character and events in the passage to make it convincing.
- Pay close attention to your spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Use the lines printed on the exam paper for your writing.
- Plan carefully before you begin to write.
- Check your work through at the end.

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