

ENGLISH ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

For Entry into Form III (Age 10-11)

2015

Your Name:

Your Date of Birth:

Today's Date:

Your Present School:

.....

Time Allowed: 1 Hour

Instructions:

- Fill in your name, date of birth, today's date and where you go to school.
- Make sure you attempt **all** parts of the examination.
Part 1: Sections A and B – do not spend more than 30 minutes on Part 1.
Part 2: Essay
- You will need:
 - Pen or pencil
 - Pencil sharpener
 - Ruler
 - Rubber

Read the following extract from 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R Tolkien carefully and then answer the questions which follow. Only information from the passage should be read.

Then off he went from door to door, until his following had grown to twelve – none of them too nimble, what with the dark, and what with their long imprisonment. Bilbo's heart thumped every time one of them bumped into another, or grunted or whispered in the dark. 'Drat this dwarvish racket!' he said to himself. But all went well, and they met no guards. As a matter of fact there was a great autumn feast in the woods that night, and in the halls above. Nearly all the king's folk were merry-making.

At last after much blundering they came to Thorin's dungeon, far down in a deep place and fortunately not far from the cellars.

'Upon my word!' said Thorin, when Bilbo whispered to him to come out and join his friends, 'Gandalf spoke true, as usual! A pretty fine burglar you make, it seems, when the time comes. I am sure we are all for ever at your service, whatever happens after this. But what comes next?'

Bilbo saw that the time had come to explain his idea, as far as he could; but he did not feel at all sure how the dwarves would take it. His fears were quite justified, for they did not like it a bit, and started grumbling loudly in spite of their danger.

'We shall be bruised and battered to pieces, and drowned too, for certain!' they muttered. 'We thought you had got some sensible notion, when you managed to get hold of the keys. This is a mad idea!'

'Very well!' said Bilbo very downcast, and also rather annoyed. 'Come along back to your nice cells, and I will lock you all in again, and you can sit there comfortably and think of a better plan – but I don't suppose I shall ever get hold of the keys again, even if I feel inclined to try.'

That was too much for them, and they calmed down. In the end, of course, they had to do just what Bilbo suggested, because it was obviously impossible for them to try and find their way into the upper halls, or to fight their way out of gates that closed by magic; and it was no good grumbling in the passages until they were caught again. So following the hobbit, down into the lowest cellars they crept. They passed a door through which the chief guard and the butler could be seen still happily snoring with smiles on their faces.

Please turn over

Part 1

Please answer using full sentences paying attention to spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Section A: Comprehension

1. What job does Bilbo have? Is he doing it well? Answer with a reason. (2)
2. Who is telling the story? How does this add to the story? (2)
3. Who is the main character in this extract? Give 3 reasons for your answer. (3)
4. What genre does this extract fall into? What clues are you given? (2)
5. Summarise what is happening in this extract. (5)
6.
 - a) Why does Bilbo get 'annoyed'? (1)
 - b) What does he suggest when they dislike his idea? (1)
 - c) What tone do you think he would say it in and why? (2)
7. How do we know that Gandalf can always be trusted? Provide a quote from the passage to support your answer. (2)
8. In your own words describe how the characters are feeling. (5)

Total Marks for Section A [25]

Section B: Language

9. *'Bilbo's heart thumped every time one of them bumped into another, or grunted or whispered in the dark.'*
 - a) List all the examples of onomatopoeia in this sentence. (4)
 - b) What is the effect of using this technique here? (1)
10. Try to think of another word or phrase to explain the meaning of the following words as they are used in the extract:
 - a) downcast (1)
 - b) justified (1)
 - c) blundering (1)
 - d) nimble (1)
11. How is a sense of urgency created in the extract? Give examples from the text with the technique used. (6)

Total Marks for Section B [15]

Part 2 – Writing

Using your own imagination, continue this story from where the extract finishes. In your response you should consider the narrative perspective, tense, tone and characters. Pay careful attention to spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Spend 30 minutes and write 4-6 paragraphs. Remember to check over your work carefully.

Total Marks for Part 2 [20]

End of exam