



RADLEY

Academic Scholarship Examination Paper

STAGE ONE

ENGLISH 1

24 January 2024

Time allowed – 2 hours

45 minutes: Section A – Comprehension (20 marks)

30 minutes: Section B – Creative Writing (10 marks)

45 minutes: Section C – Essay Writing (20 marks)

Answer **ALL** the questions. Write in full sentences throughout.

You are expected to write accurate, well-punctuated prose.

Write your answers to each section on separate pieces of paper.

Section A: Comprehension

Wind

This house has been far out at sea all night,
The woods crashing through darkness, the booming hills,
Winds stampeding the fields under the window
Floundering black astride and blinding wet

Till day rose; then under an orange sky
The hills had new places, and wind wielded
Blade-light, luminous black and emerald,
Flexing like the lens of a mad eye.

At noon I scaled along the house-side as far as
The coal-house door. Once I looked up -
Through the brunt wind that dented the balls of my eyes
The tent of the hills drummed and strained its guyrope,

The fields quivering, the skyline a grimace,
At any second to bang and vanish with a flap;
The wind flung a magpie away and a black-
Back gull bent like an iron bar slowly. The house

Rang like some fine green goblet in the note
That any second would shatter it. Now deep
In chairs, in front of the great fire, we grip
Our hearts and cannot entertain book, thought,

Or each other. We watch the fire blazing,
And feel the roots of the house move, but sit on,
Seeing the window tremble to come in,
Hearing the stones cry out under the horizons.

Ted Hughes

**Answer the following question in full sentences.
Make close reference to the poem, by quoting.**

How does the poet use language, form, and structure to present the house and the weather?

(20)

Section B: Creative Writing

Describe a busy street scene from a different period of history than your own.

OR

Describe a weather event which changes the landscape around it.

Your piece should be as vivid, interesting, and accurately written as possible.

(10)

Section C: Essay Writing

'Life experience is the best teacher a person can have.'

- Write a short essay expressing your views on this statement.
- Consider what you have read and experienced.

You will be rewarded for the clarity and creativity of your writing. Accurate punctuation, grammar and spelling are also extremely important.

(20)

End of Paper