

THE ENGLISH SCHOOL
ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2017



ENGLISH

Year 1 (non-native speakers) Time allowed: 1 hour and 15 minutes

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. ANSWER **ALL** THE QUESTIONS IN THE SPACES PROVIDED ON THE QUESTION PAPER.
2. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.
3. WRITE NEATLY.
4. WRITE IN CORRECT ENGLISH.

This paper is 15 pages

GOOD LUCK!



SECTION A:

Evaluating writing skills through Creative Writing (35 marks)

You are advised to spend **about 30 minutes** on this section. Choose **ONE** of the following questions and write about **220- 250 words**. Keep in mind the importance of

- **Vocabulary and expression**
- **accuracy**
- **planning**
- **content**

Write an interesting beginning and a good closing paragraph. Give vivid descriptions of place, characters, feelings and thoughts.

EITHER

1. You were about 6 years old. It was a cold winter evening when a stranger knocked on your door. Your sister, who was 12 at the time, opened the door.

Write about the stranger at your door; describe what you and your sister did, how you felt and what happened until your parents returned home.

OR

2. 'The tale started, as many tales have started, in Wall. The town of Wall stands today as it has stood for six hundred years, on a high jut of granite amidst a small forest woodland...'

Write a narrative that starts with these words.

OR

3. You volunteer a few hours per week, after school and at the weekend, for a charity organization that helps families in need.

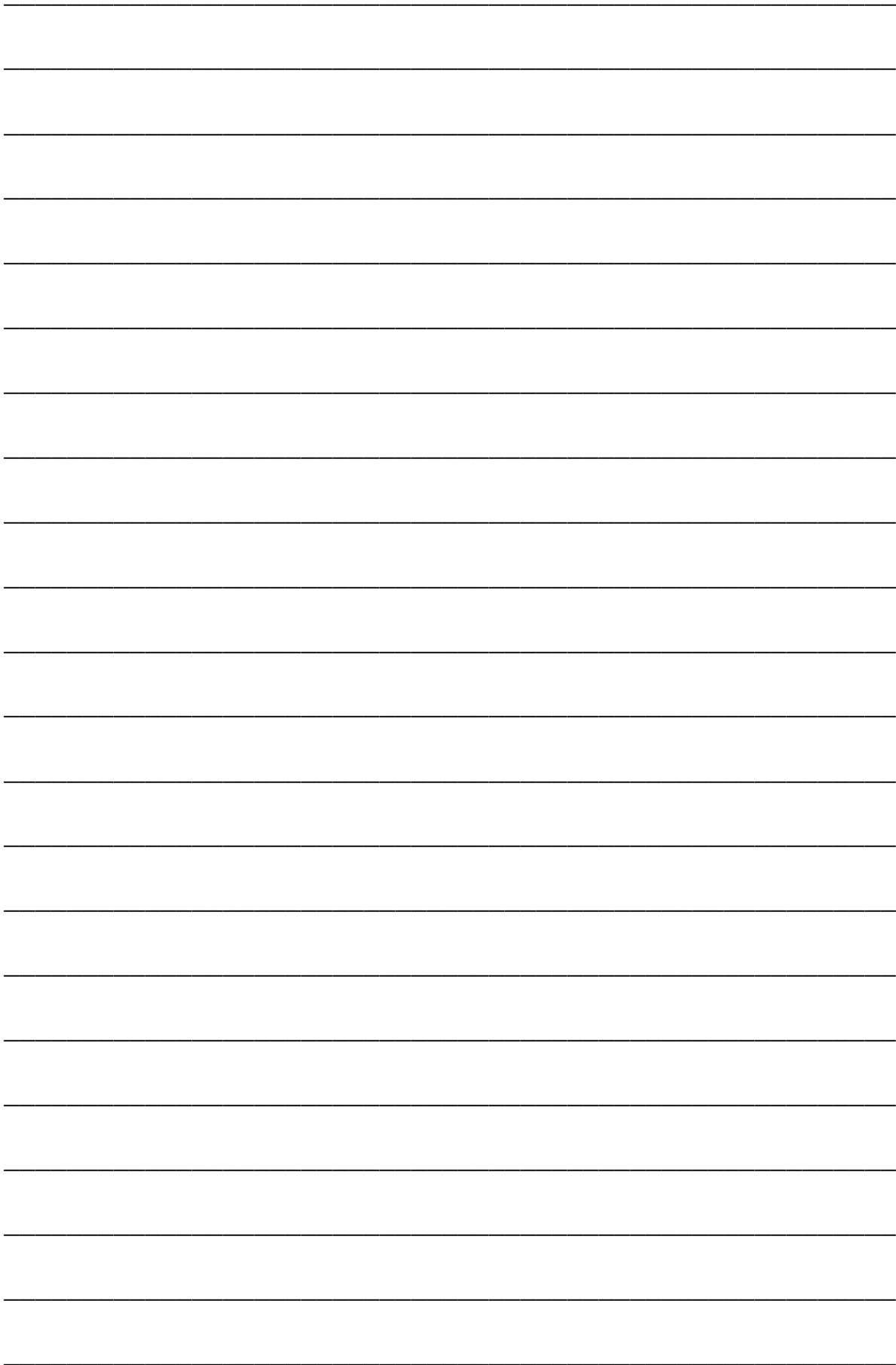
Write your diary entry after you have completed the project:

- Describe the project: what you did, why you did it and who it will benefit.
- Talk about your feelings and thoughts after it has been completed.



Number of the composition title you have chosen: _____

Write the composition in the space provided here





Section B:

Reading Comprehension, Directed Writing and Usage Tasks (65 marks)

Read the adapted extract from Kate Saunders' book titled **Magicalamity**.

Do the tasks, which follow. Answer in complete sentences, unless otherwise instructed.



Chapter 1

On the morning everything changed, Tom Harding opened his eyes to find his old white cat sitting on his duvet.

"Hi, Elvis," he said blearily. "How did you get in?" He could have sworn he had shut his bedroom door last night. He sat up in bed with a loud yawn - he had slept very deeply, and his head felt foggy. His bedroom looked perfectly normal, but there was an **odd** silence in the house. Sunlight **blazed** through the curtains. Then he **caught sight** of his alarm clock.

Eleven thirty? That couldn't be right. Mum always woke him early at weekends, even during the summer holidays. Tom's parents, Jonas and Sophie Harding, owned a delicatessen and coffee shop, and he had to be up before they opened at half past eight.



A delicatessen: a shop selling cooked meats, cheeses, and unusual or foreign prepared foods

The Harding family lived in a flat above the shop, and there should have been plenty of noise downstairs at this time of the morning - the coffee machine

hissing, babies wailing, people talking at the tables outside on the pavement. And yet the silence **stretched on** and on, and Elvis's green eyes stared at Tom gravely, as if he was trying to say something important.

"Mum?" Tom called. "Mum, are you there? Dad?"

No reply.

Something was wrong. Tom scrambled out of bed, quickly put on yesterday's clothes and hurried downstairs to the shop. It was gloomy and **deserted**. The thick green night blinds were still drawn over the big windows, and the "Closed" sign was up in the door. He looked round at the polished wooden counters and the shelves filled with bottles and packets of fancy food. Besides the till, Dad had made a little pyramid of jars of sun-dried tomatoes, and Tom noticed that the top jar was missing. That was the only change he **could put his finger on**, but everything felt strange.

He dashed back upstairs to the flat. "Mum? Dad?"

"Good morning!" a voice called from the kitchen.

It was a deep, rough voice that didn't belong to either of his parents. Very **cautiously**, Tom looked round the kitchen door and saw a large woman bent over in front of the open fridge. She turned round, and Tom saw that she was a tough-looking woman, with a wrinkled brown face and short grey hair, dressed in a blue boiler suit and heavy boots.

"So you're Tom," she said.

"Er - hello. What's going on? Have you seen my parents?"

"My name's Mustard," the tough woman said cheerfully. "Lorna Mustard. I believe your dad has mentioned me to you."

A single jar of rich red sun-dried tomatoes stood on the drained board. Lorna Mustard picked it up carefully and put it on the top shelf.

"No," Tom said, "I'm pretty sure he's never mentioned anyone called Mustard. Do you know where my parents have gone? Why's the shop shut?"

"Let's not fly into a panic," Lorna Mustard said in her guff voice. "Have some eggs and sausages."

"Did they go out somewhere?"

"You could say that."

"Why didn't they tell me?" Tom said. "Why didn't they say anything?"

"There wasn't time - your dad just managed to summon me. Now I'm here to take care of you."

Tom decided she must be crazy. "I don't need a babysitter, thanks."
"I'm not a babysitter," Lorna said. "I'm your fairy godmother."
"Sorry?" He wondered if he should call the police, or maybe an ambulance.



fairies

"Before you ask any more questions, you'd better see this." Lorna snapped her fingers at the small television on the kitchen counter. The screen flickered, and a face appeared.

"Dad?" Tom gasped.

"Hi, Tom." Dad was speaking from some dark, murky place, and he looked scared. "If you're watching this, it means I've been forced into hiding. I can't explain it all now, but I've been keeping a secret. A big secret. I'm very sorry, Tom - there's no easy way to say this - but I'm a fairy."

"WHAT?" Tom's heart was **thudding** uncomfortably. "Look, what's going on?"

"I thought I could leave my fairy side behind." The recording of Dad went on. "I thought I could open a shop in Primrose Hill and live like a normal human being. I didn't tell you or your mother because I wanted to protect you. But they've found me, and now there's a warrant out for my arrest."

"But that's stupid!" Tom cried. "He's not a criminal!"

"Inside the fairy Realm," Dad said, "I'm wanted for illegal marriage and murder. That's why I had to go into hiding. It's true that my marriage to your mother isn't legal here - but please believe this, Tom - "Tom had never seen Dad so serious"" - I did not kill Milly Falcorner! The charge is complete nonsense - but there's no time to explain. Whatever you do, don't let anyone lure you into the Realm! Not even if they kidnap Mum and hold her hostage."

"What's he talking about?" This was a nightmare. "Where is mum?"

"She's only a mortal," Dad said. "I trust you to protect her. Tell her I'm sorry. I hate leaving you both, but you'll be safer if you don't know where I am. I've **summoned** your three fairy godmothers, and they'll tell you what to do - their names are Iris Moth, Dahlia Pease-Blossom and Lorna Mustard."

In the background, there was distant shouting, and what sounded like a gunshot. Dad looked frightened. Very quickly, he added, "No more time!" Trust your godmothers, Tom - they're our only hope!"

"This is some kind of trick," Tom said faintly.

On the television, something strange and dreadful was happening to Dad. His chin melted like wax, his nose stretched into a point, his face turned black and hairy, his mouth filled with fangs, and before Tom's horrified eyes he changed into a bat. The screen went blank.



Tom collapsed into one of the kitchen chairs.

'Maybe I'm still asleep,' he thought, and this is a really weird dream.

But the kitchen tap dripped, which it didn't in dreams, and this lady - his "fairy godmother" - was only too solid.

"I came the minute I got the summons," Lorna Mustard said. "I don't know what's happened to the other two godmothers - lazy old bags - but I know my duty."



1. Fill in the gaps with one word or a short phrase: (5 marks)

- ❖ Who is Elvis? _____
- ❖ How old is Tom? _____
- ❖ What is the weather like this morning? _____
- ❖ Who are Jonas and Sophie? _____
- ❖ Where is the Hardings' flat? _____

2. Why was Tom surprised **(6 marks)**

a. to see Elvis in his bedroom that morning?



b. that it was 11:30 am?

c. that it was very quiet downstairs?

3. Name two items in the delicatessen shop: **(2 marks)**

❖ _____

❖ _____

4. Describe Lorna Mustard's appearance: **(2 marks)**

5. Complete the questions Tom could have asked himself when he saw Lorna Mustard in the delicatessen and while she was talking to him. **(5 marks)**

- ❖ What _____ in our shop?
- ❖ Why _____ parents here now?
- ❖ Why _____ my father _____ about this woman?
- ❖ Is this woman _____ the truth?
- ❖ I wonder, should I _____ the police?

6. What made Tom's heart thud '*uncomfortably*' when his dad spoke to him from the TV screen? **(2 marks)**

7. Complete the information below about Tom's father based on what he has told his son: **(9 marks)**

- ❖ I wanted to forget _____ a fairy . I got _____ your mother. _____ opened the shop wishing _____ normal human being. I kept my fairy side a secret from _____ protect both of

you. But I am not a murderer, I _____ Milly Falconer.

If I tell you where I am, _____.

Don't allow anyone to make you join this world of Fairies. Please _____ your mother who isn't a _____, but a mortal like you.

8. Describe Tom's feelings when he saw his dad changing on the screen and becoming a bat. **(2 marks)**

9. What do you think happened to Tom's father? **(3 marks)**

Underline the correct sentence below: **(1 mark)**

- Tom 's mother is a fairy
- Tom doesn't know his mother is a fairy
- Tom's mother isn't a fairy
- Tom's father wants him to be a fairy

10. The sentences below are taken from the text. Rewrite each one of them without changing the meaning of the original sentence: **(4 marks)**

- Tom Harding opened his eyes to find his old white cat sitting on his duvet.

When _____

- His bedroom looked perfectly normal, but there was an **odd** silence in the house.

Although _____

- Tom scrambled out of bed, quickly put on yesterday's clothes and hurried downstairs

As soon _____

- It was a deep, rough voice that didn't belong to either of his parents.

Neither his _____

_____ father's voice was deep or rough.

11. Write the meaning of the words /phrases as they are used in the text: One word or a short phrase is enough for each of them. (9 marks)

- **Odd** _____

- **Blazed** _____

- **caught sight** _____

- **stretched on** _____

- **deserted** _____

- **could put his finger on** _____

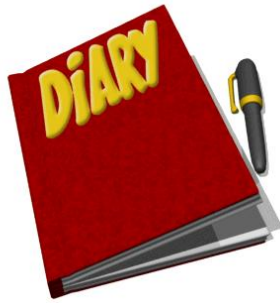
- **cautiously** _____

- **thudding** _____

- **summoned** _____

12. Directed Writing: (15 marks)

Imagine you are Tom at the point your father tuned into a bat on the TV screen. Write in your diary describing what happened this morning and what your thoughts and feelings are.



Begins like this

Dear Diary,

You won't believe what I have to tell you!

I don't know what to do or what to expect now, dear Diary.

*Love
Tom*



This is the end of the paper. If you still have some time, go through and check for any careless mistakes you might have made.