

**THE ENGLISH SCHOOL**

**Entrance Examination 2020**

**ENGLISH - YEAR 1- Native Paper**

**Time Allowed: 1 hour & 15 minutes**

**General Instructions:**

1. Choose **one** option in **Section A** and answer **all questions** in **Sections B & C**.
2. Use your own words unless otherwise stated.
3. Write neatly.
4. Check your work carefully at the end.

Time Guidance (including checking):

Section A: **Composition** (35 marks): **30 minutes**

Section B: **Comprehension & Usage** (50 marks): **30 minutes**

Section C: **Directed Writing** (15 marks): **15 minutes**



## **Section A: Composition (35 marks)**

Choose **ONE** of the following questions and write about **220 words**.

Remember the importance of:

- Original ideas
- Planning your response
- Vocabulary and expression
- Accuracy and punctuation
- Paragraphing

**EITHER**

**1. Narrative: A day in the life of a cat.**

- Imagine you are a cat and you go to a neighbourhood you have never been to before.
- You can refer to an interesting episode that happened to you.
- Make sure you refer to your thoughts and feelings.

**OR**

**2. Discursive: The Ideal School: present how you imagine your ideal school to be like.**

You can include the following:

- A description of the buildings and the school yard.
- What would the perfect lesson be like for you?
- What kind of relationships would students and teachers have?

**OR**

**3. Descriptive: You have just been to a zoo.**

- Describe what you saw using your senses.
- What did you like and what did you dislike the most?
- What would you do to improve the animals' conditions in the zoo?

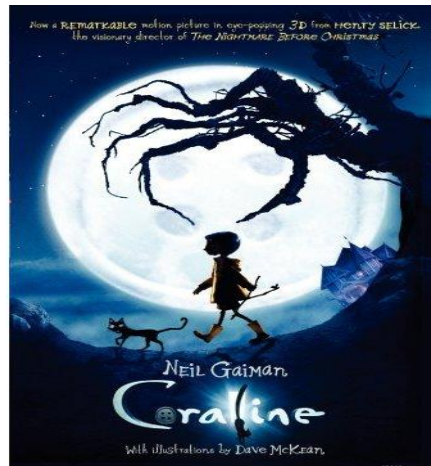




## Section A: Comprehension

( 50 marks)

*The following extract is taken from the novel “ Coraline” by Neil Gaiman which is the story of Coraline, who was small for her age and found herself in darkest danger, lost her parents and found them again, and escaped unharmed.*



She knew where she was: she was in her own home. She hadn't left. She shook her head, confused. She stared at the picture hanging on the wall: no, it wasn't exactly the same- there was something peculiar about the eyes.

Coraline went into the kitchen, a woman stood in the kitchen with her back to Coraline. She looked a little like Coraline's mother. Only...

Only her skin was white as paper.

Only she was taller and thinner.

Only her fingers were too long, and they never stopped moving, and her dark-red fingernails were curved and sharp.

And then she turned around. Her eyes were big black buttons.

"Lunchtime, Coraline," said the woman.

"Who are you?" asked Coraline.

"I'm your other mother," said the woman. "Go and tell your other father that lunch is ready". She opened the door of the oven. Suddenly Coraline realized how hungry she was. It smelled wonderful.



Coraline went down the hall, to where her father's study was. There was a man in there, sitting with his back to her. "Hello," said Coraline. "I-I mean she said to say that lunch is ready."

The man turned around. His eyes were buttons-big and black and shiny. He got up and went with her into the kitchen. They sat at the kitchen table and Coraline's other mother brought them lunch. A huge, gold-brown roasted chicken, fried potatoes, tiny green peas. Coraline shoveled the food into her mouth. It tasted wonderful.

It was the best chicken that Coraline had ever eaten. Her mother sometimes made chicken, but it was always out of packets, or frozen, and was very dry, and it never tasted of anything. When Coraline's father cooked chicken he bought real chicken, but he did strange things to it, like stewing it in wine, or stuffing it with prunes, or baking it in pastry, and Coraline would always refuse to touch it on principle.

"I didn't know I had another mother," said Coraline cautiously.

"Of course, you do. Everyone does," said the other mother, her black-button eyes gleaming.

"After lunch I thought you might like to play in your room with the rats from upstairs."

Coraline had never seen a rat, except on television. She was quite looking forward to it. This was turning out to be a very interesting day after all.

Coraline went down the hall to her other bedroom. It was different from her bedroom at home. For a start it was painted in an off-putting shade of green and a peculiar shade of pink. Coraline decided that she wouldn't want to have to sleep in there; but that the colour scheme was an awful lot more interesting than the one in her own bedroom.





There were all sorts of remarkable things in there she had never seen before: wind-up angels that fluttered around the bedroom like startled sparrows; books with pictures that writhed and crawled and shimmered; little dinosaur skulls that chattered their teeth as she passed. A whole toybox filled with wonderful toys. She looked out of the window. Outside the view was the same one she saw from her own bedroom: trees, fields and, beyond them, on the horizon, distant purple hills.

Something black scurried across the floor and vanished under the bed. Coraline got down on her knees and looked under the bed. Fifty little red eyes stared back at her.

“Hello,” said Coraline. “Are you the rats?”

They came out from under the bed, blinking their eyes in the light. They had short, soot-black fur, little red eyes, pink paws like tiny hands, and pink, hairless tails like long, smooth worms. The rats formed a circle. Then they began to climb on top of each other, carefully but swiftly, until they had formed a pyramid with the largest rat on top.

The rats began to sing, in high, whispery voices:

*We have teeth and we have tails*

*We have tails, we have eyes*

*We were here before you fell*

*You will be here when we rise.*

Then the pyramid fell apart, and the rats scampered, fast and black, towards the door.

Suddenly an old man appeared in the doorway, holding a tall black hat in his hands. The rats scampered up to him, burrowing into his pockets, into his shirt, up his trouser-legs, down his neck. The largest rat climbed to the old man’s shoulders, swung up on the long grey moustache, past the big black-button eyes, and on the top of the old man’s head.

In seconds the only evidence that the rats were there at all were the restless lumps under the old man’s clothes, forever sliding from place to place across him; and there was still the largest rat, who stared down, with glittering red eyes, at Coraline from the man’s head. The old man put his hat on, and the last rat was gone.

Coraline walked outside, and down the steps.

Answer all of the questions that follow in full sentences, using your own words, unless the instructions tells you to do otherwise.

1. What time of day is the extract set in?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

2. Use a quote from the text to provide evidence for this.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

3. Describe the image the writer creates of the other mother in your own words.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)

4. Re-read the paragraph that begins “Coraline went down the hall, to where her father’s study was.” Identify one phrase that suggests that Coraline did not know the person in her father’s study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(1 mark)

5. Which two verbs from the paragraph suggest that Coraline really enjoyed her lunch?

\_\_\_\_\_

(2 marks)



6. "I didn't know I had another mother' said Coraline cautiously." In your own words, explain how you think Coraline is feeling.

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(3 marks)

7. Re-read the paragraph that starts "Coraline went down the hall..." until "her own bedroom." Select two images that show the difference between Coraline's bedroom and her other bedroom.

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(4 marks)

8. What does Coraline like about her other bedroom? Use a quote to support your answer.

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(1 mark)



9. What technique does the writer use in the following sentence:  
“wind-up angels that fluttered around the bedroom like startled sparrows”.

Technique: \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

Effect: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)

10. Select four details from the paragraph starting with: “Something black scurried across the floor...” that the writer gives about the rats.

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

(4 marks)

11. How many rats are there? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

Use a quote from the text to provide evidence for your answer:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(1 mark)



12. Identify two adverbs in the sentence:

“Then they began to climb on top of each other, carefully but swiftly, until they had formed a pyramid with the largest rat on top”.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

(2 marks)

Explain in your own words the effect that this has on the reader:

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(2 marks)

13. Identify the technique used in the quote “The largest rat climbed to the old man’s shoulders, swung up on the long grey moustache.... and on the top of the old man’s head.”

Technique \_\_\_\_\_

(1 mark)

14. Explain in your own words how you think the rats feel about the old man.

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(2 marks)

15. What technique is being used in the quote “pink paws like tiny hands, and pink hairless tails like long, smooth worms”?

Technique \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

Effect on the reader: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)

16. Match the synonyms to the words as they are used in the passage. They have been underlined in the passage:

peculiar

sparkling

shoveled

unusual

off-putting

exceptional

remarkable

scampered

scurried

put quickly

glittering

disconcerting

(6 marks)

17. Which **word class** is the underlined word in the sentence below?

It was different from her bedroom at home.

verb pronoun adverb noun preposition

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

18. Use the necessary punctuation to change the following sentence into two shorter sentences. (You might need to get rid of a connective).

“When Coraline’s father cooked chicken he bought real chicken, but he did strange things to it like stewing it in wine, or stuffing it with prunes or baking it in pastry and Coraline would always refuse to touch it on principle.”

(2 marks)

19. Underline the **prepositions** and the **pronouns** in the paragraph below:

“He got up and went with her into the kitchen. They sat at the kitchen table and Coraline’s other mother brought lunch”.

(7 marks)





