



**FOREST  
SCHOOL**

**2016**

**11+**

**ENTRANCE**

**AND**

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**PAPERS**



# FOREST SCHOOL

## ENGLISH ENTRANCE/SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

### Section A: Reading

#### PASSAGE

Reading time: 10 minutes

#### Instructions to Candidates

- You have **10 minutes** to read the passage.
- You may not start answering the questions during this time.
- You may write notes on the passage if you want to.
- Once the reading time is over, you have **35 minutes** to complete the questions in the spaces provided.

## Section A: Reading

The streets should be full. Front doors should be opening and closing. But there is no one. No cars, no trains, no people.	1
And this street, now that he can see more of it as his eyes and mind begin to clear a little more, even the geography of it looks strange. These houses are crammed together, all stuck in a line, with no garages or big front yards and only the narrowest of alleys between every fourth or fifth house. Nothing like his own street back home. In fact, this doesn't look like an American street at all. It looks almost – It looks almost <i>English</i> .	5
* * *	
The word clangs around his head. It feels important, like it's desperately trying to latch on to something, but his mind is so foggy, so shocked and confused, it only heightens his anxiety. It's a word that's wrong. That's <i>very</i> wrong.	10
He wavers a little and has to catch his balance on one of the sturdier- looking bushes. He feels a strong urge to go inside, to find something to cover himself with, and this house, this house – He frowns at it. What is it about this house?	15
Surprising himself, without even feeling as if he's decided to, he takes an unsteady step towards it, nearly falling. He still struggles to articulate his thoughts. He cannot say why he's walking towards the house, why it might be anything other than an instinct to get inside, to get out of this weird deserted world, but he's also aware that all of this, whatever it is, feels so much like a dream that only dream logic can possibly apply. He doesn't know why, but the house draws him. So he goes.	20 25
He reaches the front steps, steps over a crack running along the lowest one, and stops before the door. He waits there a moment, not quite knowing what to do next, not quite sure how it will open, or what he will do if it's locked, but he reaches for it- It swings open at his lightest touch. There are no lights on inside, and no sound. He looks around again. There's no drone of machinery or engines from anywhere, but he notices for the first time that there's no buzz of insects either, no call of birds, not even any wind through the foliage. Nothing but the sound of his own breathing. He just stands there for a moment. He feels hideously unwell, and so weak, so <i>tired</i> , he could almost lay down on this doorstep right here and sleep forever, just forever, and never wake up –	30 35 40

He steps inside the house instead. Hands on either wall to keep himself steady, he moves slowly forward, every second thinking he's going to be stopped, that he's going to hear a voice demanding to know what he's doing trespassing in a strange house. As he stumbles into the shadows, though, his eyes not adjusting to the change in light as fast as they should, he can feel dust under his feet so thick it seems inconceivable that anyone has been here in a long, long time. 45

It gets darker the further in he goes, and this seems wrong somehow, the blast of the sun through the open door not illuminating anything, just making the shadows heavier and more threatening to his bleary eyes. He fumbles on, seeing less and less, reaching the bottom of the stairs but turning from them, still hearing nothing, no sounds of habitation, no sound of anything at all except himself. 55

Alone.

He pauses before the doorway to the living-room, feeling a fresh thrust of fear. Anything could be there in the darkness, anything could be silently waiting for him, but he forces himself to look in, letting his eyes get used to the light. 60

When they do, he sees.

Caught in a few beams of dusty sunlight from the closed blinds at the front, he sees a simple, plain living-room, merging into an open dining area on his right, leading to a doorway through to the kitchen at the back of the house. 65

There is furniture here, like any normal room, except it's all covered in dust so thick it's like an extra cloth draped over everything. The boy, exhausted still, tries to make the shapes match up to words in his head.

His eyes adjust to the light more, the room becoming more of itself, taking shape, revealing details – 70

Revealing the horse screaming from above the mantelpiece.

A crazed eye, a tongue like a spike, trapped inside a burning world, looking at him from behind a picture frame.

Looking right at him.

The boy cries out at the sight of it because all at once he knows, *knows* beyond a shadow of a doubt, the realization coming like a tidal wave. 75

He knows where he is.

80



# FOREST SCHOOL

## ENGLISH ENTRANCE/SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

Section A: Reading

ANSWER BOOKLET

35 minutes

Name	
Candidate number	

### Instructions to Candidates

- Write your name and candidate number clearly on the front of this booklet.
- Once the reading time is over, you have **35 minutes** to complete the questions in the spaces provided.
- You should answer all the questions in this section.

Mark out of 30: \_\_\_\_\_

Marker: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Re-read lines 1-9.** Write down **two clues** that tell the boy that the street is English (and not American). (2 marks) Marks

**Clue One:**

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**Clue Two:**

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1. \_\_\_\_

2. In **line 10** the narrator says that “the word clangs in his head”.

(a) What “word” is the narrator writing about? (1 mark)

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2a. \_\_\_\_

(b) What does the word “clangs” tell the reader about the effect of this word on the boy’s mind? (2 marks)

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2b. \_\_\_\_

3. In **line 15**, the narrator writes that, “He wavers a little”. What does the word **wavers** mean **in this sentence**? (1 mark)

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3. \_\_\_\_

4. In **lines 21-22**, the narrator says that, “he still struggles to articulate his thoughts”. In your own words, explain what this means. (1 mark)

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4. \_\_\_\_



(c) Why is it significant that “there’s no buzz of insects either, no call of birds, not even any wind through the foliage”? (2 marks)

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6c. \_\_\_\_

**7. Re-read lines 42-55.**

(a) In **line 48** the narrator says that “**it seems inconceivable** that anyone has been here in a long, long time”. What does **it seems inconceivable** mean? (2 marks)

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7a. \_\_\_\_



(b) How does the boy move through the house? You can use words from the text to support your answer? (2 marks)

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7b. \_\_\_\_

(c) In your own words, explain what is unusual about the “blast of the sun” that comes through the open door. (1 mark)

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7c. \_\_\_\_





**10. Re-read the final part of the story lines 75-77:**

The boy cries out at the sight of it because all at once he knows, *knows* beyond a shadow of a doubt, the realization coming like a tidal wave.

He knows where he is.

(a) What does the word realization mean? (1 mark)

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10a. \_\_\_

(b) Write down the simile that the writer uses in this section. (1 mark)

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10b. \_\_\_

(c) How does the narrator get across the certainty of the narrator? (2 marks)

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10c. \_\_\_

**End of questions**



**ENGLISH ENTRANCE/SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION**

**Section B: Writing**

**30 minutes**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Candidate number</b>	

**Instructions to Candidates**

- Write your name and candidate number clearly on the front of this booklet.
- Choose **ONE** question and write your response in the space provided.
- You have **30 minutes** for this section.

**Mark out of 30:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Marker:** \_\_\_\_\_

Section B – Writing  
Marks Available: 30

**You must answer the question set. You should not write out an answer from memory. Answers which are written from memory often do not get very high marks.**

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

Either

1. Imagine a world where no one has owned or used a mobile phone for twenty years. Then one day your friend comes round to your house and shows you an old mobile phone they have found in an attic. And, amazingly, it seems to work. What happens?

OR

2. Look carefully at the picture below:



Write a story based closely on what you can see in the painting.

