

# TEST 1

## ENGLISH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary School: \_\_\_\_\_

Boy or Girl: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Test Taken At: \_\_\_\_\_

### READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Inside this booklet is an English passage on a separate sheet. Read the passage carefully when you are told to do so and then answer the questions in the booklet.
3. Think carefully about the passage and its meaning.
4. Work quickly but carefully through the questions.
5. The number of marks available for each question is indicated in the right hand margin.
6. Incorrect spelling will be penalised.
7. Punctuation should be both clear and exact.
8. Where you are asked to choose between a number of possible responses choose always the **MOST APPROPRIATE** response.
9. If you finish with time to spare please remember to check your work.
10. You will have **40 minutes** to do the test.
11. Once the test has begun, you should not ask about questions in the test.

**REMEMBER**, this is not a test of memory. You can look back at the passage to check your answers as many times as you want.

**NOT TO BE  
 FILLED IN BY PUPIL**

PAGE	SCORE	
	R	W
1 (19)		
2 (19)		
3 (12)		
TOTAL (50)		
INITIALS OF MARKER(S)		

Please do not write in this space

1. Provide an expression which could be used to replace "rendezvous" (line 54) in the passage.

2 marks

.....

2. Which of the following are true or false, and which do we not know from the passage? (Write **TRUE**, **FALSE** or **WE DON'T KNOW** in the space after each statement.)

6 marks

- A. Mike was unusually surprised about the new leadership of the gang. ....
- B. Mike was probably younger than the other members of the gang. ....
- C. The rest of the gang sensed that the newcomer would turn out to be an important member of the gang. ....
- D. Trevor, or "T" is the oldest member of the gang. ....
- E. Mike thinks that it is literally true that he might get a frog in his mouth. ....
- F. Blackie regards Trevor as a threat to his position as gang leader. ....

3. What reaction do the other boys have to Trevor when he joins the gang as a new recruit? (Put a **TICK** in the box against the statements you think are correct, and a **CROSS** against those which are incorrect.)

6 marks

- A. They are quite awed by him.
- B. They demand that he fulfils some dare or challenge before he is allowed to join the gang.
- C. They laugh at his name behind his back.
- D. The gang are not quite sure what Trevor might do next.
- E. They call him "T" because he prefers it to "Trevor".
- F. They are slightly afraid of him.

4. "There was every reason why T..... should have been an object of mockery." (lines 12-13) What were the reasons? (Put a **TICK** in the box against the reasons suggested in the passage and a **CROSS** against those which are not.)

5 marks

- A. They find his name, Trevor, rather ridiculous.
- B. They are amused by his father's previous profession.
- C. They are amused by his father's present job.
- D. His mother is open to mockery because she thinks she is socially superior to those around her.
- E. The family, particularly the father, have previously been in better circumstances.

R  
W  
(19)

Please do not write in this space

5. Why does Blackie claim that he heard the last bomb of the Blitz fall?  
(Put **TICK/S** in the box/es against the reasons most strongly supported by the passage.)

3 marks

- A. Because it reinforces that he has lived in Wormsley Common longer than the rest of the gang, and therefore gives him status.
- B. Because he is embarrassed at having missed it by being asleep.
- C. It may add to his importance and authority with the gang if he has done something they have not.
- D. Because he can do so unchallenged by the others who cannot calculate the dates.

6. Which of the following best describe Trevor?  
(Put a **TICK** in the box against those statements which are true, and a **CROSS** against those which are false.)

6 marks

- A. He speaks very quietly.
- B. He is better informed than the others in the gang.
- C. He is defensive about having an unusual name.
- D. He has a dark complexion.
- E. He speaks very concisely.
- F. He can silence the others with a glare.

7. Select from the passage **one word** that most closely corresponds to the word or phrase on the left below. Guidance is given in the right hand column below on the lines within which the word may be found.

10 marks

	Word from passage	Look in lines
A. meditating	.....	6 - 8
B. bravado	.....	9 - 12
C. dishonourable	.....	16 - 19
D. definite	.....	19 - 22
E. supporting brace	.....	23 - 25
F. uneven	.....	25 - 29
G. dejectedly	.....	40 - 43
H. dismal	.....	44 - 47
I. belief	.....	44 - 47
J. disturbed	.....	47 - 50

R  
W  
(19)

Please do not write in this space

8. When Old Misery gives them Smarties, the boys suggest **THREE** reasons why he might have done so.

6 marks

**WRITE IN YOUR OWN WORDS** in the three spaces below what they thought these three reasons might be.

A. ....

.....

.....

B. ....

.....

.....

C. ....

.....

.....

9. Rewrite the following sentence properly punctuated, including capital letters where necessary.

6 marks

Have you ever enquired Trevor been inside Old Misery's house

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**END OF TEST**  
**(You should have completed 9 questions.)**

R  
W  
(12)



The Consortium of Selective Schools  
in Essex

**ENGLISH**

**PAPER**

**40 MINUTES**

The following passage is taken from a short story called 'The Destructors' by Graham Greene. It is set in London just after the end of World War II. Read it very carefully, and answer the questions that follow.

**PLEASE TURN OVER**

1 It was on the eve of August Bank Holiday that the latest recruit became the leader of  
2 the Wormsley Common Gang. No one was surprised except Mike, but Mike at the age  
3 of nine was surprised by everything. 'If you don't shut your mouth,' somebody once  
4 said to him, 'you'll get a frog down it.' After that Mike kept his teeth tightly clamped  
5 except when the surprise was too great.

6 The new recruit had been with the gang since the beginning of the summer holidays,  
7 and there were possibilities about his brooding silence that all recognized. He never  
8 wasted a word even to tell his name until that was required of him by the rules. When  
9 he said 'Trevor' it was a statement of fact, not as it would have been with the others  
10 a statement of shame or defiance. Nor did anyone laugh except Mike, who finding  
11 himself without support and meeting the dark gaze of the newcomer opened his  
12 mouth and was quiet again. There was every reason why T., as he was afterwards  
13 referred to, should have been an object of mockery – there was his name (and they  
14 substituted the initial because otherwise they had no excuse not to laugh at it), the  
15 fact that his father, a former architect and present clerk, had 'come down in the world'  
16 and that his mother considered herself better than the neighbours. What but an odd  
17 quality of danger, of the unpredictable, established him in the gang without any  
18 ignoble ceremony of initiation?

19 The gang met every morning in an impromptu car-park, the site of the last bomb of  
20 the first blitz. The leader, who was known as Blackie, claimed to have heard it fall, and  
21 no one was precise enough in his dates to point out that he would have been one year  
22 old and fast asleep on the down platform of Wormsley Common Underground Station.  
23 On one side of the car-park leant the first occupied house, No. 3, of the shattered  
24 Northwood Terrace – literally leant, for it had suffered from the blast of the bomb and  
25 the side walls were supported on wooden struts. A smaller bomb and incendiaries  
26 had fallen beyond, so that the house stuck up like a jagged tooth and carried on the  
27 further wall relics of its neighbour, a dado, the remains of a fireplace. T., whose words  
28 were almost confined to voting 'Yes' or 'No' to the plan of operations proposed each  
29 day by Blackie, once startled the whole gang by saying broodingly, 'Wren built that  
30 house, father says.'

31 'Who's Wren?'

32 'The man who built St Paul's.'

33 'Who cares?' Blackie said. 'It's only Old Misery's.'

34 Old Misery – whose real name was Thomas – had once been a builder and  
35 decorator. He lived alone in the crippled house, doing for himself: once a week you  
36 could see him coming back across the common with bread and vegetables, and once  
37 as the boys played in the car-park he put his head over the smashed wall of his  
38 garden and looked at them.

39 The next time the gang became aware of Mr Thomas was more surprising. Blackie  
40 and Mike met him on the common coming back from the market. Mr Thomas stopped  
41 them. He said glumly, 'You belong to the lot that play in the car-park?'

42 Mike was about to answer when Blackie stopped him. As the leader he had  
43 responsibilities. 'Suppose we are?' he said ambiguously.

44 'I got some chocolates,' Mr Thomas said. 'Don't like 'em myself. Here you are. Not  
45 enough to go round, I don't suppose. There never is,' he added with sombre  
46 conviction. He handed over three packets of Smarties.

47 The gang was puzzled and perturbed by this action and tried to explain it away. 'Bet  
48 someone dropped them and he picked 'em up,' somebody suggested.

49 'Pinched 'em and then got in a funk,' another thought aloud.

50 'It's a bribe,' a third boy said. 'He wants us to stop bouncing balls on his wall.'

51 'We'll show him we don't take bribes,' Blackie said, and they sacrificed the whole  
52 morning to the game of bouncing that only Mike was young enough to enjoy. There  
53 was no sign from Mr Thomas.

54 Next day T. astonished them all. He was late at the rendezvous, and the voting for  
55 that day's exploit took place without him.