



CITY OF LONDON  
FREEMEN'S SCHOOL

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**SAMPLE ENTRANCE  
EXAMINATION PAPER**

**For pupils currently in Year 7**

# **ENGLISH**

**Time: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**Instructions:**

- 1. Answer all the questions in Section A and ONE question from Section B.**
- 2. You will be given marks for accurate spelling, neat presentation and interesting vocabulary.**
- 3. You have 90 minutes for the exam. Spend 45 minutes on Section A  
And 45 minutes on Section B.**

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## SECTION A - COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully, and then answer all the questions on it. Remember to write in full sentences.

You are advised to spend no more than 45 minutes on this section.

### Moving up in the world

We moved on 20 July just like Pop said. The funny thing about moving was, we didn't even need a moving van. And that was what I was looking forward to most. One of those big orange trucks parked outside our house with a dozen men carrying out all our stuff. The reason we didn't need a moving van was we weren't taking anything old with us, except Grandma's pots and pans and my Jefferson Junior High wall pennant. My mother didn't want me to take it.

'It's old,' she said. 'What do you need it for?'

'I like it,' I told her. 'I want to hang it above my bed.'

'You'll get a new one ... from Rosemont Junior High.'

'I want this one anyway. It used to be ...' I almost said, 'Vinnie's.' But I caught myself in time and said, 'Ralph's.' We never talk about Vinnie. Everytime somebody mentions his name Mom starts to cry.

'Oh, all right. If it means so much to you, take it,' she said.

Frankie came over to say goodbye again. He told me he got my paper route and I warned him about Mrs. Gorsky.

'You've got to put her paper *under* the doormat or she'll call the boss and report you.'

'Okay,' Frankie said. 'I'll remember.'

Then he reached into his pocket and came up with a coin. 'This is for you, Tony,' he said, handing it to me.

'Thanks,' I said, taking it.

'It's from England. It's worth about a dollar.'

'Thanks a lot, Frankie, It's really interesting.' I wished I had something for him too. I was still holding my Jefferson Junior wall pennant. I unfolded it. 'I was hoping you'd come over this morning because I wanted to give you this.' I handed it to Frankie.

'Hey ... thanks a lot, Tony. That's really nice.'

'It used to be Vinnie's.'

'No kidding! That's really something. I didn't know Vinnie went to Jefferson Junior.'

'Yeah ... he did.'

'I'll hang it over my bed.'

'That's where I had it.'

'Yeah ... I know.'

My mother called me then. 'Tony ... hurry up ... we're ready to go.'

'Well ... see you, Frankie.'

'Yeah ... see you, Tony.'

A few trips in the green hardtop - a few more in the old truck - and Goodbye Jersey City ... Hello Rosemont!

Everything in our Rosemont house is new except the carpeting. The old owners left it in as part of the deal. It's yellow and it's so thick you can lose your shoes in it. My father says my mother bought out Newark, Jersey City and half of New York fixing up the house. But he doesn't mind. He wants her to enjoy herself now that he can afford it.

I have my own room with my own closet and also my own bathroom, which my mother says I'm supposed to keep neat. Grandma has her own bathroom and so do my mother and father. All of these are upstairs. Downstairs I counted two more, which makes a grand total of five bathrooms in one house. In Jersey City we had one. If anybody had an emergency and the bathroom was in use we always ran up to Ralph and Angie's.

My closet has a light in it. I found this out when I opened the closet door. The light went on automatically. When you shut the door it goes out. You don't even have to bother touching a switch or anything. I spent about ten minutes just opening and closing my closet door.

My bedroom is at the opposite side of the house from my mother and father's. Grandma's is in the middle. I have three windows in my room. Two overlook the backyard and one overlooks the side by the garage. I think the reason we have this circular driveway is so you won't get tired walking from the garage to the front door.

From my two back windows I can see my next-door neighbour's yard. It has a big wooden fence all around it. The kind you can't see through at all if you're on the ground. But from my room I can see right over it. That's how I know we might really be rich and my father isn't kidding around. They have a swimming pool! It's rectangular with a statue at one end. There's a diving board and everything!

The thing is, every time I think about us being rich I get scared. I know it's not going to last. I think the money will run out by January. My father used to kid around about if he won the state lottery the money would probably last five months. It's not that I'll mind moving back to Jersey City. It's just that I'll hate to face the guys. Big Joe will probably laugh and tell me he knew it all the time. And then there's Mom and Pop. They'll really be disappointed. They're so excited about living in Rosemont. But there's nothing I can do about it.

JUDY BLUME, *Then Again, Maybe I Won't*

1. What had Tony been looking forward to most about moving house? [1]
2. What two reasons did Tony's mother give for telling him to leave Jefferson Junior High wall pennant behind? [2]
3. Why did Tony say the pennant belonged to Ralph? [2]
4. Why was giving the pennant to Frankie a big sacrifice for Tony? [3]

5. How would you describe the feelings of the two boys as they said goodbye to each other? [3]
6. The carpet was “so thick you could lose your shoes in it.” What does this tell you about the kind of house Tony’s family had moved to? [3]
7. Why was Tony’s father not annoyed about his mother spending so much money on the new house? [4]
8. Why was Tony so impressed by the number of bathrooms in the new house? [3]
9. Why does Tony feel scared every time he thinks about his father being rich? [4]
10. In which country do Tony and his family live?  
Write a list of all the clues you can find in the passage which tell you in which country the story is set. [5]

[Total: 30]

## SECTION B - WRITING

(Leave at least 45 minutes for this section)

Choose and answer **ONE** of the following tasks. Do not forget to plan your work.

1. Write a story about someone whose family suddenly becomes rich and what happens when they move to a big new house. Describe the house and their reactions to it.
2. Write a description of a holiday you will always remember.
3. My Best Friend. Explain what it is you like about them and describe their personality and appearance.

[Total: 30]