



CITY OF LONDON
FREEMEN'S SCHOOL

SAMPLE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION PAPER

For pupils currently in Year 8

ENGLISH

Time: 1 hour and 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: Reading (40 marks)

Aim to spend 45 minutes on this section.

Read the poem by Peter Redgrave carefully and answer **ALL** the questions. Write your answers in **complete sentences** and look at the marks available to help work out how much detail to include in your answer. Remember to use **quotations** to support your answers.

1. Find one example of each of the following techniques.
For each example explain the effect of the technique:
 - a. Personification [4]
 - b. Metaphor [4]
 - c. Onomatopoeia [4]

2. How does the poet make the storm seem so violent? [8]

3. What animal is the tree compared to, and why is this effective? [8]

4. What feelings does the narrator of the poem express and how do his feelings change throughout the poem? [12]

A Storm

Somebody is throttling that tree
By the way it's threshing about;
I'm glad it's no one I know, or me,
The head thrust back at the throat,

Green hair tumbled and cracking throat.
His thumbs drive into her windpipe,
She cannot cry out,
Only swishing and groaning: death swells ripe,

The light is dimming but the fight goes on.
Chips strike my window. In the morning, there
Stands the tree, still, bushy and calm,
Not as I saw it, twisted heel to ear,

But fluffed up, boughs chaffing slightly.
What's become of her attacker?
I'm glad he's not mine or known to me,
Flipped to the ground, heel over ear:

She preens herself, with a soft-bough purr.
Was he swallowed up, lip over ear?
He's gone anyway. The path is thick in her fur.
Am I a friend, may I walk near?

Peter Redgrove

Section B: Writing (40 marks)

Aim to spend 45 minutes on this section.

Answer **ONE** of the following questions.

1. Imagine a storm is raging outside. Describe where you are, what is happening and how you feel. [40]

OR

2. Write an article for a school magazine reviewing a place you recently visited on a school trip. [40]

OR

3. Write a persuasive speech to be performed in assembly either for or against the statement: "Books are a thing of the past." [40]

