



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission**

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2007

ENGLISH – FOUNDATION LEVEL

360 marks

WEDNESDAY, 6 JUNE – MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00

YOU MUST ANSWER SECTIONS 1, 2, AND 3

**YOU MUST ALSO ANSWER ANY THREE OF
SECTIONS 4, 5, 6, AND 7**

**SPEND A LITTLE OVER 20 MINUTES
ON EACH SECTION**

Read this piece and then answer the questions.

LOUIS WALSH



1. Louis Walsh was born in 1954 in Kiltimagh in the heart of Co. Mayo. He was one of nine children. At the age of fifteen Louis began managing his first band, called *Time Machine*. He would use the local phone box to ring big promoters in Dublin to get slots for his band as a support act for the big showbands of the time. Louis decided to move to Dublin in the 1970s because he wanted to work in the music industry.
2. When his first band split up he got a job with Tommy Hayden Enterprises, an organisation that looked after bands. Louis started by making tea and doing a little publicity for the showbands, such as delivering press releases and photographs to different newspapers. By the end of the 1970s Louis looked after many different singers and bands. One singer, Johnny Logan won the Eurovision Song Contest twice for Ireland.
3. In 1993, Louis formed a new band to compete with the group *Take That*. This new band was called *Boyzone*. Louis auditioned hundreds to form this band. *Boyzone* split up in 1999 after becoming one of the most successful boybands ever. They had twenty-three singles, six of which were No. 1s. They also had four No. 1 albums, selling over 12 million copies worldwide. The band members became millionaires many times over, as did Louis Walsh.
4. The acts Louis Walsh looks after today are *Westlife*, *Samantha Mumba*, *Bellefire* and *Girls Aloud*. *Westlife* have had 12 No. 1s and have sold 32 million records since 1999. Louis's most recent TV project was "The X Factor". This programme gives ordinary people the chance to become famous. Louis acted as a judge on "The X Factor" with two other judges, Simon Cowell and Sharon Osbourne. In the future he will not act as a judge but will continue to act as a manager to the performers. What keeps Louis going is the thought of his next band or superstar!

Adapted from http://www.rte.ie/tv/buried_alive/week10.html

- A.** Find the answers to the following questions:
- 1** Where was Louis Walsh born? **(5)**
 - 2** What was the name of his first band? **(5)**
 - 3** Which singer won the Eurovision twice? **(5)**
 - 4** What did Louis Walsh use the local phone box for? **(5)**
- B.** What types of jobs did Louis have to do when he started in Tommy Hayden Enterprises? **(10)**
- C.** Why did Louis Walsh set up *Boyzone*?
Was the group a success? Give a reason for your answer? **(10)**
- D.** How is “The X Factor” different from Louis Walsh’s earlier projects? **(10)**
- E.** How would you describe Louis Walsh from the following:
- ❖ Successful?
 - ❖ Hardworking?
 - ❖ Lucky?
- Give reasons for your answer. **(10)**

SECTION 2: PERSONAL WRITING

[60]

Write about one page on **ONE** of the following topics.

PICK ONLY ONE TOPIC

- A** What I *really* think about school.

- B** My dream job.

- C** Shopping in town.

- D** **Friend:** *Oh no, look at the poster! The school talent show is on Friday.*
Myself: *Do you think we're ready?*

Write the rest of this conversation.

- E** My lucky Day.

- F** If I won the X Factor.

- G** *The engines roared and I could feel the plane lift off the ground.
No turning back now...*

Continue this story.

- H** Pop Stars.

Answer either A or B:

- A.** You have won a competition to interview your favourite band or singer after they have performed their act. Your interview with this band or singer will be published in a Music Magazine for teenagers. Write this interview.

In your interview you must:

- Find out how this band or singer became famous
- Find out something about the band's or singer's life before becoming famous
- Describe some of the songs by the band or singer
- Describe how the band or singer feels about being famous

OR

- B.** You have been asked to write a report/review about your favourite TV programme. This report/review will be published in a popular magazine.

In your report/review you must:

- Give your report/review a heading
- Briefly describe what this programme is about
- Describe your favourite character in this programme
- Explain why people should watch this programme

Answer ANY THREE of the Sections 4, 5, 6, and 7 which follow.

SECTION 4:

FICTION

[60]

Read this piece adapted from *Buddy* by Nigel Hinton, then answer the questions that follow.

Buddy is a young boy who has a lot of problems. He has decided to run away from home.

1. Buddy listened carefully at the front door. Nobody was at home. He went up to his bedroom and began to pack what he needed. He decided to use his red canvas bag, it would be easier to carry around. He put in a couple of shirts, socks, three sweaters, a towel and a toothbrush. He added some soap and some toothpaste. Buddy rolled up a sleeping bag and put it into a plastic bag. He ran downstairs and got a knife, a fork, a spoon and a can opener; they would be useful too.
2. He slung the canvas bag over his shoulder and went into his father's room. Buddy knew his Dad always kept some money in the drawer beside the bed. He was surprised at how much was there – eighty three euro – as his Dad had only told him last week that there was no more money for clothes or treats. He put the money into his pocket and ran downstairs.
3. He opened the front door slightly and looked out to check that nobody was watching the house. Then he ran down the road. There was an anxious moment when he got to the bus station and a police car drove by slowly. He held his breath and watched it pass by. Buddy spent the next half hour deciding where he should go. He decided to go to the countryside as it would be easier to find somewhere to hide – like a forest or a wood or even a field.
4. A few hours later Buddy had arrived. The bus had left him in a small village. He decided to follow a muddy path through a field and find somewhere for the night – an old shed or something. Ahead of him he heard a growl. He froze with fear. In the distance he could see two large dogs heading towards him. He turned back down the path and ran as fast as he could. He reached the bus shelter in the village and decided to stay there for the night.

- A.** Name five items that Buddy put into his red canvas bag? **(Part 1)** **(10)**
- B.** How much money did Buddy find in his Dad's room?
Why was he surprised at the amount of money? **(Part 2)** **(10)**
- C.** How did Buddy feel as he left the house?
Give reasons for your answer? **(Part 3)** **(10)**
- D.** Why did Buddy return to the Bus Shelter?
Do you think it was a good decision?
Give reasons for your answer. **(Part 4)** **(10)**
- E.** Think about a **NOVEL** or **SHORT STORY** you have studied.
- Name the Novel **OR** Short Story
 - Describe a character you liked **OR** disliked
 - Describe a Frightening **OR** Exciting **OR** Funny thing that happened to this character
- (20)**

Read this **POEM** and then answer the questions.

THINGS I'D DO IF IT WEREN'T FOR MUM



1. Live on cola, crisps and cake.
Trade the gerbil for a snake.
Fall asleep in front of the telly.
Only wash when I'm really smelly.
2. Leave my clothes all scattered about.
Play loud music, scream and shout.
Do what I feel like with my hair.
Throw tantrums. Belch loud. Swear.
3. Paint my bedroom red and black.
Leave the dishes in a stack.
Find out what it's like to be me.
Let this list grow long...get free!
4. *PS.* Take my savings in my hand.
Buy a ticket to Disneyland.

Adapted: Tony Mitton

A. What would the poet live on if it weren't for his mum? (**Stanza 1**) (10)

B. How would the house look if the poet lived alone? (**Stanzas 2 & 3**) (10)

C. What do you think the poet means by "*find out what it's like to be me*"? (10)

D. Which word best describes the poet, do you think?

- Silly
- A trouble-maker
- Independent
- Well-behaved

Give reasons for your answer. (10)

E. Think about a poem you have studied that described:
A Family Event **OR** A School Event

- Name the poem and the poet
- Describe the family event **or** the school event
- Give the poem marks out of ten and explain why you gave those marks.

(20)

Read this scene adapted from *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl, then answer the questions that follow.

George's grandma has some very strange views. She is not a nice person at all. George is always in trouble with her, so when it's time for her to take her medicine, George decides to get his own back.



Grandma: *(snapping)* You're Late!

George: No I'm not!

Grandma: *(shouting)* Yes you are! Be Quiet! Don't speak when I'm speaking!

George: But you're finished speaking.

Grandma: There you go again! Always answering back! You really are an awful boy!
What's the time?

George: It's exactly seven o'clock, Grandma.

Grandma: You're lying as usual. Shut up and give me my medicine! Shake the bottle first!
And make sure it's a whole spoonful!

George: Are you going to gulp it down in one go?

Grandma: None of your business. Fill up the spoon!

(George tries hard not to smile when he thinks of all the stuff he has put in the medicine bottle - shaving foam, shoe polish, dandruff cure, hair-remover...)

George: Open wide Grandma! A nice big spoonful, just like you wanted!

(Grandma opens her small wrinkled mouth showing disgusting brown teeth)

George: Here we go! Swallow it down!

Grandma: AAAAAAHHHH! *(shooting out of her chair, into the air)*

George: *(politely, trying not to laugh)* Is something wrong?

Grandma: Help me! Call the fire-brigade! My mouth is on fire! Get some water!

George: *(Pouring water down Grandma's throat)* This will cool you down! That medicine must be strong!

Grandma: Strong! It's supposed to help me not kill me!

- A. List the ingredients that George put into the medicine for Grandma? (10)
- B. Do George and Grandma get on well together?
Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- C. Do you think Grandma is a nice person? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- C. You have been asked to act out this scene on stage.
• Describe how Grandma should act when she tastes the medicine.
• Describe how George should act when he gives Grandma the spoonful of medicine. (10)
- E. Think about a **PLAY** or a **FILM** you have studied.
• Name the play or film
• Describe either the opening scene **OR** the closing scene
• Was the scene interesting? Give reasons for your answer. (20)

SECTION 7:**MEDIA STUDIES****[60]**

Look carefully at the advertisement on **Page 2 of Paper X**

- A.** 1) What is the name of the magazine being advertised? **(5)**
2) What is the website address of the magazine? **(5)**
3) Where is the magazine to be delivered to? **(5)**
4) How much does the magazine cost for a year? **(5)**
- B.** What age group do you think would read this magazine?
Give reasons for your answer. **(10)**
- C.** What kind of articles would you expect to read in this magazine?
Give reasons for your answer. **(10)**
- D.** Do you think this advertisement is designed to make people notice it?
Give reasons for your answer. **(10)**
- E.** There are two versions of this magazine on sale:
- The normal one you can get in the shops
 - The digital one that is being advertised
- Which version of the magazine do you think will sell better?
Give reasons for your answer. **(10)**