



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission**

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2004

ENGLISH – FOUNDATION LEVEL

360 marks

WEDNESDAY, 9 JUNE – MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00

YOU MUST ANSWER SECTIONS 1, 2, AND 3

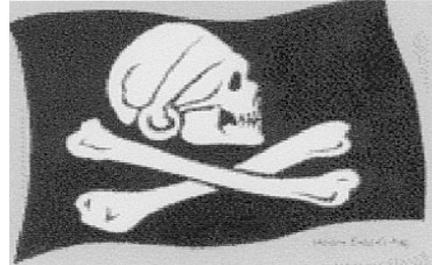
**YOU MUST ALSO ANSWER ANY THREE OF
SECTIONS 4, 5, 6, AND 7**

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

Read this piece and then answer the questions.

PIRATES

1. Throughout history pirates have terrorized the world's seas. The 1600s and early 1700s were known as the Golden Age of Piracy. Ships loaded with goods such as gold, tobacco, rum, silks and spices, would be sailing back to Europe from around the world. Pirates could not resist the temptation to rob these ships.
2. There were three types of pirate: the true pirate, the buccaneer, and the privateer. True pirates stole from anyone. They were criminals and, if caught, faced certain death. The buccaneers were a group of slaves and criminals who were living in the Caribbean. Mainly Dutch, English and French, they hated the Spanish, who ruled much of the Caribbean at that time. They enjoyed attacking Spanish ships and did so whenever they could. Privateers often had letters from their governments giving them permission to rob. These letters could save them from punishment.
3. One of the most dreaded pirates of all was Edward Teach, or Blackbeard. To make himself look terrifying during a raid, he tied lighting hemp fuses into his hair and beard. The same kind of fuse was used to light cannons. These fuses burned slowly and smoked. He looked like he was on fire. The sight of Blackbeard was enough to make his victims surrender peacefully; he would usually take their gold, navigational instruments and rum before allowing them to sail away.
4. Pirates created their own flag, or Jolly Roger as it was called. Pirates in the West Indies were the first to fly red flags to let everyone know who they were. The skull and crossbones was popular with pirates; it was the symbol for death. Blackbeard added an hourglass to show that time was running out and death was coming soon.



Adapted from <http://www.ecani.com/vi/pirates.htm>

A Find the answers to the following questions --

- 1 What happened if a true pirate was caught? (5)
- 2 What was Blackbeard's real name? (5)
- 3 What did pirates call their flag? (5)
- 4 What symbol of death did pirates put on their flag? (5)

B What did the ships carry back to Europe? (**Part 1**) (10)

C How did Blackbeard make himself look terrifying? (**Part 3**) (10)

D Why did Blackbeard add the hourglass to his flag? (**Part 4**) (10)

E In your opinion, should letters from their governments save privateers from punishment? (10)

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

PICK ONLY ONE TOPIC

- A** What I like about --
TV **OR** My Friends **OR** Christmas Morning
- B** A day at the races
- C** A family event
- D** **Teacher:** *Did you do your homework last night?*
Student: *No, but I can explain.*
Write the rest of this conversation
- E** Shopping in town
- F** On the school bus
- G** As I arrived home, I saw smoke coming out of my bedroom window.
Continue this story.
- H** A film I will always remember

SECTION 3:

FUNCTIONAL WRITING

[60]

Answer EITHER A or B

- A** Your teacher has given everyone in your class the name of a student pen-pal in China to write to.
Write a letter to your pen-pal telling him / her about yourself, your hobbies and your family.

OR

- B** You are asked to explain the rules of a game to a group of younger students.
Write a list of the rules, as you would explain them.

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

SECTION 4:

DRAMA

[60]

Read this SCENE from *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White.
Then answer the questions.

Eight year old Fern lives on a farm with her mother, father and brother. While helping her mother set the table for breakfast she sees her father go out with an axe.

FERN (curiously) Where's father going with the axe?
MOTHER Out to the hog-house, some pigs were born last night.
FERN I don't see why he needs an axe.
MOTHER Well, one of the pigs is very small and weak and it will be trouble.
 So your father has decided to do away with it.
FERN (loudly) Do away with it. You mean kill it? Just because it's smaller than the
 others?
MOTHER Don't shout Fern. Your father is right. The pig would probably die
 anyway.

Fern pushes a chair out of the way and runs outside to her father.

FERN (crying) Please don't kill it! It's unfair. *(Fern tries to grab the axe out of her
 father's hand.)*
FATHER I know more about raising a litter of pigs than you do. A weakling
 makes trouble. Now run along.
FERN But it's unfair. The pig couldn't help being born small, could it?
 If I had been very small at birth would you have killed me?
FATHER Of course not! But this is different. A little girl is different from a
 pig.
FERN *(still hanging on to the axe)* I see no difference. This is the most
 terrible case of injustice I have ever heard of. It's so unfair.
FATHER All right, you go back into the house and I will bring you in the pig.
 You can raise it on a bottle, like a baby. Then you'll see what trouble
 a pig can be.

Fern's father brings in the pig in a box. He leaves it at Fern's chair.

FERN *(looking at the pig)* Oh my, he's absolutely perfect. *(Fern closes the
 box carefully and kisses her father.)*

-adapted from *Charlotte's Web*
By E.B. White

- A** Why is Fern upset? (10)
- B** Fern's father is going to kill the pig. Explain why. (10)
- C** How did Fern persuade her father to let her keep the pig? (10)
- D** Would you like to play the character of the father in this scene?
Explain why. (10)
- E** Think of a **PLAY** or **FILM** you have studied.
1. Name the play or film.
 2. Tell the story of the play or film.
 3. Choose a scene you liked or disliked. Explain why you liked or disliked it. (20)

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

NEW BOY

1. He stood alone in the playground
Kicked his shoes and stared at the ground
He came late in the school year
From the other side of town.
2. He'd a brand new blazer and cap on
Polished shoes and neatly cut hair
Looked up and half smiled
Pretending he didn't care.
3. And I remembered when I'd been new
And no one had spoken to me
I'd almost cried as I stood alone
Hiding my misery.
4. My heart said I should go over
Share a joke or play the fool
But I was scared of looking stupid
In front of the rest of the school.



- abridged from Gareth Owen

- A** In **stanza 2** of the poem, how does the poet describe the new boy? (10)
- B** What stops the poet from speaking to the new boy? (10)
- C** Do you think the new boy was happy in school?
Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- D** In what way are the poet and the new boy alike? (10)
- E** Think of a poem you have studied which made you feel
frightened **or** sad **or** lonely **or** happy.
- (i) Name the poem, and tell the story of the poem in your own words.
(ii) Explain why the poem made you feel
frightened **or** sad **or** lonely **or** happy. (20)

Read this piece adapted from *Runaway Summer* by Nina Bawden.
Then answer the questions.

Mary was angry and couldn't remember being otherwise. Sometimes she was angry for a good reason – when someone tried to make her do something she didn't want to do; but most of the time she was angry for no reason at all. She just got up that morning feeling angry and miserable . . . and as if she wanted to break things.

1. Aunt Alice made her angry just by being there, with her rabbit-like face and her grey hair and her teeth that made a clicking sound at mealtimes, and her stomach that sometimes made a noise just like the bath water running out.
2. This morning, Aunt Alice wanted Mary to wear her woollen vest. It was such a lovely July day, with the wind blowing and the small clouds moving across the sky, that Mary had been in a better mood than usual. She had eaten her porridge because she knew that her grandfather believed it was good for her. He had smiled over his newspaper at her when he saw her empty bowl. Mary was happy that she had pleased her grandfather - and then Aunt Alice spoiled everything by asking Mary to put on her woollen vest!
3. Mary argued with her aunt complaining that it wasn't cold out and that she was hot. Aunt Alice did not give up. She tried to explain to Mary that it was cold outside and that she needed her vest, but Mary would not listen. She told her aunt that she hated the horrible old vest with its sleeves and buttons. She got so annoyed that she stabbed her spoon into her boiled egg and some of the yolk splattered out.
4. Grandfather put down his newspaper, looked at Mary and smiled. He explained why she must wear her vest. For a second, Mary almost smiled back at him. She found it hard not to smile at her grandfather, with his round, rosy face, and round, blue eyes. Usually, just to look at her grandfather made Mary feel nicer, a bit less cross. But this time he looked worried and Mary knew he was upset because she had been rude to Aunt Alice.

- A** How did Mary feel in the morning? (10)
- B** How did Mary describe Aunt Alice? (**Part 1**) (10)
- C** How did Mary please her grandfather? (**Part 2**) (10)
- D** In your opinion, does Mary care for her grandfather?
Give a reason for your answer. (10)
- E** Think about a **NOVEL** or a **SHORT STORY** you have studied.
1. Name the Novel or Short Story.
2. Who was your favourite character?
Give two reasons why you liked this character. (20)

View CAREFULLY --

- the ADVERTISEMENT on **Page 1** of **Paper X**
- the ADVERTISEMENT on **Page 2** of **Paper X**

Then answer the questions.

A Cereal bars are being advertised by two companies on **page 1** and **page 2**.
Name the **TWO** companies. (10)

B Who do the companies hope will buy these cereal bars? (10)

C THINK ABOUT **BOTH** ADVERTISEMENTS.
How do the two advertisements try to make you believe that cereal bars are good for you? (10)

D Which of the two advertisements would make you feel more like buying a cereal bar? Give a reason for your answer. (10)

E These logos appear on the advertisements.



In your opinion, which logo is better?
Give a reason for your answer. (20)