



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission**

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**JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2011**

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**ENGLISH – FOUNDATION LEVEL**

**360 marks**

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**WEDNESDAY, 8 JUNE – MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00**

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**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.

### Harry Potter Park opens in America



1. Thousands of people queued overnight in Florida to be the first into the new Harry Potter theme park where the rides are inspired by the places and events in the hugely successful Harry Potter series of stories. When you first walk into the park, you walk past a big painting of a man which seems to come to life. It is a painting of Salazar Slytherin, who was one of the founders of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, the school that Harry Potter went to.
2. The project was kept very secret while Alan Gilmore from Ennis, Co. Clare, and his team turned the books and films into theme park reality. Having worked on the Harry Potter films, Gilmore was invited by Universal Studios to lead the team that would make a magical place for adults and children alike. “I worked very closely with the whole team to make sure we had every detail as perfect as it could possibly be,” he said. It took more than 1,000 people two years to get the theme park finished.
3. For J.K. Rowling, who wrote the Harry Potter books, the occasion was perhaps a little strange. Hogwarts, the school for witches and wizards that she dreamt up during a train journey from Manchester to London, is the centrepiece of the park. It houses the most spectacular ride – Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey. During this four-minute ride people will feel like they are flying around Hogwarts on a broomstick. The ride brings visitors face-to-face with dragons and giant, spitting spiders. Another ride that people will like is the Dragon Challenge. This has twin roller coasters that twist, loop, and narrowly miss each other. The rides mean that people can imagine they are part of Harry Potter’s world.
4. Daniel Radcliffe, the actor who played Harry Potter in eight films, was at the opening. Despite a ten year career playing Harry Potter, having a theme park built around his character is the ultimate thrill. “I’ve now ‘made it’. This is the best. It doesn’t get better than this,” he said.

*Adapted from The Times and The Irish Times*

- A. Find the answers to the following questions:
1. Where is the new Harry Potter theme park? (5)
  2. What is the name of the character in the painting? (5)
  3. How long did it take to get the theme park ready? (5)
  4. What actor played Harry Potter for ten years? (5)
- B. What evidence is there that the people who built the park wanted it to be perfect? (10)
- C. Why is Hogwarts the centrepiece of the theme park? (10)
- D. Why, in your opinion, would people enjoy this theme park? (10)
- E. Which word do you think best describes this theme park?  
Creative **Or** Exciting **Or** Unusual  
Give reasons for your answer. (10)

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

<p><b>PICK ONLY ONE TOPIC</b></p>
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- A. Growing up
- B. The fright of my life
- C. My unlucky day!
- D. **Myself:** *Don't worry! It won't go too fast.*  
**Mother:** *Are you sure? I hate roller coasters!*

Write the rest of this conversation

- E. School
- F. My favourite pet
- G. *As soon as I saw the others, I knew I didn't belong there. They seemed friendly enough but time would tell...*

Continue this story

- H. My three wishes

Answer EITHER A or B:

- A. A famous person is visiting your school. You have been asked to give the welcome speech. Write out the **speech** you would give.  
In your speech you should:

- Welcome the person by name
- Describe the things the person has achieved
- Explain why people in the school are excited about this visit
- Tell the visitor about the activities or places in the school that he or she will see.

OR

- B. You have received a letter from your friend. She or he would like to visit Ireland for a holiday. Your friend has never been to Ireland before.

Write an **informal letter** to your friend.

In your letter you should:

- Describe what you have been doing lately
- Describe the places you will visit with your friend
- Describe the friends or family they will get to meet
- Explain where your friend will stay and what they might need to bring.

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

**SECTION 4:**

**FICTION**

**[60]**

Read this piece, adapted from *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* by Sue Townsend, then answer the questions that follow.

*Adrian is a 13 year old boy who keeps a secret diary. He likes a girl called Pandora and is very concerned about his appearance.*

**1. Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

The dog has got the same colour eyes as Pandora. I only noticed because my mother cut the dog's hair. It looks worse than ever. Mr Lucas and my mother were laughing at the dog's haircut which isn't very nice as the dog can't answer back. I'm going to bed early to think about Pandora and do my back stretching exercises. I will go to the doctor's on Saturday if the spot is still there. I can't live like this with everybody staring at me.



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**2. Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

Mr Lucas came round and offered to take my mother shopping in the car. They dropped me off at school. I was glad to get out of the car what with all the laughing and cigarette smoke. We saw Mrs Lucas on the way. She was carrying big bags of shopping. My mother waved but Mrs Lucas couldn't wave back. It was geography today so I sat next to Pandora for a whole hour. I told her about her eyes being the same colour as the dog's. She asked me what kind of dog it was. I told her it was a mongrel. I have to make an appointment about the spot. It has turned purple.

**3. Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

I was woken up early this morning. Mrs Lucas was putting concrete on her driveway and the lorry had to keep the engine running while she shovelled the concrete. Mr Lucas made her a cup of tea. He really is kind. I went to the doctor about my spot. He didn't even examine the spot. I told him about my bad home life and my poor diet, but he said I was well nourished and to go home and count my blessings. I will get a paper round and go private. The dog escaped from the house and trampled all over the concrete. Sometimes I really hate that dog!

**4. Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

The dog is back at the vet's. It got concrete stuck in its paws. No wonder there was such a racket on the stairs last night. Pandora smiled at me in school at lunch today. I couldn't smile back because I was choking on a piece of fat. Just my luck!

- A. 1. What is the name of the girl that Adrian likes? (5)  
2. What is Adrian most worried about on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>? (5)
- B. 1. What do we find out about Mr Lucas from Adrian's diary? (5)  
2. What is the doctor's reaction to Adrian's problem? (5)
- C. From your reading of the diary entries, how would you describe Adrian?  
Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- D. Imagine you are Adrian. Write a diary entry for **Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**  
describing your day. You should write about ten lines for this entry. (10)
- E. Think about a **NOVEL** or a **SHORT STORY** you have studied:
- Name the novel or short story
  - Describe a character who was worried or angry about something
  - Explain how the character showed that she or he was worried or angry
  - Describe what happened to this character at the end of the novel or short story. (20)

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



### Grandad

*Grandad's dead  
And I'm sorry about that.*

He'd a huge black overcoat  
He felt proud in it.  
You could have hidden  
A football crowd in it.  
Far too big-  
It was a lousy fit  
But Grandad didn't  
Mind a bit

*Now he's dead  
And I'm sorry about that.*

He'd got twelve stories.  
I'd heard every one of them  
Hundreds of times  
But that was the fun of them:  
You knew what was coming  
So you could join in.  
He'd got big hands  
And brown, grooved skin  
And when he laughed  
It knocked you flat.

*Now he's dead  
And I'm sorry about that.*

Kit Wright

- A. 1. What description is given of Grandad's coat in stanza 1? (5)  
2. How did Grandad feel when wearing the coat? (5)
- B. 1. What do we learn about Grandad in Stanza 2? (5)  
2. How does the speaker feel about Grandad's death? (5)
- C. From your reading of this poem, what kind of person do you think Grandad was? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- D. How would you describe the relationship between the speaker in the poem and Grandad? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- E. Think about a **POEM** you have studied which described a **Happy** event or a **Sad** event:
- Name the poem and the poet
  - Tell the story of the poem
  - What descriptions in this poem made it happy or sad? (20)

Read this scene, adapted from *Kes* by Barry Hines and Alan Stronach, then answer the questions that follow.

***Billy Casper is a young boy who has problems with his family and in school. The only thing he loves is a Kestrel Hawk. He has learned everything he can about the kestrel and has trained it and keeps it in a hut which he visits all the time. In this scene, Mr Farthing, his teacher, arrives at the hut. Billy is surprised to see him.***



Mr Farthing: Can I have a look?

Billy: Course! Not too close though, she's nervous today. Don't know why.

Mr Farthing: Beautiful isn't it? Do you know this is the first time I've been this close to a hawk.

***(He touches the door of the hut, but snatches his hand back)***

Goodness, not very friendly is she? All right with you though?

Billy: Well she used to peck me when I first handled her but I just left my hand there and after a while she stopped.

Mr Farthing: I'd have never thought of that. You think a lot about that bird don't you?

Billy: Wouldn't you if it was yours? I kept a fox cub once and reared it and let it go. I kept lots of birds too before.

***Billy explains that the hawk is his favourite of all the animals and birds he has ever kept. Mr Farthing is interested to know why he loves the kestrel so much.***

Billy: It's when it's flying sir, that's when it's got it over other birds, that's when it's at its best. Do you know sir, I feel she's doing me a favour letting me stand here and look at her.

Mr Farthing: It's proud of itself. It demands respect from you.

Billy: That's why it makes me mad when I take her out and somebody shouts "Look at Billy Casper with his pet hawk." I could shout at them: "It's not a pet." It's not a pet sir, hawks are not pets. It's not tame, it's just trained that's all. It's fierce and wild and not bothered about anyone. Not even me, right. That's why it's great.

Mr Farthing: A lot of people wouldn't understand that though. They like pets that they can make friends with; make a fuss of, cuddle a bit, boss a bit. Don't you agree?

Billy: Yes, I suppose so, but I'm not bothered about that though. I'd sooner have her just to look at and fly. That's enough for me. They can keep their rabbits and budgies; they're rubbish compared to her.

Mr Farthing: Yes, I think you're right.

- A. 1. What kind of bird does Billy have? (5)  
2. Where does he keep her? (5)
- B. How do we know from this scene that Billy loves animals? (10)
- C. Billy describes the hawk as his favourite.  
1. What does he like about the hawk? (5)  
2. What does this tell us about Billy? (5)
- D You have been asked to make a **short film** of this scene.  
  - Describe the location where you would film this scene
  - Describe the props you would use for this scene
  - Write **two** instructions you would give to the actors playing Billy and Mr Farthing. (10)
- E Think about a **PLAY** or a **FILM** you have studied:  
  - Name the play or film
  - Describe a character that you found interesting
  - Describe a scene where this character had something important to say or do
  - Explain why this scene was important for that character. (20)

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

- A
1. What production is being advertised? (5)
  2. Who is playing the lead role in this production? (5)
  3. When is this production on? (5)
  4. Where is this production on? (5)
- B According to the advertisement, why should people go to see this production? (10)
- C
1. Where would you place this advertisement to encourage people to buy tickets? (5)
  2. Why would you choose this location? (5)
- D Look carefully at the advertisement on **Page 2 of Paper X**:
1. Describe the images used to make up this advertisement. (5)
  2. Write about the use of colour in this advertisement. (5)
- E You have been asked to design a **leaflet** to promote this production:
- In this leaflet you should:
- Give the name of the production
  - Describe the design you would use
  - Explain what type of production this is
  - Persuade people to buy tickets for this production. (10)