

**The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School
Elstree, Herts**

11+ Entrance Examination 2011



ENGLISH

Time : One Hour

There are two parts to this examination:

Section A tests your Reading

Section B tests your Writing

Allow yourself **30 minutes** for each part. In addition, you will have **10 minutes** reading time at the beginning of the examination.

Please follow these instructions

- Write your name and examination number at the top of this page, AND at the top of each sheet of lined paper you use for Section B.
- Write in ink, and remember that handwriting and neatness will be taken into account.
- Answer Section A (Reading) in this booklet. You will be given lined paper for Section B (Writing).
- Do not take your Reading Passage away from the examination room.

Parson's Pleasure – Roald Dahl

(Opening of short story)

- 1 MR BOGGIS WAS DRIVING the car slowly, leaning back comfortably in the seat with one elbow resting on the sill of the open window.
How beautiful the countryside, he thought; how pleasant to see a sign or two of summer once again.
The primroses especially. And the hawthorn.
- 6 The hawthorn was exploding white and pink and red along the hedges and the primroses were growing underneath in little clumps, and it was beautiful.
He took one hand off the wheel and lit himself a cigarette. The best thing now, he told himself, would be to make for the top of Brill Hill. He could see it about half a mile ahead. And that must be the village of Brill, that cluster of cottages among the trees
- 11 right on the very summit.
Excellent.
Not many of his Sunday sections had a nice elevation like that to work from.
He drove up the hill and stopped the car just short of the summit on the outskirts of the village. Then he got out and looked around.
- 16 Down below, the countryside was spread out before him like a huge green carpet. He could see for miles.
It was perfect.
He took a pad and pencil from his pocket, leaned against the back of the car, and allowed his practised eye to travel slowly over the landscape.
- 21 He could see one medium farmhouse over on the right, back in the fields, with a track leading to it from the road. There was another larger one beyond it. There was a house surrounded by tall elms that looked as though it might be a Queen Anne, and there were two likely farms away over on the left. Five places in all.
That was about the lot in this direction.
- 26 Mr Boggis drew a rough sketch on his pad showing the position of each so that he'd be able to find them easily when he was down below, then he got back into the car and drove up through the village to the other side of the hill.
From there he spotted six more possibles - five farms and one big white Georgian house. He studied the Georgian house through his binoculars. It had a clean prosperous
- 31 look, and the garden was well ordered. That was a pity.
He ruled it out immediately.
There was no point in calling on the prosperous.

SECTION A: Reading (30 mins)

For questions 1-9, write your answer in the box. DO NOT use full sentences. Make your answers as short as possible, using exact words from the text if you can.

e.g. Q: Who is driving the car at the beginning of the extract?

A: Mr. Boggis

1. Find an example of body language in lines 1-6 which shows that Mr. Boggis is 'comfortable'.

ANSWER:

2. What two plants are mentioned in lines 1-6?

ANSWER: _____ and _____

3. In lines 8-12, how far is Boggis from Brill Hill?

ANSWER:

4. Find a piece of information in lines 8-12 which tells you something about what the village of Brill looks like.

ANSWER:

5. What day of the week does this story take place on?

ANSWER:

6. Find a piece of evidence from lines 14-19 which shows us that Boggis does NOT stop the car in the middle of the village.

ANSWER:

7. What is described as being like 'a huge green carpet'?

ANSWER:

8. What kind of trees does Boggis see around the Queen Anne house?

ANSWER:

9. In lines 21-33, how many buildings in total are we told about IN TOTAL?

ANSWER:

For questions 10-12, CIRCLE the correct answer.

10. What word is closest in meaning to the word 'Studied', as it is used in line 31?:

- a. *examined*
- b. *ignored*
- c. *noticed*

11. Complete this sentence with the **most accurate** statement, based on the information in the passage:

The house mentioned in lines 23-24...

- a. *is a royal residence.*
- b. *was built during the reign of Queen Anne.*
- c. *is called 'Queen Anne's House'*

12. Why does he decide NOT to call on the house at the end of the story?

- a. *Because he is tired.*
- b. *Because the owners look too rich.*
- c. *Because the house is Georgian.*

For questions 13-15, first circle the correct answer, and then write a short paragraph in the box to explain how you came to this answer. **You SHOULD use full sentences.**

e.g. Pick the **most accurate** statement, based on the information in the passage:

- a. *Mr Boggis is driving along a motorway.*
- b. *Mr Boggis has a fast car.*
- c. *Mr Boggis is not in a hurry.*

REASON: *I think Mr Boggis is not in a hurry because we are told that he 'was driving the car slowly'. There is no evidence in the writing that his car is fast. The passage seems very calm, and so I don't think he is on a motorway.*

13. Pick the **most accurate** statement, based on the information in the passage:

- a. *It's unclear why Boggis has come to the countryside.*
- b. *Boggis has come to visit friends.*
- c. *Boggis is a painter.*

REASON:

TURN OVER

14. Pick the **most accurate** statement, based on the information in the passage:

- a. *Boggis is here for fun.*
- b. *Boggis has some kind of job to do.*
- c. *Boggis is a policeman.*

REASON:

15. Pick the **most accurate** statement, based on the information in the passage:

- a. *Boggis likes to help people.*
- b. *Boggis is a little bit sinister.*
- c. *Boggis likes to have a good time.*

REASON:

Check your answers for Section A carefully. When you are certain that you want to move on to Section B, read the instructions which follow very carefully.

SECTION B: Writing (30 mins)

Use A4 lined paper for your answer. **MAKE SURE** you write your name and candidate number at the top.

Choose just **ONE** of the following topics and write about it as interestingly and carefully as you can. Make sure your spelling and punctuation are as accurate as possible.

Either

1. Imagine that Mr. Boggis has chosen a house to visit, and has driven there. Write about what happens next.

OR

2. Describe a place that you particularly like, and explain why it means so much to you.

OR

3. Write a story about exploration.