

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME CLEARLY IN THIS BOX

The Latymer School

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION



ENGLISH PAPER

Part 1 Reading **(30 minutes)**

Read the extract provided and answer the questions which follow using full sentences where appropriate. Please be careful about spelling and punctuation in your answers.

The marks for each question are indicated, and are there to help you. Find as many points as you can, in order to gain maximum marks.

Part 2 Writing **(30 minutes)**

The writing section of the paper will ask you to continue the story using a similar tone and style to the writer of the extract. You should allow 15 minutes for this task.

You will be told when you have 30 minutes left.

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

This story is a fantasy and is set in the Shire where the hobbits live. Bilbo Baggins, a remarkably old and eccentric hobbit, throws a spectacular all-day party to celebrate his 111th birthday and his cousin Frodo's 33rd. At this moment of the story, there is a fantastic firework display before the feasting and Bilbo's after-dinner speech begins.

1 There were rockets like a flight of scintillating birds singing with sweet voices. There were green trees with
2 trunks of dark smoke: their leaves opened like a whole spring unfolding in a moment, and their shining
3 branches dropped glowing flowers down upon the astonished hobbits, disappearing with a sweet scent
4 just before they touched their upturned faces. There were fountains of butterflies that flew glittering into
5 the trees; there were pillars of coloured fires that rose and turned into eagles, or sailing ships, or a phalanx
6 of flying swans; there was a red thunderstorm and a shower of yellow rain; there was a forest of silver
7 spears that sprang suddenly into the air with a yell like an embattled army, and came down again into the
8 water with a hiss like a hundred hot snakes. And there was also one last surprise, in honour of Bilbo, and it
9 startled the hobbits exceedingly, as Gandalf intended. The lights went out. A great smoke went up. It
10 shaped itself like a mountain seen in the distance, and began to glow at the summit. It spouted green and
11 scarlet flames. Out flew a red -golden dragon - not life-size, but terribly life-like: fire came from his jaws, his
12 eyes glared down; there was a roar, and he whizzed three times over the heads of the crowd. They all
13 ducked, and many fell flat on their faces. The dragon passed like an express train, turned a somersault, and
14 burst over Bywater with a deafening explosion.

15 "That is the signal for supper!" said Bilbo. The pain and alarm vanished at once, and the prostrate hobbits
16 leapt to their feet and they jostled their way to the tables. There was a splendid supper for everyone in the
17 great pavilion with the tree. The invitations had been splendidly written in golden ink and had been sent to
18 all the families to which Bilbo and Frodo were related, with the addition of a few special unrelated friends
19 (such as Gandalf).

20 All the one hundred and forty-four guests expected a pleasant feast; though they rather dreaded the after-
21 dinner speech of their host (an inevitable item). The guests were not disappointed: they had a very
22 pleasant feast, in fact an engrossing entertainment: rich, abundant, varied, and prolonged. After the feast
23 (more or less) came the speech. Most of the company were, however, now in a tolerant mood, at that
24 delightful stage which they called 'filling up the corners'. They were sipping their favourite drinks, and
25 nibbling at their favourite dainties, and their fears were forgotten. They were prepared to listen to
26 anything, and to cheer at every full stop.

27 "My dear people," began Bilbo, rising in his place.

28 'Hear! Hear! Hear!' erupted the chorus of guests as they banged and clattered the tables in unison.

29 Bilbo left his place and went and stood on a chair under the illuminated tree. The light of the lanterns fell
30 on his beaming face; the golden buttons shone on his embroidered silk waistcoat. They could all see him
31 standing, waving one hand in the air, the other was in his trouser -pocket.

32 "I hope you are all enjoying yourselves as much as I am. Tonight, I have three things to tell you all dear
33 friends. First of all, I must tell you that I am immensely fond of you all, and that eleventy-one years is too
34 short a time to live among such excellent and admirable hobbits."

35 A tremendous outburst of approval reverberated around the room, which both delighted and encouraged
36 Bilbo to continue.

Write your answers in the spaces provided after each question. If you run out of space for an answer use the space provided at the end of this booklet, numbering your answer carefully.

Reading Section – 30 minutes

1. Identify **two similes** from the **first six lines** of the passage.

i.
ii.

[2 marks]

2. Find one piece of evidence from the **first paragraph** and then explain in your own words how the writer makes the dragon sound fast and powerful. (Use this sentence starter to help you and write in full sentences)

<i>The writer makes the dragon sound fast and powerful by</i>

[1 mark for the identifying the correct phrase
and 2 marks for explaining the effect of the phrase. A total of 3 marks available]

3. The word **'phalanx'** means a body of troops in close formation. On line 6, the writer uses this word to describe the swans. What image of the swans does this connote for the reader?

The word 'phalanx' makes the swans seem

[1 mark]

4. In **paragraph 3**, what evidence is there to suggest that the guests have been to one of Bilbo's parties before?

[1 mark]

5. Decide whether the following statements are true or false and put a tick in the correct box.

	True	False
Gandalf has organised the firework display		
The hobbits were surprised by the dragon		
The tree branches were made of silver		

[3 marks]

6. Using the information in the paragraph that begins, *"That is the signal for supper!"* **identify 3 phrases** that show that the hobbits are excited about the feast.

i.
ii.
iii.

[3 marks]

7. Why do you think that 144 guests are invited?

[1 mark]

8. Using the information in the paragraph that begins, '**All the one hundred and forty-four guests expected a pleasant feast,**' identify two phrases that the writer has used to make the hobbits sound small.

i.
ii.

[2 marks]

9. The word '**dainties**' means a luxurious delicacy. What information does the writer use to suggest that the guests knew that the party was going to be a grand event **before** they had even arrived?

[1 mark]

10. Look again at this description of Bilbo.

'Bilbo left his place and went and stood on a chair under the illuminated tree. The light of the lanterns fell on his beaming face; the golden buttons shone on his embroidered silk waistcoat.'

Think of **3 different adjectives of your own** that **you** could use to describe Bilbo here.

i.
ii.
iii.

[3 marks]

11. Write down the meaning of the following words. (They are underlined in the passage).

i. Glittering	
ii. Astonished	
iii. Embattled	

[3 marks]

12. Look again at the following two images and explain in your own words the effect created by them.

Image	Effect
<i>There were rockets like a flight of scintillating birds singing with sweet voices.</i>	
<i>their leaves opened like a whole spring unfolding in a moment</i>	

[2 marks for each explanation
4 marks available in total]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]