

Eton College King's Scholarship Examination 2016

ENGLISH

(One and a half hours)

Remember to write your candidate number on every sheet of answer paper used.

You must answer all three questions.

You are advised to spend fifteen minutes reading the poetry extracts, about fifteen minutes on Question 1 and about thirty minutes on each of Questions 2 and 3.

You need not answer the questions in the order set, but you must start each one on a separate piece of paper.

If you have not finished a question after 30 minutes, you are strongly advised to leave it and go on to another. Return to any unfinished question if you have time left at the end of the paper.

Do not turn over until told to do so.

ENGLISH

Hearts with one purpose alone
Through summer and winter seem
Enchanted to a stone
To trouble the living stream.
The horse that comes from the road. 45
The rider, the birds that range
From cloud to tumbling cloud,
Minute by minute they change;
A shadow of cloud on the stream
Changes minute by minute; 50
A horse-hoof slides on the brim,
And a horse plashes within it;
The long-legged moor-hens dive,
And hens to moor-cocks call;
Minute by minute they live: 55
The stone's in the midst of all.

Too long a sacrifice
Can make a stone of the heart.
O when may it suffice?
That is Heaven's part, our part 60
To murmur name upon name,
As a mother names her child
When sleep at last has come
On limbs that had run wild.
What is it but nightfall? 65
No, no, not night but death;
Was it needless death after all?
For England may keep faith
For all that is done and said.
We know their dream; enough 70
To know they dreamed and are dead;
And what if excess of love
Bewildered them till they died?
I write it out in a verse -
MacDonagh and MacBride 75
And Connolly and Pearse
Now and in time to be,
Wherever green is worn,
Are changed, changed utterly:
A terrible beauty is born. 80

W.B. Yeats (1916)

Please turn over

ENGLISH

'They'

The Bishop tells us: 'When the boys come back 1
They will not be the same; for they'll have fought
In a just cause: they lead the last attack
On Anti-Christ; their comrades' blood has bought
New right to breed an honourable race, 5
They have challenged Death and dared him face to face.'

'We're none of us the same!' the boys reply.
'For George lost both his legs; and Bill's stone blind;
Poor Jim's shot through the lungs and like to die; 9
And Bert's gone syphilitic: you'll not find
A chap who's served that hasn't found *some* change.'
And the Bishop said: 'The ways of God are strange!'

Siegfried Sassoon (1916)

1. Paraphrase (write in your own words in modern prose)
 - a) Easter, 1916: lines 70-80 inclusive [20]
 - b) 'They': lines 1-6 inclusive [10]
2. As you can see the poems were written in the same year. Describe what they share in terms of style and in the treatment of their subject matter. (You might like to consider aspects such as form, rhyme scheme, vocabulary, syntax, punctuation, imagery, similes and metaphors as well as the poets' attitudes towards what they describe and their impact on the reader. You might also want to consider any interesting differences between the two poems.) [30]
3. Write a diary page set in either the present or the past in which a soldier describes his experience of battle. Credit will be given for a lively use of language and for the creation of a vivid sense of character. [40]

END OF PAPER