

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

MAY 2015

ENGLISH

2 hours

Answer one question from each section. Begin each question on a fresh sheet of paper.

30 marks are available for each answer.

You are advised to divide your time equally between the three questions.

A further 10 marks are available for accuracy and ambition in spelling, punctuation and grammar.

SECTION A

Read carefully the poem 'Trespass' and then answer the following question:

How does the poet present the speaker's feelings in this poem?

In your answer you may wish to discuss:

- How the writer develops the sense of 'dread' (line 1)
- How the speaker's actions are presented
- The presentation of the different places the speaker describes
- The effects of the writer's choices of language, imagery and form
- Anything else which you consider important

[30 marks]

TRESPASS

I dreaded walking where there was no path

And pressed with cautious tread the meadow swath

And always turned to look with wary eye

And always feared the owner coming by;

Yet everything about where I had gone

Appeared so beautiful I ventured on

And when I gained the road where all are free

I fancied every stranger frowned at me

And every kinder look appeared to say

'You've been on trespass in your walk today.'

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I've often thought, the day appeared so fine,

How beautiful if such a place were mine;

But, having naught, I never feel alone

And cannot use another's as my own.

John Clare (1793-1864)

2 swath] a band of mown grass or corn
7 gained the road] got onto the road
8 fancied] imagined
12 How beautiful if...] How beautiful it would be if...
14 another's] another person's possessions

TURN OVER

SECTION B

The passage opposite is the opening of a novel about the poet John Clare, who wrote the poem in section A. Read carefully the passage and answer the following question:

'The living day met him with its details' (line 2). How does Foulds present this encounter?

In your answer you may wish to discuss:

- The descriptions of nature
- The descriptions of the passage of time
- How the boy feels about the world he explores
- The way that sentences and paragraphs are structured, and the effect this has
- Anything else which you consider important

[30 marks]

From The Quickening Maze (2009)

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30

He'd been sent out to pick firewood from the forest, sticks and timbers wrenched loose in the storm. Light met him as he stepped outside, the living day met him with its details, the scuffling blackbird that had its nest in their apple tree.

Walking towards the wood, the heath, beckoning away. Undulations of yellow gorse rasped softly in the breeze. It stretched off into unknown solitudes.

He was a village boy and he knew certain things. He thought that the edge of the world was a day's walk away, there where the cloud-breeding sky touched the earth at the horizon. He thought that when he got there he would find a deep pit and he would be able to look down into it and see the world's secrets. Same as he knew he could see heaven in water, a boy on his knees staring into the heavy, flexing surface of the gravel-pit ponds or at a shallow stream flashing over stones.

He set off, down into the wide yellow fragrance. The wood he could collect on his return.

Soon he was further from the village than he had ever been, furthest from the tough, familiar nest of his cottage. He walked quite out of his knowledge, into a world where the birds and flowers did not know him, where his shadow had never been.

It confused him. He started to think that the sun was shining in a new quarter of the sky. He felt no fear yet: the sun lit wonders in a new zone that held him in steady rapt amazement. He did wonder, though, why the old world had not come to an end, why the horizon was no closer.

He walked and walked and before he'd thought the morning passed, the light was thickening.

Moths flittered under the bushes. Frogs fidgeted along the rabbit tracks and mice twittered their little splintery cries. Overhead trembled the first damp stars.

It was the hour of waking spirits. Now he was afraid.

He hurried around with a panicking heart and found behind him a splay of paths. By chance he got on the right one. As the darkness grew, gathering first in the bushes and trees, then soaking out from them, he found himself approaching his own village. At least it looked like his own village, but somehow the distance he'd travelled made him seem uncertain. It looked the same. It definitely was the same, but somehow it didn't seem right, in place. Even the church, rising over the wood, the church he'd seen every day as soon as he could see at all, looked counterfeit. Frightened, racing, like a lost bird he flung his light body towards what he hoped was home.

His name. He heard his name being called. John! Jo-ohn! Village voices. He could put names to them all. He ran now, not answering, to his own cottage, feeling a tumult of relief as he approached. When he stepped through the open doorway his mother yelped at the sight and flew towards him. Her strong arms encircled him, her bosom crushed against his face.

'We thought you was dead. In the wood. They're out looking for you. We thought you was struck down by a falling... Oh, but you're home.'

Adam Foulds (1974—)

4	undulations] waves	4	gorse] a prickly shrub with yellow flowers
4	rasped] grated	10	flexing] bending
23	splay] spreading out	28	counterfeit] fake
31	tumult] violent, chaotic noise	33	bosom] chest

TURN OVER

SECTION C

Complete **one** of the following tasks:

- 1. Compare the passages in sections A and B in any ways that interest you (but avoid repeating lots of the points you have already made in your answers to sections A and B).
- 2. Write a description of a place which has a sign outside it saying 'Keep out! Trespassers will be prosecuted.'
- 3. 'He wandered quite out of his knowledge.' Write a story inspired by this sentence.
- 4. 'Without private property, the world would be a better place.' Write an article for a newspaper or a magazine in which you discuss this view.

[30 marks]

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