



**ST. NICHOLAS COLLEGE
RABAT MIDDLE SCHOOL
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATIONS 2016**

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| LEVEL 6-7 |
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| FORM 1 | ENGLISH | TIME: 2 HOURS |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------|

Name: _____ Index No: _____ Class: _____

| Marks | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Oral Assessment | Listening Comprehension | Written Paper | Total |
| | | | |

SECTION A: LANGUAGE **15 MARKS**

A. Complete the passage using the most suitable word in the box below. 5 marks []

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| about | to | up | in | over |
| down | on | near | out | into |

The rain had just stopped. I went (1)_____ into the garden. Then I heard a soft mewling. I saw a little white kitten. It was so thin that its bones were showing. It was wet and shivering. I brought it (2)_____ the house and dried it.

My brother came (3) _____. "Do you know who this kitten belongs (4)_____?" I asked him. My brother said he had seen some kittens in the long grass (5)_____ our house. The mother cat was just a stray. He told me to give the kitten some fish. There was no more fish, so I took some rice and gave it to the kitten but it would not eat the rice.

"I wonder if it's old enough to eat rice. It may still be feeding (6)_____ its mother's milk," said my brother. I warmed (7) _____ some milk and gave it to the kitten but it would not drink the milk. " I wonder if I should give it back to its mother," I said. "Yes, you'd better do that," said my brother.

My brother and I carried the kitten out of the house. We heard loud mewling. It was the mother cat. I put (8)_____ the kitten. It mewed loudly but stayed still. The mother cat ran quickly to the little kitten. It started licking the kitten all (9)_____. The kitten kept mewling loudly. "Do you think it's telling its mother (10)_____ me ?" I asked my brother.



B. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense. The first one (0) has been done for you. 5 marks []

Sara: Hi! (0) Do you live (you/live) in London?

Mandy: No, I (1) _____ (be) here on holiday. I (2) _____ (stay) with my sister for the summer. She and her husband (3) _____ (live) near the university.

Sara: (4) _____ (you/ stay) with them every summer?

Mandy: No, I usually (5) _____ (go) on holiday with my friend, Anna but she (6) _____ (work) on a farm this summer. She (7) _____ (not have) a holiday this year. What about you?

Sara: I (8) _____ (do) a drama course at the moment and I (9) _____ (live) in a student hostel. It's great because the students (10) _____ (come) from all over the world.

C. Look at the information about these four major cities: London, Rome, New York and Tokyo. 5 marks []

| City | Built | Population | Area | Temperature | Rainfall |
|----------|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| London | 43AD | 6,750,000 | 1,580 sq km | 4-18 | 610mm |
| Rome | 753BC | 2,800,000 | 1,500 sq km | 8-25 | 744mm |
| New York | 1609AD | 7,100,000 | 956 sq km | 0-30 | 1,123mm |
| Tokyo | 1456AD | 11,800,000 | 1,250 sq km | 3-26 | 1,563mm |

Now write five sentences using the information in the table. In every sentence, you have to compare these cities by using both the comparative and superlative form of the words in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you.

0. Tokyo is smaller than London but New York is the smallest city. (small)
1. Rome is _____ than Tokyo but London is _____ city. (large)
2. New York is _____ than London but Tokyo is _____ city. (crowded)
3. Rome is _____ than London but New York is _____ city. (hot)
4. New York is _____ than Tokyo but Rome is _____ city. (old)
5. Rome is _____ than London but Tokyo is _____ city. (wet)

SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION

20 MARKS

Read the passage “Las Fallas” and then answer the following questions

1. **State whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F).** 4 marks []
- a. Traditionally, the Fallas festival celebrated the end of winter. _____
 - b. The best sculptures are kept in the Official Fallas Museum. _____
 - c. There is a competition to choose the best sculpture. _____
 - d. The Festival is important because it created jobs and brings in money. _____
2. **Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.** 2 marks []
- a. The Fallas Fiesta is ...
 - i. a major tourist event.
 - ii. a political event.
 - iii. celebrated outside Spain too.
 - b. The Fallas sculptures are ...
 - i. built during the week preceding the festival.
 - ii. built during the year preceding the festival.
 - iii. sold the day after the festival.
3. **From the first two paragraphs, find a word in the text that means:** 2 marks []
- a. something falls down _____
 - b. a growing industry _____
 - c. happening once a year _____
 - d. brings about _____
4. **What do these numbers refer to in the text?** 4 marks []
- a. two: _____
 - b. four: _____
 - c. thirty: _____
 - d. eighteen: _____

5. Las Fallas is a modern tradition in Spain. Is this true? Give a reason for your answer.

1 mark []

6. **Continue this sentence.** In the past, the carpenters in Valencia used to celebrate the end of winter by _____

1 mark []

7. Las Fallas started because a carpenter had a new idea of how to celebrate the end of winter. What was this idea?

2 marks []

8. What do the words in bold refer to in the passage?

2 marks []

- a. this (paragraph 2) - _____
- b. they (paragraph 3) - _____
- c. them (paragraph 3) - _____
- d. their (paragraph 4) - _____

9. **Complete the sentence.**

2 marks []

“One of the highlights of the festival is the (**procession / marathon run**) of boys and girls in (**traditional / carnival**) dress. They (**parade / look up**) through the city centre, bringing flowers for the (**Virgin Mary / Las Fallas**).

SECTION C: LITERATURE

20 MARKS

PART 1: POETRY – UNPREPARED TEXT

Read the poem and answer all the questions that follow.

10 marks []

Performance by Duncan Jones

1 My heart was beating like a drum
A herd of buffalo in my tum!
My head was banging, clanging, whanging.

5 Goose bumps like mole hills on my neck
Doubt like a pterodactyl's peck.
My toes were twitching, itching, gritching.

I had to walk out on that stage.
Like one against a dragon's rage.
A sea of eyes all waiting, watching, watching.

10 Heart jumping like a kangaroo.
Would I remember what to do?
Then on...

15 It's as if I am
A little flea.
Staring right down
And watching me.
Then hearing cheering, cheering, cheering.

20 My chest is puffing out with pride
As if I've swallowed up Strathclyde
My head is grinning, spinning, zinging

My mind is doing summersaults.
I am up as high as astronauts.
My eyes are gleaming, streaming, dreaming.



1. The poet is afraid of 1 mark []
a. a kangaroo.
b. an astronaut.
c. an angry dragon.
d. going on stage.

2. In line 1, the poet says “my heart was beating like a drum”.
a. In this line, the poet feels _____ . 1 mark []
b. It feels like his heart is beating very _____ . 1 mark []

3. In stanza 1, the poet says “a herd of buffalo in my tum!”. This figure of speech is called a _____ . 1 mark []
4. ‘banging, clanging, whanging’ (line 3) is an example of: 1 mark []
- a metaphor
 - a simile
 - an onomatopoeia
5. ‘Doubt like a pterodactyl’s peck’ (line 5) is an example of: 1 mark []
- a metaphor
 - a simile
 - an onomatopoeia
6. Does the boy succeed on stage? If yes, quote one word from stanza 5 which shows this. 2 marks []
- _____
7. Write down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem. 1 mark []
- _____
 - _____
8. What is the rhyme scheme of the first three (3) lines. 1 mark []
- _____

PART 2: PROSE – UNPREPARED TEXT

Read the text below and answer all the questions that follow.

10 marks []



It is impossible to say how the idea first entered 1
my mind, but once it came, it haunted me day and
night. I did not do it because I wanted something. I
did not do it for passion. I liked the old man. He
had never done anything wrong to me. He had 5
never insulted me. I had no desire for his gold. I think it was his eye! Yes, it was this!
One of his eyes looked like a vulture’s - a pale blue eye. Whenever it looked at me, my
blood ran cold; and so slowly I made up my mind to take the old man’s life, and to free
myself of the eye forever.

I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed 10
him. Every night I opened his door and stuck my head in his room very slowly, so as
not to wake him up. I could see him lying on his bed. And I shined a ray of light on his

face - quietly , oh so quietly - so I could see the vulture eye. And I did this for seven long nights, every night, just at midnight, but I found his eye was always closed, so it was impossible to do my work, because it was not the old man who worried me, but his evil eye. 15

On the eighth night, I had my head in the door and was about to shine my light, when the old man jumped up in bed and cried, “Who’s there?” I kept still and said nothing. For a whole hour, I did not move, and he did not lie back down. He was still sitting up in the bed listening. Then I heard a small groan, and I knew he had gone back to sleep. I waited a long time, then I shined the light on him. The ray of light fell on his vulture eye. It was open-wide open- and I grew angry as I looked at it. I could see the eye and nothing else. 20

(Adapted from "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe)

1. a. How many characters are there in the story? ½ mark []

b. Who are they? ½ mark []

2. The person telling the story 1 mark []

- a. kills a vulture.
- b. kills an old man.
- c. sleeps for eight nights.

3. In the phrase, ‘Whenever it looked at me, my blood ran cold’ (lines 7-8), the old man’s eye made the narrator feel 1 mark []

- a. happy and safe.
- b. terrified.
- c. sleepy.

4. How does the person telling the story move so as not to wake up the old man? 1 mark []

5. Find **one** word or phrase which describes the colour of the old man’s eye. 1 mark []

6. Quote **one simile** in the text which describes the old man’s eye. 2 marks []
