

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME IN THIS BOX

The Latymer School

SPECIMEN ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH PAPER

Section 1 Reading

(30 minutes)

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

When you have read the passage, answer the questions which follow using full sentences where appropriate.

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.

Please be careful about spelling and punctuation in your answers.

In this extract, set in Newcastle during World War 2, a young boy named Chas McGill discovers something extraordinary in the woods near his home.

He sniffed. There was a foreign smell in the Wood ... like petrol and fireworks. Funny – it wasn't Guy Fawkes yet. Some kids must have been messing about. As he pressed on, the smell grew stronger. There must be an awful lot of petrol. Something was blocking out the light through the branches. A new building; a secret army base; a new anti-aircraft gun? He couldn't quite see, except that it was black.

And then he saw, quite clearly at the top, a swastika, black outlined in white. He didn't know whether to run towards it or away. So he stayed stock-still, listening. Not a sound ... except the buzzing of flies. The angry way they buzzed off dog-dirt when you waved your hand over it. It was late in the year for flies, thought Chas.

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He moved forward again. It was so tall, like a house, and now it was dividing into four arms, at right angles to each other ...

He burst into the clearing. It was the tail of an aeroplane: the German bomber that had crashed onto the laundrette. At least, most of it had crashed on the laundrette. The tail, breaking off in the air, had spun to earth like a sycamore seed. He'd read of that happening in books. He could also tell from books that this aeroplane had been a Heinkel HX 111.

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Suddenly, he felt very proud. He'd report the find and be on the nine o'clock news. He could hear the newsreader's voice in his head, saying:

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The mystery bomber shot down over Garmouth on the night of November 1st has been identified as a new and secret variation of the Heinkel HX 111. It was found by local schoolboy, Charles McGill of Garmouth High School. There is no doubt that – but for the sharp eyes of this young boy - several enemy secret weapons vital to the Nazis would have remained undiscovered ...

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Chas sighed. If he reported it, they'd just come and take it away for scrap metal. Like when he'd taken that shiny incendiary bomb-rack to the Warden's office ... they'd not even said thank you. And he wouldn't get in the news because it was a perfectly normal Heinkel HX 111, with typical rear turret mounting one machine-gun ...

30

Chas gulped. The machine gun was still there, hanging from the turret, shiny and black!

1. What can Chas smell?

(1 mark)

2. What happens as he walks (presses) on?

(1 mark)

3. What does he find after bursting into the clearing?

(1 mark)

4. Decide whether the following statements are true or false

	True	False
Chas thinks the smell is strange for that time of year		
Chas learns about planes from reading books		
Chas is a schoolboy		

(3 marks)

5. Using information from the paragraph that begins 'He sniffed.' explain what Chas thinks is blocking out the light.

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

(3 marks)

6. Look at the paragraph beginning, 'And then he saw...' Write down **two** phrases that tell us Chas is anxious.

(2 marks)

7. Choose **one** word that explains how Chas felt when he first discovers the plane.

_____ (1 mark)

8. The paragraph that begins, ‘And then he saw,’ describes a tense and exciting moment in the story.

Write down two words or phrases from the same paragraph which are tense or exciting and explain how the writer uses language to make them sound tense and exciting.

Quotations	How the language makes this moment sound tense and exciting
1.)	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
2.)	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

(4 marks)

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

Incendiary (L27): _____

Variation (L22): _____

Dividing (L12): _____

(3 marks)

10. What have you learned about the character of Chas from the passage?

You must use at least two appropriate adjectives (describing words) and support each one with evidence (quotations) from the passage to support your opinion.

Adjective (describing word)	Word or phrase from the passage which shows this

(4 marks)

11. After reading the passage would you like to read the rest of the story? Explain why or why not.

(2 marks)

Total: 25 Marks

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Section 2 Writing

(30 minutes)

1. Take care with **spelling, punctuation** and **paragraphing** and try to be **neat**. 5 of the 25 marks for this task are specifically for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
2. You will be given 5 minutes to **plan** what you will write before you start.
3. **Check** your work before you hand it in. You will be told when you have five minutes left.
4. Choose only **one** of the tasks and use the time allowed to write about it.

Plan your writing here

Write a detailed description of **either**:

- A boat journey

Or:

- An evil character with magical powers

Total: 25 marks

