



IPSWICH SCHOOL

Entrance Tests
Year 7 Entry
Practice Papers



IPSWICH SCHOOL

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

2023 entry

ENGLISH

Time allowed: 1 hour

**We suggest that you spend 30 minutes on Section A
and 30 minutes on section B**

SECTION A: READING

Read the following passage:

	Line number
'One knot blue, two knots yellow, three knots red, four knots green...' The young boys chanted the pattern of the carpet they were weaving. Bony little fingers deftly drew the card down the thread; warp and weft...warp and weft...top to bottom, right to left...warp and weft and knot.	5
Behind the loom inside a dark mud hut, crouching like caged animals, sat a line of boys. With backs against a wall, their thin arms rose and fell as they drew the threads from top to bottom, right to left, warp and weft and knot. They could have been musicians plucking at strings, but these were carpet weavers whose harmonies were of the eye not the ear as, bit by bit, the glorious patterns and hues of a rich carpet emerged in the darkness. 'One knot blue, two knots yellow, three knots red, four knots green...' The boys wove their thread, prompted and guided by old Rama, the only man among them, who had the pattern pinned to an upright in front of him.	10 15
'Ishwar, you're dreaming again!' bellowed a harsh voice. THWACK! The hand of the overseer struck a boy around the head.	
The boy, Ishwar, faltered and nearly fell over sideways but Bharat, crouching next to him, braced his body and managed to keep his friend upright.	20
'Keep your mind on the job. There'll be no supper for any of you tonight until you've woven another ten inches,' threatened the man. His great shape filled the doorway and blotted out their only source of light. Then he was gone. There was a low groan from the boys. Another ten inches before they would eat! That could take two hours or more, for this was the most complicated carpet they had ever woven - and the whole thing was to be completed within seven months - when an ordinary carpet took at least twelve.	25
A wealthy man had come along the rough track to the village in his white Mercedes. When he reached the brick house of Anoup, the carpet manufacturer, he got out like a raja*, surrounded by shy jostling children and deferential elders, all of whom noted the gold rings embedded in his chubby fingers, and the chunky foreign watch just glinting beneath the cuffs of his smart suit.	30

Extracted from, The Paradise Carpet by Jamila Gavin

*Raja - Indian king or prince

SECTION A: READING

Answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible.

1. Explain the following words as they are used in the passage.

- (a) "deftly" (line 3)
- (b) "hues" (line 11)
- (c) "faltered" (line 18)
- (d) "jostling" (line 31)

(1 mark each)

2. Write a full sentence to explain the meaning of the following:

- (a) "harmonies were of the eye not the ear" (line 10)
- (b) "braced his body" (line 19)
- (c) "blotted out their only source of light" (line 23)
- (d) "gold rings embedded in his chubby fingers" (lines 32-33)

(2 marks each)

3. Now write a short paragraph of several sentences to answer each of the following two questions. You should use quotations from the passage to support your points.

- (a) Look closely at lines 1-15. How does the writer present the boys?
- (b) Look closely at lines 16-34. How does the writer present the adults?

(4 marks each)

(Total: 20 marks for Section A)

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR SECTION B

SECTION B: WRITING

This section assesses your ability to use language creatively and accurately. The piece you produce can therefore be real or imagined.

Either:

1. Write a description of visiting an unfamiliar place.

(30 marks)

Or:

2. Write about the place where you live. This could be your neighbourhood, town or even your country.

(30 marks)

Please note: The 30 marks available for Section B are allocated as follows:

- 10 marks for structure and development
- 10 marks for imagination and detail
- 10 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

IPSWICH SCHOOL

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2019

ENGLISH

Time allowed: 1 hour

**We suggest that you spend 30 minutes on Section A and 30 minutes on
Section B**

SECTION A: READING

Read the following passage:

Line
number

We hiked till five and camped beside a tranquil spring in a small, grassy clearing in the trees just off the trail. Because it was our first day back on the trail, we were flush for food, including perishables like cheese and bread that had to be eaten before they went off or were shaken to bits in our packs, so we rather gorged ourselves, then sat around smoking and chatting idly until persistent and numerous midge like creatures (no-see-ums, as they are universally known along the trail) drove us into our tents. It was perfect sleeping weather, cool enough to need a bag but warm enough that you could sleep in your underwear, and I was looking forward to a long night's snooze – indeed was enjoying a long night's snooze – when, at some indeterminate dark hour, there was a sound nearby that made my eyes fly open. Normally, I slept through everything – through thunderstorms, through Katz's snoring and noisy midnight pees – so something big enough or distinctive enough to wake me was unusual. There was a sound of undergrowth being disturbed – a click of breaking branches, a weighty pushing through low foliage – and then a kind of large, vaguely irritable snuffling noise.

5

10

15

Bear!

20

I sat bolt upright. Instantly every neuron in my brain was awake and dashing around frantically, like ants when you disturb their nest. I reached instinctively for my knife, then realized I had left it in my pack, just outside the tent. Nocturnal defense had ceased to be a concern after many successive nights of tranquil woodland repose. There was another noise, quite near.

25

Extracted from *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson.

SECTION A: READING

Answer the following questions using your own words as far as possible.

1. Explain the following words as they are used in the passage.

- (a) "tranquil" (line 1)
- (b) "perishables" (line 3)
- (c) "indeterminate" (line 11)
- (d) "instinctively" (line 22)

(1 mark each)

2. Write a full sentence to explain the meaning of the following:

- (a) "we rather gorged ourselves" (line 5)
- (b) "a weighty pushing" (line 16/17)
- (c) "Instantly every neuron in my brain was awake" (line 20)
- (d) "successive nights of tranquil woodland repose" (line 24)

(2 marks each)

3. Now write a short paragraph of several sentences to answer each of the following two questions. You should use quotations from the passage to support your points.

- (a) Look carefully at lines 1 - 11. How does the writer suggest a sense of contentment?
- (b) Look carefully at the lines 19 - 25. How does the writer express his panic?

(4 marks each)

(Total: 20 marks for Section A)

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR SECTION B

SECTION B: WRITING

This section assesses your ability to use language creatively and accurately. The piece you produce can therefore be real or imagined.

Either:

1. Write a description of being outside at night.

(30 marks)

Or:

2. Write an account of a moment in your life when you have been frightened by something.

(30 marks)

Please note: The 30 marks available for Section B are allocated as follows:

- 10 marks for structure and development
- 10 marks for imagination and detail
- 10 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

