

KING'S ELY SENIOR

Scholarship Examination

SAMPLE A

ENGLISH

Time: 1 hour

Read the poem then:

Answer Question 1 – spend 30 minutes on this question (25 marks)

Answer Question 2 – spend 30 minutes on this question (25 marks)

Start each question on a separate sheet of paper.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME AT THE TOP OF EACH SHEET OF PAPER

Section A: Poetry

The poem below was written by Robert Seatter. It is a poem which tries to connect a person's character with their world. Read the poem carefully and then answer the question which follows.

I COME FROM

I come from a suburb waiting forever
for the train to London,
from smashed windows, graffiti,
fog on the platform,
skinheads and fights
if you look the wrong way.
I come from clean handkerchiefs,
dinner money, God
please and sorry one hundred times over,
draft excluders and double glazing .
I come from Chambers Etymological Dictionary,
maths tables, 11+, Look & Learn
an almost complete set of Observer I-Spy books
a family of teachers and yet more teachers,
an Orkney grandfather, a Shropshire grandma
from no accent at all.
I come from kindness
I come from doh-re-me: *The Sound of Music*
recorders, clarinets, a pianola
all the way from Scotland .
I come from rats behind the garage,
and a man who followed me
back from the library
I come from silence
I come from a garden
from my father mowing the lawn into the dark
from fences, walls, gates and hedges
Cuthberts seed packets, The Perfect Small Garden
from the sound through the night
of trains, trains, trains.

Robert Seatter, from On the Beach with Chet Baker (2006)

Question 1

How does this poem use language to make you understand the importance of a person's background?

In your answer you should give examples from the poem's language and phrasing to explain your ideas.

You should spend **30 minutes** answering this question and it is worth **25 marks**.

Question 2

Imagine you are on a train in your local town or village, waiting to leave the station, looking out of the window at a scene which is familiar to you.

Describe what you see in a descriptive piece of prose: deliver to the reader a good picture of what you see and also a sense of how you feel about it.

Marking will look for:

- Structure (text and sentence)
- Language (including imagery and other literary techniques)
- Content (what you write about)
- Style

You should spend **30 minutes** answering this question and it is worth **25 marks**. This question will be marked for **spelling, grammar and punctuation** so leave time to check your work carefully.