



Entry Test

Academic Session 2019-20

ENGLISH

Total
Marks **30**

45 min

Class: IG-III(X)

Write in block letters:

Candidate Name

Date

Kindly read the instructions carefully;

- 1 Answers must be written in ink.**
- 2 Write the number of question distinctly before each answer.**

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Total Marks		Marks Obtained		Percentage	

Section One: Reading

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
15 Marks**

1 Emma climbed into the car beside her mother with an unusual reluctance. She was on the brink of a frightening experience: she was that day, aged only 15, starting at a new school.

2 During the long school holiday her father had been moved 200 km to a larger branch of the bank for which he worked and, obviously, that meant that the whole family – her father, her mother, Emma and her baby sister, Maria – had to re-locate. From the beginning Emma's feelings had been mixed: she was delighted that her father had been promoted, but she was far from sure that she could re-capture the blissful existence she had known for the past 15 years.

3 What a rush had ensued! There had been a hasty weekend trip to find a new house, and then a succession of crises as they prepared for the move, with nostalgic trips to treasured places and, finally, tearful farewells, the latter accompanied by promises to write and to visit, undertakings sincerely made but already seeming possibilities rather than probabilities.

4 Very soon, they were casting a last look back at their former home and, in the family car, following the vast furniture lorry which held most of their possessions. Mother maintained a fixed smile; Emma allowed the tears to run down her cheeks; Maria simply howled to indicate that she was hungry; father indulged in the tuneless whistling he reserved for those unhappy occasions when he needed to show that he was a tough male unaffected by emotion.

5 The journey seemed endless; at times Emma felt they were all actors in some science-fiction film, suspended in their time capsule forever, on a journey to some distant planet. Eventually, however, they arrived at the town which was to be their new home; it was set on the floor of a steep-sided valley, with a small river gently meandering towards the distant sea.

6 The first few weeks of novelty were pleasant enough. The local schools were still on holiday; there was a certain excitement in discovering new places and strange faces. The hills on both sides of the valley were at times extremely beautiful, especially at the end of the day when trees and fields assumed a reddish-golden hue.

7 An important advantage over their previous location was the multiplicity of shops, most of them quite small and specialised. The whole family – oddly enough, even Maria – was enthralled by one such shop, a store-house of wonder and delight run by an elderly man who seemed to love his books far too much to contemplate selling them. He would chatter happily about his stock – he appeared to have read all the books – and

there was a children’s section where young people could browse as long as they wished, without being expected to buy.

From paragraph 1:

1 What rather frightening prospect made Emma unwilling to get into her mother’s car? [1]

From paragraph 2:

2 What two events had made Emma’s feelings ‘mixed’? Number your answers (i) and (ii). [2]

From paragraph 3:

3 Give two reasons of your own as to why, according to the writer, promises to write back or visit seemed more like possibilities and not probabilities? [2]

From paragraph 4:

4 (a) Why do you think Emma’s mother was maintaining ‘a fixed smile’? [1]

(b) Explain fully in your own words what Emma’s father was seeking to make clear by his ‘tuneless whistling’. [2]

From paragraph 5:

5 What two features of the journey in the car made Emma imagine she was in a ‘time capsule’ in some ‘science fiction film’? Number your answers (i) and (ii). [2]

From paragraph 6:

6 Why do you think the hills took on ‘a reddish-golden hue’ at the end of the day? [2]

From paragraph 7:

7 (a) What does the writer mean by a ‘specialised’ shop? [1]

(b) Give, from your own experience, one example of a ‘specialised’ shop. [1]
