



# ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

24 FEBRUARY 2025

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes

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**Materials required for examination**

Nil

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**Instructions to Students**

Write your answers to Sections A, B and C in the spaces provided on this question paper.  
You may use a pencil or a pen.

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**Information for Students**

The marks for individual questions are shown in round brackets: e.g. (2)

There are 3 sections in this question paper. The total mark for this paper is 100.

Section A is worth 40, Section B is worth 20 and Section C is worth 40 marks of the total score.

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**Advice to Students**

You are reminded of the importance of clear English and careful presentation in your answers.

Read the passage. Then answer the questions which follow.

## A TREE PLANNING REVOLUTION

### A Vision for Sustainability

Sarah McLeod, the headteacher of Maple Grove Academy in Manchester, can't stop praising the work of Emma Foster. "She's truly exceptional," Sarah says. Emma, who has two children at the school, is a full-time environmental officer at the city council, and three years ago, she initiated a tree planting project at the school. Initially, the project aimed to improve the environment and provide students with hands-on learning opportunities about sustainability.

### Growing Beyond the School

Over time, Emma's vision expanded. She brought the idea of tree planting into the curriculum and encouraged the students to become "eco-leaders." The initiative quickly grew beyond the school gates, involving the local community in the planting process.

### A Thriving Green Space

Today, students in every year group participate in planting trees around the school grounds. The project has not only improved the school's environment, but it has also helped to increase biodiversity in the local area. What began as a small idea has transformed into an extensive green space, which now includes 150 trees and a designated "wildlife area" with bird feeders and insect hotels.

### Community Involvement

The local community has embraced the initiative. Neighbors often help with watering the plants, and local businesses have donated materials to support the growing project. Emma's team of eco-leaders has even started a recycling program that has been introduced in several other schools in the area.

### Awards and Recognition

The school's dedication to sustainability has earned it several local environmental awards. Most recently, it won the prestigious "Green School of the Year" award, a title given by the National Green Schools Trust.

### Looking to the Future

Now, Emma is hoping to secure a grant for further environmental projects. She believes the next step is to build a greenhouse for year-round plant growing. Emma's modesty shines through when she reflects on the success of the initiative: "It's about showing the children that we all have the power to make a difference. It's their future we're shaping."

### A New Project on the Horizon

If the grant is secured, the students will work together to design the greenhouse. For Emma, it's another step in the school's ongoing journey toward sustainability, which she believes is crucial for both the students' education and the wider community.

*Passage taken from The Guardian, written By Rebecca Smithers,*

## SECTION A: COMPREHENSION (40 MARKS)

1. How long has the tree planting project been running at Maple Grove Academy? *(2 marks)*

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2. Why is Sarah McLeod so impressed with Emma Foster? *(2 marks)*

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3. In paragraph three, what does the phrase, "*What began as a small idea has transformed into an extensive green space*" mean? *(2 marks)*

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4. Name **TWO** benefits of the tree planting project. *(6 marks)*

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why is the tree planting project more than just about planting trees? Give **TWO** reasons. *(4 marks)*

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6. Emma is hoping to secure a grant for further projects. What does the word “**secure**” mean in this context? (paragraph 7) *(3 marks)*

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7. Emma Foster has **two** roles. What are they? *(2 marks)*

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

8. List **FOUR** qualities of Emma Foster that make her popular with both students and the local community. *(4 marks)*

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

**PART B: TRUE OR FALSE (10 marks)**

**Read the following statements and decide whether they are true or false. You must write the ENTIRE word, "True" or "False" on the line provided on the right of the page.**

**ANSWER**

1. Emma Foster works as a teacher at Maple Grove Academy.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. The tree planting project was started to improve the environment and teach students about sustainability.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. The project initially focused on making the school grounds look nice but later expanded.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. The local community has shown support by helping with watering plants.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. The school has won several environmental awards for its efforts.

5. \_\_\_\_\_

### PART C: VOCABULARY (5 marks)

Match the words on the left with their definition on the right. Write the answer on the line provided. The words are in bold and underlined in the passage.

1. <b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	(A) reusing materials	1. _____
2. <b>THRIVING</b>	(B) to last over time	2. _____
3. <b>DEDICATION</b>	(C) strong commitment to	3. _____
4. <b>RECYCLING</b>	(D) growing well, successful	4. _____
5. <b>BIODIVERSITY</b>	(E) variety of life forms	5. _____

### SECTION B: GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

A. Add the apostrophe ( ' ) to the correct place in the sentence. (3 marks)

1. My friends house is at the end of the street.
2. The teachers lounge is next to the library.
3. The cats toys were scattered all over the floor.

**B. Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of the verb in brackets. (7 marks)**

1. Last summer, we \_\_\_\_\_ (hike) in the forest when we \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a strange noise.
2. Sarah and Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (run) through the park yesterday when Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) and \_\_\_\_\_ (hurt) his knee.
3. Alice hardly ever \_\_\_\_\_ (call) her friends since she started her new job.
4. My sister can't answer the phone right now. She \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) dinner.

**C. Change the form of the word in Capitals at the end of the line. (5 marks)**

1. A good book can be very \_\_\_\_\_ for learning new things.  
(HELP)
2. It was very \_\_\_\_\_ of him to help me with the task.  
(KIND)
3. The weather was \_\_\_\_\_ for our trip to the beach.  
(PERFECT)
4. His \_\_\_\_\_ caused him to miss the important meeting.  
(CARELESS)
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the event made everyone excited.  
(ANNOUNCE)

D. Rewrite the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word in **BOLD**. Use no more than 5 words. (5 marks)

1. The project has only a small number of contributors.

**not**

There \_\_\_\_\_ of contributors to the project.

2. The bag you bought is too expensive for me.

**cheap**

The bag you bought \_\_\_\_\_ for me.

3. Sarah enjoys reading books more than watching movies.

**rather**

Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ watching movies.

4. The restaurant serves delicious food.

**there**

At the restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ delicious food.

5. Cycling is an easy sport to master.

**difficult**

It is \_\_\_\_\_ how to cycle.

## **SECTION C: COMPOSITION (40 MARKS)**

Choose ONE of the following tasks. Write about 20 lines.

1. Your teacher has asked you to write a story for your school magazine entitled 'The Hidden Treasure.'
2. Write a letter to your friend telling them about a recent about a city you recently explored and what you liked about it.
3. Write about a role model in your life and why you look up to them. Describe this person and explain why you admire him/her.

