

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX EXAMINATION

MAY 2013

English Compulsory Paper II

Time: 2 hours 15 minutes Marks: 50

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully.

1. Check your name and school information. Sign if it is accurate.

**I agree that this is my name and school.
Candidate's signature**

2. RUBRIC. There are THREE questions. Answer ALL questions. Question 2 offers TWO choices and Question 3 offers THREE choices. Attempt any ONE choice from each.
3. When answering the questions:

Read each question carefully.
Use a black pencil for diagrams. DO NOT use coloured pencils.
DO NOT use staples, paper clips, glue, correcting fluid or ink erasers.
Complete your answer in the allocated space only. DO NOT write outside the answer box.
4. The marks for the questions are shown in brackets ().

Q.1. (Total 18 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

Harry was glad school was over, but there was no escaping Dudley's gang, who visited the house every single day. Piers, Dennis, Malcolm, and Gordon were all big and stupid, but as Dudley was the biggest and stupidest of the lot, he was the leader. The rest of them were all quite happy to join in Dudley's favourite sport: Harry Hunting. This was why Harry spent as much time as possible out of the house, wandering around and thinking about the end of the holidays, where he could see a tiny ray of hope. When September came he would be going off to secondary school and, for the first time in his life, he wouldn't be with Dudley. Dudley had been accepted at Uncle Vernon's old private school, Smeltings. Piers Polkiss was going there too. Harry, on the other hand, was going to Stonewall High, the local public school. Dudley thought this was very funny.

5 "They stuff people's heads down the toilet the first day at Stonewall," he told Harry. "Want to come upstairs and practice?" "No, thanks," said Harry. "The poor toilet's never had anything as horrible as your head down it - it might be sick." Then he ran, before Dudley could work out what he'd said. One day in July, Aunt Petunia took Dudley to London to buy his Smeltings uniform, leaving Harry at Mrs. Figg's. Mrs. Figg wasn't as bad as usual. It turned out she'd

15 broken her leg tripping over one of her cats, and she didn't seem quite as fond of them as before. She let Harry watch television and gave him a bit of chocolate cake that tasted as though she'd had it for several years. That evening, Dudley paraded around the living room for the family in his brand-new uniform. As he looked at Dudley in his new knickerbockers, Uncle Vernon said gruffly that it was the proudest moment of his life. Aunt Petunia burst into tears and said she

20 couldn't believe it was her Ickle Dudleykins, he looked so handsome and grown-up. Harry didn't trust himself to speak. He thought two of his ribs might already have cracked from trying not to laugh.

There was a horrible smell in the kitchen the next morning when Harry went in for breakfast. It seemed to be coming from a large metal tub in the sink. He went to have a look. The tub was full

25 of what looked like dirty rags swimming in grey water. "What's this?" he asked Aunt Petunia. Her lips tightened as they always did if he dared to ask a question. "Your new school uniform," she said. Harry looked in the bowl again. "Oh," he said, "I didn't realize it had to be so wet." "Don't be stupid," snapped Aunt Petunia. "I'm dyeing some of Dudley's old things grey for you. It'll look just like everyone else's when I've finished." Harry seriously doubted this, but thought it

30 best not to argue.

Source: An extract from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* by J.K Rowling

Q.2.

(Total 14 Marks)

Compose a response of about 120 words to any ONE of the options a or b.

EITHER

- a. A cousin of yours has recently moved to another city. He has never been very social or popular. It is difficult for him to settle in his new neighbourhood and form new relationships. All this has been causing him a lot of distress. Write a letter to your cousin advising him to deal with this situation. Your letter should be comforting and focused on few easy tips for settling down and making new friends.

OR

- b. A friend of yours is involved in many disciplinary issues in the school. The school administration has issued a letter of warning to him. Write a letter advising him to improve his behaviour.

Make your notes below. Write your final draft on pages 6 and 7.

PLEASE TURN OVER THE PAGE

Q.3. (Total 18 Marks)

Write a composition of about 200 words on any ONE of the options a, b or c.
Remember to compose the final draft in complete sentences.

EITHER

- a. Each one of us commits mistakes. While most of them can be ignored, there is at least one regrettable event in each of our lives that fills us with such remorse and regret that we wish that we could turn back time and change what happened.

Write about any such event in your life which you want to change.

Your answer must include:

- details of the situation;
- your action/ reaction to it;
- in what ways should you change the event.

OR

- b. Think about a time when your friends did something very special for you which made you realize how important and close you are to them. Describe how you can make an occasion memorable for your friends. What will you do to make that occasion different in a pleasant way?

OR

- c. You have been given the role of the manager for organizing the farewell party of Class X. You have to plan the proceedings of the entire day. What new things you want to do in this one day? Describe your plan detailing what types of activities you want your classmates and teachers to do.

Make your notes below. Write your final draft on pages 9 and 10.

Please use this page for rough work

Please use this page for rough work