



# WELLINGTON COLLEGE

## 13+ SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION 2021

### ENGLISH

TIME ALLOWED: 70 minutes, which includes reading and note-making time

TOTAL MARKS: 50

Marks for each question are shown in brackets

This paper is divided into two sections: Section A – Reading; Section B – Writing

- **Answer BOTH questions**
- **You are advised to spend 10 minutes reading and then 30 minutes writing on Section A, and 30 minutes writing on Section B**
- **NB: Vocabulary, spelling, grammar, punctuation, paragraphing and overall presentation are important and will be taken into account in both answers**
- **Please remember to write your name and current school on the top of each sheet of paper that you use**

## Section A: Reading

Read the following two poems and then complete the task that follows.

### Still Life

|  |    |
|--|----|
| In the fruit   | 1  |
| on gran's bedside table,<br>under the translucent skin<br>of a grape,<br>the black pips                                      | 5  |
| at the core<br>seem to be crawling.  |    |
| What's going on<br>inside the greenlit gum<br>of its flesh<br>are six ants:<br>the whiskers<br>of their legs,<br>their small | 10 |
| plectrum* heads<br>and snipping mouths.  | 15 |
| Soon all the fruit bowl<br>will be moving.<br>Already  | 20 |
| an apple's breast<br>has a visible pulse.<br>A once-dense peach<br>is deflating.   |    |
| And what can she do<br>but stare   | 25 |
| from her hospital bed;<br>seeming all the stiller<br>for her slow<br>pink eyelids,   | 30 |
| those quick<br>teaspoon<br>breaths.  |    |

*by Mark Pajak*

\* A thin flat piece of plastic used to pluck the strings of a musical instrument such as a guitar.

**Depressed by a Book of Bad Poetry, I Walk Toward an Unused Pasture and Invite the Insects to Join Me**

Relieved, I let the book fall behind a stone. 1  
I climb a slight rise of grass.  
I do not want to disturb the ants  
Who are walking single file up the fence post,  
Carrying small white petals, 5  
Casting shadows so frail that I can see through them.  
I close my eyes for a moment and listen.  
The old grasshoppers  
Are tired, they leap heavily now,  
Their thighs are burdened. 10  
I want to hear them, they have clear sounds to make.  
Then lovely, far off, a dark cricket begins  
In the maple trees.

*By James Wright*

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**Task:**

Compare and contrast these poems in any ways that are interesting. In your answer, you may like to consider:

- How the poems explore and present insects
- The organisation and development of the poems
- The poets' use of language
- Any aspects of style and/or content you consider to be of interest and importance

[25 marks]

## Section B: Writing

Choose ONE of the words from the list below as the title for a piece of prose writing, in any form or style (e.g. *essay, literary review or analysis, description, speech, letter, article, story...*), which uses language to engage the reader in a **controlled, inventive and imaginative** way.

You may treat the word in a literal, thematic, symbolic or figurative way.

Choose ONE and write your word clearly as your title:

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Archaic       | 14. Nautical      |
| 2. Binary        | 15. Observatory   |
| 3. Collegiate    | 16. Preparation   |
| 4. Derision      | 17. Quesadilla    |
| 5. Endeavour     | 18. Righteousness |
| 6. Flame         | 19. Showtime      |
| 7. Generosity    | 20. Travesty      |
| 8. Hilarity      | 21. Undulate      |
| 9. Incommunicado | 22. Visceral      |
| 10. Japes        | 23. Watertight    |
| 11. Kerosene     | 24. Xenon         |
| 12. Limpet       | 25. Yodel         |
| 13. Munificence  | 26. Zygote        |

[25 marks]

*Ensure you check through all your work before handing it in.*