



REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL



11+/13+ PT Entrance Examination Exemplar

ENGLISH

Time allowed: 60 minutes

You need:

1. This booklet to answer the questions in;
2. The reading extract/planning sheet.

Name:

For examiner use

Reading score /25	
Writing score /25	
Total score /50	
Percentage	

English Entrance Exam

Reading Extract

Read this extract; the narrator has won a prize holiday and is at the airport.

5 We formed a small crowd in the big, confused mass of travellers in the Miami airport departure lounge... most of us identified by Planet Savers teeshirts, Planet Savers baseball caps, Planet Savers jackets; or at least Planet Savers lapel buttons. We were going to spend the next three weeks together, fifty British Young **Conservationists**. We were prizewinners in a competition run by the Planet Savers TV programme. Part of the time we'd be staying on a wildlife **conservation** station deep in the Ecuador rainforest; part of the time we'd be visiting the Galapagos Islands.

10 I'd enjoyed flying from Gatwick as an unaccompanied minor. It was the first time I'd been alone on a plane, but that hadn't frightened me at all. Now I was beginning to feel scared. I'd won a place on this trip by thinking up a **bio-diversity** experiment about beetles. But I suppose I'm a typical nerd, good at the details, not very smart at seeing the larger picture. I'd gone in for the competition because I liked my science teacher, and it had been like doing any interesting piece of
15 homework. I had not thought it through.

Two presenters from the Planet Savers TV programme were coming with us - Neil Cannon and Georgie McCarthy. They were at the centre of a chattering group, tall, thin Neil with his spiky ginger hair and freckly tan, Georgie with her glowing dark skin and her cheeky smile. Both of
20 them looked very friendly and cheerful and genuine, the way they did on television. They were the only people I wanted to go up and talk to. They seemed like friends, because I'd seen them so often on the TV. But I knew that was an illusion. Real life is different. So I walked about instead, counting my fellow prizewinners.

There were thirty-seven teenagers and ten adult organisers, including Neil and Georgie. There were actually fifty prizewinners, but the other thirteen were travelling on another flight. I decided
25 I was in the rainforest already, or else in a zoo. Maybe I was a new young animal, freshly arrived, and I had to find the enclosure where I belonged. I spotted a baby giraffe, a wolf cub, a slinky green-eyed lizard, a couple of pointy-nosed, mischievous young lemurs; a pouchy-faced boy with tufty auburn hair who looked amazingly like a guinea pig, the kind with the fur sticking up in
30 **rosettes**. There was one sad girl with big eyes and smooth fair hair sitting by a set of beige pigskin suitcases (while the rest of us had backpacks and nylon stuff-bags), who was like a baby seal – beautifully dressed and totally helpless. There was an awkward, gangly boy with a huge nose, carrying a fluorescent orange puffa jacket, who looked like a new-born **wildebeest**, stumbling over his own legs.

Glossary of unfamiliar words (in order of appearance in the text)

Conservationist – a person who acts to help the environment and wildlife

Conservation – the protection and efficient use of natural resources

Bio-diversity – the variety of life on Earth

Rosettes – an imitation of a rose used in badges or as an ornament

Wildebeest – large type of antelope or deer which has a large head and horns

Turn over for the writing planning page.

Reading Section: spend 30 minutes answering these questions.

Answer the following questions. Use full sentences when you are asked to do so.

1. Read the first paragraph of the extract again and answer the following questions.

a) How many weeks would the group of teenagers be spending together?
(1 mark)

b) How many prizewinners were there? (1 mark)

c) Which two places would they be visiting? (1 mark)

2. Read the first two paragraphs of the extract again. Circle the correct option to complete the sentence in each question.

a) The narrator is in an airport in

Los Angeles	Miami
New York	London

(1 mark)

b) The narrator won the competition with a project on

grasshoppers	snails
beetles	worms

(1 mark)

c) The narrator had never

flown on their own before	flown before
was scared of flying	loved flying

(1 mark)

3. These words are used in the extract. Give another word or phrase for each one which has a similar meaning. (3 marks)

Word	Another word or phrase with a similar meaning
chattering (line 17)	
genuine (line 19)	
helpless (line 31)	

4. In line 11, the narrator says: "Now I was beginning to feel scared."
Explain what she is now feeling scared about. (2 marks)

5. Read lines 16-22 in paragraph three again. Explain why the narrator decides not to speak to the TV presenters who are also on the trip. (2 marks)

6. In line 21-22, the writer says: "So I walked about instead, counting my fellow prizewinners." What do we learn about the narrator from these lines? (1 mark)

7. Read lines 22-26 again. The narrator says: "I decided I was in the rainforest already, or else in a zoo." What does this line suggest about the other people in the airport? (1 mark)

8. Read the following lines from the final paragraph again:

"Maybe I was a new young animal, freshly arrived, and I had to find the enclosure where I belonged. I spotted a baby giraffe, a wolf cub, a slinky green-eyed lizard, a couple of pointy-nosed, mischievous young lemurs; a pouchy-faced boy with tufty auburn hair who looked amazingly like a guinea pig, the kind with the fur sticking up in rosettes."

Identify four adjectives from this section and write them in the table below. (4 marks)

9. Read the following lines from the final paragraph:

“There was one sad girl with big eyes and smooth fair hair sitting by a set of beige pigskin suitcases (while the rest of us had backpacks and nylon stuff-bags), who was like a baby seal – beautifully dressed and totally helpless.”

What impression do we get of the girl in these lines? Give **two** impressions and use evidence (quotations/words) from the text to support each idea. (4 marks)

Impression	Evidence
Impression	Evidence

10. Read these lines from the end of the extract again:

“There was an awkward, gangly boy with a huge nose, carrying a fluorescent orange puffer jacket, who looked like a new-born wildebeest, stumbling over his own legs.”

The narrator thinks that this boy does not seem to fit in with the others. Choose two quotations which suggest this and write them in the table. (2 marks)

1.	
2.	

END OF READING QUESTIONS.

TURN OVER FOR THE WRITING SECTION.

Writing Section

You should spend 30 minutes on this section. Use the separate planning page (on the back of the reading extract) to plan before you begin. Use five minutes to plan.

When you write, remember to check:

- Spelling;
- Paragraphing;
- Punctuation;
- Descriptive techniques;
- Detailed description and interesting vocabulary;
- Using similes and metaphors that are appropriate to the story, setting and character.

Choose ONE of the tasks below and write your story on the pages that follow.

1. Write a story with the title 'The Prize'.

You could write about a time you have experienced or use your imagination and create a fictional story. (25 marks)

OR

2. Use the image to help you write a story which starts with this sentence:
"The garden seemed to continue for miles." (25 marks)



END OF QUESTIONS

Writing Planning Page

Use this page to plan your ideas for the writing section.

Remember to refer back to your plan as you write.

