



**Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission**

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2012

ENGLISH – FOUNDATION LEVEL

360 marks

WEDNESDAY, 6 JUNE – MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00

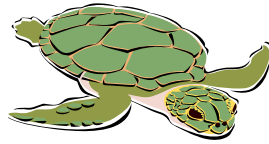
YOU MUST ANSWER SECTIONS 1, 2, AND 3

**YOU MUST ALSO ANSWER ANY THREE OF
SECTIONS 4, 5, 6, AND 7**

**SPEND A LITTLE OVER 20 MINUTES
ON EACH SECTION**

Read this piece, and then answer the questions.

The Grand Canal Terrapins



1. Bringing a whole new meaning to catch of the day, a Dublin man was surprised to find a 'shoebox-sized turtle' at the end of his fishing rod while fishing in the Grand Canal in Dublin. The 'turtle', which turned out to be a diamondback terrapin, is one of a number of species of terrapins living in the Grand Canal in Dublin. Terrapins are a kind of tortoise. They have scaly limbs and a rounded, hard shell on their backs. They can live on land and in fresh water.
2. Terrapins living in Irish waterways, ponds and lakes are described as "an ongoing problem" by the Dublin Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA). Orla Aungier, who works as a manager for the DSPCA says that it's unlikely that the terrapins are breeding in the wild.
3. According to the DSPCA, terrapins are being dumped in the canal by the owners once they start to get too big. "People are buying terrapins without doing much research," Aungier says. Terrapins can grow to the size of a dinner plate according to Aungier, who says one particular terrapin has been living in Marlay Park in Dublin for more than two years.
4. This problem has been going on for the last five or six years. It started when the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles cartoon was around and it became popular for kids to get terrapins. "We see waves of interest; every few years you'll get a peak again. In many instances the terrapins are purchased by parents who see them as a small, easy pet that lives in a tank and is a little bit different, but then they grow up and are being let loose and put into the likes of the canals and many of the parks in Dublin. There is the potential that the terrapins might cause damage to the environment because they are not a native Irish species."
5. There have been similar problems with terrapins and turtles being released into the wild in the UK over the past few years. The terrapins are rarely found during the winter months as cold weather and ice on the water surface cause them to freeze to death. The DSPCA say that if a member of the public finds a terrapin or turtle they should contact their local SPCA and have the reptile removed to a local shelter.

Adapted from The Irish Times

A Find the answers to the following questions:

- 1** What type of terrapin was found? (5)
- 2** How big can terrapins grow? (5)
- 3** How long has the problem of dumping terrapins been going on? (5)
- 4** What are people advised to do if they find a terrapin or turtle? (5)

B Why do some owners let their pet terrapins loose? (10)

C According to the article, why do some children want to get terrapins? (10)

D According to the article, why should terrapins not be left in places like ponds and canals? (10)

E Would you describe terrapins as good pets **OR** bad pets?

Give reasons for your answer. (10)

Write about one page on **ONE** of the following topics.

PICK ONLY ONE TOPIC

A My Favourite Time of Day

B Animal Rescue

C Snow Storm

D **Mother:** *Put that down! Where did you find it?*

Child: *Can I keep it ... please?*

Write the rest of this conversation.

E My best memory

F A school trip

G *I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw what was on the end of the fishing line . . .*

Continue this story.

H If I could swap places with someone I would . . .

SECTION 3: FUNCTIONAL WRITING

[60]

Answer EITHER A or B:

- A** Your class has been asked to organise an event to raise money for a local charity. You have been asked to write a **report** about the work that this charity does and to prepare a plan for the event.

In this **report** you should:

- Name the charity that you will be raising money for
- Describe the work of the charity
- Describe the event you have planned to raise money for this charity
- Explain what you think the money could be used for

OR

- B** You have been asked to write a review of your favourite holiday destination for your school magazine.

In this **review** you should:

- Name your favourite destination
- Describe the facilities available there
- Describe the main attractions to be found there
- Give your opinion on the destination and who might enjoy going there

SECTION 4:

FICTION

[60]

Read this piece, adapted from *Her Mother's Face* by Roddy Doyle, then answer the questions that follow.

Her Mother's Face

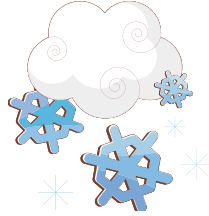
1. Her friends all knew that Siobhán's mother was dead but none of them knew how sad she was. She never told them and she never let them see. When she tried to talk to her father about her mother, his face would fill with worry and sadness, and she'd stop. He hugged her once and said, "Sorry". They had a pizza and watched telly together. It was nice but they didn't talk.
2. One day Siobhán was sitting in the park very near her house. She sat under a huge chestnut tree. She could remember her mother's hands holding her up, high enough to pull a conker from the lowest branch. She could remember her voice.
"The big one, the big one. Grab it. Yesss!"
She could remember how it felt, the nice safe feeling, knowing she wouldn't fall.
3. She tried to remember turning to smile at her mother, but she couldn't. That was what Siobhán was trying to remember, when she heard a voice.
"Hello."
Siobhán looked up and saw a beautiful woman standing beside her. The woman sat beside Siobhán on the grass. Most adults never did this because it was quite mucky and damp.
4. "You're sad aren't you?" said the beautiful woman. She had dark brown hair, like Siobhán's, and brown eyes. And she had a friendly smile and a lovely voice. Siobhán never spoke to strangers but this woman didn't seem like a stranger.
"Yes," said Siobhán. "I am sad. A bit."
"Why?" said the woman.
5. And Siobhán told her. She told her everything. About her mother's death and being able to remember her hands and about how she could never remember her mother's face. And she cried as she spoke but she didn't mind. She just kept talking. The woman listened and smiled.
"You know what you should do?" she said when Siobhán had finished talking.
"What?" said Siobhán.
The woman wiped Siobhán's eyes with the sleeve of her coat.
"You should look in the mirror," said the woman.

This text has been adapted from the original for the purpose of assessment without the author's prior consent.

- A** 1 Why is Siobhán sad? (5)
- 2 Why did she stop talking to her Dad about feeling sad? (5)
- B** Do you think that Siobhán got on well with her mother?
Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- C** What impression do you get of Siobhán from this extract?
Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- D** Write about ten lines of a diary entry that you think Siobhán
would have written about her meeting with the woman in the park. (10)
- E** Think about a **NOVEL** or **SHORT STORY** you have studied:
- Name the Novel **OR** Short story.
 - Describe a character that you liked
 - Describe a part from the novel that showed either a **good** side or a **bad** side to this character (20)

Read this **POEM** and then answer the questions.

The Snow Monster



1. When the Snow Monster sneezes,
Flurries of snow swirl and whirl,
Twisting round trees, curling into crevices,
Brushing the ground a brilliant white.
2. When the Snow Monster bellows,
Blizzards blot out the sky,
Piling up drifts, blocking roads,
Burying the landscape in a white grave.
3. When the Snow Monster cries,
Soft flakes slip and slide gently down
Into the hands of waiting children
Who test their taste with their tongues.
4. When the Snow Monster sleeps,
The air crackles with children's laughter
As they throw snowballs, build snowmen
And whiz downhill on their sledges.

John Foster

- A** 1 What happens to the ground in stanza 1? (5)
- 2 What are the children doing in stanza 4? (5)
- B** 1 Describe the effect of the snow in stanza 2? (5)
- 2 What is the snow compared to in stanza 2? (5)
- C** What words or phrases help create the image of the snow monster?
Explain your answer. (10)
- D** Choose two lines from the poem that you think best describes the effect
of the snow. Explain why you chose those two lines. (10)
- E** Think about a **POEM** about **Nature** that you have studied:
- Name the poem and the poet.
 - What images of Nature were used by the poet?
 - Did you like or dislike the way the poet described Nature?
Give reasons for your answer. (20)

Read this scene, *A Proper Little Nooryeff*, adapted by Leonard Gregory from the novel by Jean Ure, then answer the questions that follow:

Jamie, a sporty, likeable 15 year old boy has been discovered as having a talent for ballet and is pushed into helping out in a performance for charity. Anita, also 15, is dedicated and single-minded and almost obsessive about a career in ballet. They are both in the rehearsal room. Jamie, in normal street gear, is sprawled in a chair trying to avoid eye contact with Anita who faces him dressed in a leotard and tights.



Anita: What's the matter with you? Why haven't you changed? **(Pause)** Jamie, Mrs Tucker is going to be here any minute. You know she doesn't like wasting time. We have come here to dance you know!

Jamie: Is that all you ever think about? Dancing?

Anita: No, of course it isn't! But just at this moment.....

Jamie: So what else do you think about?

Anita: Loads of things. Loads of things!

Jamie: Tell me some.

Anita: Jamie, this is not the time!

Jamie: Do you ever think about people starving and what it's like not to have money?

Anita: Yes, sometimes. But now is not the....

Jamie: You mean like once a year, maybe? Or maybe every two years?

Anita: It's not that I'm not interested in other things. It's just that if you want to be a dancer there simply isn't room for anything else. If you really want to get somewhere...

Jamie: Rubbish!

Anita: I'm sure you could be a dancer if you wanted to. If you tried for ballet school...

Jamie: Me? I'm not trying for any ballet school. My dad would have a fit.

Anita: Is that the only thing that's stopping you?

Jamie gets up and moves moodily around the room.

Jamie: I dunno. Just doesn't seem right I suppose. This dancing lark, my dad reckons dancers are a load of old nannies.

Anita: Oh well! Your dad! That's the sort of thing someone's dad would say. I suppose it would be alright if you wanted to be a boxer. **(Jamie says nothing)** That's manly isn't it? Two men knocking the life out of each other. **(Jamie continues to be silent)**

This text has been adapted from the original for the purpose of assessment without the author's prior consent.

A 1 Where are Jamie and Anita? (5)

2 What does Jamie's Dad think of Ballet? (5)

B What impression do you get of Jamie in this scene? (10)
Give reasons for your answer.

C From your reading of this scene, how would you describe the relationship between Jamie and Anita?
Give reasons for your answer. (10)

D Imagine this scene is to be acted out on television:

- Describe what the actors, playing the parts of Anita and Jamie, would look like
- Describe the props you would use for this scene
- Write out **one** instruction for each character explaining what way they should act at the **end** of the scene.

(10)

E Think about a **PLAY** or a **FILM** you have studied:

- Name the play or film
- Name two characters who are different from each other
- Describe how these two characters are different in the way they think and in the way they act towards other people

(20)

SECTION 7:**MEDIA STUDIES****[60]**

Look carefully at the advertisement on **Page 2** of **Paper X**

- A**
- 1 What is the name of this park? (5)
 - 2 Where is the park located? (5)
 - 3 Name two attractions in the park? (5)
 - 4 Where can you find more information on this park? (5)
- B** Do you think this would be a good place for a 'school tour adventure'? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- C** Write about the design of this advertisement and describe **two** changes you would make to the design. Explain why you would make those changes. (10)
- D** What part of the advertisement is the most eye-catching? Give reasons for your answer. (10)
- E** Describe a poster you would design for a **different** school tour destination. (10)
- Name the location for the school tour
 - Describe the design you would use for your poster
 - Describe what you would use in making the poster to persuade people to choose your destination for their school tour.