

First name	
Last name	
School	

CE AT 13+

ENGLISH

ISEB

Independent Schools
Examinations Board

Foundation Reading

Specimen Paper

Date

Time allowed: 1 hour 10 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have the text insert (enclosed).

Instructions

The paper is divided into three sections.

Answer **all** questions in each section.

In Section A, circle the correct answer to each question.

The questions in Sections B and C should be answered in full sentences.

Information

Spelling, punctuation, grammar, vocabulary and presentation are all important and will be taken into account.

Dictionaries are not allowed.

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SECTION A

Read the passage from The Ruby in the Smoke by Philip Pullman, on the insert.

Then, answer the multiple-choice questions by circling the correct answer. For Questions 4 and 7, write short answers in the spaces provided.

Re-read lines 1-15.

1. Which of the following phrases describes Mrs Holland's rooms for rent?

- a. 'a multitude of horrors'
- b. 'damp poisonous stench'
- c. 'a decent, cleanly place'
- d. 'a bed to yourself for fourpence'

[1]

2. Mr Blyth is described as 'stout and shady'. This means:

- a. he is tall and dark skinned
- b. he is fat and sometimes immoral
- c. he is confident and sits in the shade
- d. he is strong and protective of his clients

[2]

Re-read lines 16-38.

3. Why does Mr Blyth find it difficult to understand Mrs Holland when she first speaks?

- a. She is speaking in Turkish.
- b. She is too wise for him to understand.
- c. She is not wearing her false teeth.
- d. She crows like a bird.

[2]

4. Re-write the following sentences, correcting Mrs Holland's mistakes:

' "That's better," she said. "I always forgets me teeth indoors. My pore dear husband's, these were." '

[2]

5. Why does the author use incorrect grammar and spelling for Mrs Holland's speech?

- a. The author has made unintentional errors in his writing.
- b. The author is showing us that Mrs Holland cannot spell.
- c. The author is representing the way Mrs Holland speaks in his writing.
- d. Mrs Holland cannot speak correctly because she is wearing false teeth.

[2]

6. How did Mrs Holland gain possession of the false teeth?

- a. She bought them in a country East of England.
- b. She made them from the skeleton of a dead animal.
- c. She took them from her husband's dead body.
- d. She took them from her husband, when he was still alive.

[2]

Re-read lines 39-46

7. 'Mr Blyth's conscience was wraith-like'

What does this phrase mean? Write your answer below.

[2]

8. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- a. Mr Blyth decides not to take responsibility for the fact that Adelaide is not at school.
- b. Mrs Holland and Mr Blyth do not talk while they have tea.
- c. Mrs Holland and Mr Blyth leave the room at the end of the passage.
- d. Mrs Holland and Adelaide disappear while Mr Blyth drinks his tea.

[2]

(Total marks for this section: 15)

SECTION B

Answer the following questions in full sentences.

Re-read lines 1-18.

9. What might be off-putting about the accommodation at Mrs Holland's house?

Refer to as many details as you can in your answer.

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[6]

10. a) Write down one detail from these lines which suggests that Adelaide is ghost-like.

[1]

- b) Why does this detail suggest that Adelaide is like a ghost?

[1]

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Re-read lines 19-39.

11. Explain what each of the following descriptions suggests about Mrs Holland's character:

- 'sunken cheeks [and] pinched lips' (lines 20-21)
- 'glittering eyes' (line 21)
- 'claw-like hand' (line 21)
- 'smacking her lips' (line 27)

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Look again at lines 29-37.

12. Explain Mrs Holland's feelings towards her husband.

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[5]

Re-read lines 40-46.

13. Why should Adelaide be at school?

Specimen

[4]

(Total marks for this section: 25)

SECTION C

14. Re-tell the story from Adelaide's point of view.

You should explore:

- Adelaide's observations about Mr Blyth;
- her feelings about Mrs Holland;
- whether she would prefer to be working or to be at school.

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(Total marks for paper: 50)