

June 16th, 1941.

No. 1.

COMMON EXAMINATION FOR
ENTRANCE TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE, DARTMOUTH.

[Note (to be read out by the Invigilator).—Throughout the examination, importance will be attached to correct English, tidiness, spelling, punctuation and good writing.]

SUBJECT—ENGLISH.

PAPER A.

[45 minutes.]

Compulsory for all Candidates.

[Note.—(To be read out by the Invigilator.) You are expected to try all the questions and are advised not to spend more than half the time on Question III.]

I. The following lines, which are part of a poem, are written out as though they were prose. They describe a girl singing.

First, read them through carefully :—

“Will no one tell me what she sings ? Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow for old, unhappy, far-off things, and battles long ago ; or is it some more humble lay, familiar matter of to-day, some natural sorrow, loss, or pain, that has been and may be again ? ”

Then

- (1) Write them out in their original poetic form.
- (2) Explain carefully in your own words what the lines mean.
- (3) Give the sense of “plaintive numbers” and “familiar matter of to-day.”

[P. T. O.]

II. (1) Read the following sentence :—Since you cannot tell me what I should do about the matter, I think, to put it bluntly, that you must tackle it yourself.

(a) Find in this sentence three dependent clauses, write them down, and state what work each clause does in the sentence.

(b) Which group of words seems to be quite unrelated to the rest of the sentence ?

(2) Explain why the following corrections are necessary :

(a) “ The Headmaster with two of the boys were just coming into the Hall ” *should be* “ The Headmaster with two of the boys was just coming into the Hall.”

(b) “ It was dawn. With light just appearing over the hills ” *should be* “ It was dawn, with light just appearing over the hills.”

III. Write two or three paragraphs—altogether between 100 and 200 words—on **one** of the following subjects :—

(a) The Sergeant-Major.

(b) Stars.

(c) A railway compartment.

(d) The changing field.