

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. Read the following lines through carefully, and then answer the questions below them :—

- Now the new ricks gloat o'er the close-cropped field,
And gaze a portly blessing on the corn
Unripe, and waiting graciously to yield
Its heavier harvest. Close by the hedge of thorn
5 Capped head and shoulders nod and jolt and shift
Until we stand above him. Booted feet
Heave in the ooze. Great hands and forearms lift
The chisel spade, and drive it hard and neat
To shear the bank. Swung in a noble arc
10 The wet clod thumps beside us ; then the mud
From the long-hafted scoop. Despoiled and stark
The clean ditch waits, stripped, for the winter flood.

1. In these lines a labourer is described at work. What is he doing ?

2. Give the names of one or two months, showing to what time of year these lines refer.

[P. T. O.]

3. From the first sentence choose three words by which the author writes about things as though they were people.

4. Why is it written that only "head and shoulders nod and jolt and shift" (line 5)?

5. Why should the words "great" (line 7) and "despoiled" (line 11) be specially suitable?

6. One line by its sound especially suggests heaviness. Which line do you think this is, and what makes it sound heavy?

II. 1. Read the following sentence :—Taking hold of the lamp, Villiers lay prone on the bare ground, while Bobby, who was hardly able to control his feelings, gripped his companion's ankles.

(a) From this sentence write down a participial phrase.

(b) From this sentence write down a dependent clause which does the work of an adverb.

(c) What part of speech is the word "prone," and what work does it do in the sentence?

(d) Write the infinitive and the two participles of the verb "lay" in the sentence.

2. Write first a noun, then an adjective (six words in all) made from each of the following Latin words or from one of its compounds :—

mare, *the sea* ; oculus, *an eye* ; servus, *a slave*.

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

(a) The butcher.

(b) A high wind.

(c) A tuckshop in wartime.

(d) The hedge-row.