



CHELTENHAM  
LADIES'  
COLLEGE

## EXAMINATION FOR ENTRY TO YEAR 9 (LC3) IN SEPTEMBER 2024

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### ENGLISH

Time allowed: **1 hour**

Family Name: .....First Name .....

Current school:.....

- Instructions to candidates:
  - There are two sections to this paper, and **40 marks available in total**.
  - For the first **5 minutes** of the exam, you should **read Section A carefully** and **highlight and/or annotate** the text, then spend 25 minutes answering the questions which follow it.
  - **For the second section**, plan your answers carefully and write about **one** of the subjects. Spend 30 minutes on this section.
  - You should:
    - Answer in pen;
    - Use the lined spaces provided for each question;
    - If you need additional paper, please ask the invigilator.

## SECTION A: READING

Read the following extract from *The Hatmakers* by Tamzin Merchant carefully before answering the questions below.

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It was a wild and lightning-struck night. The kind of night that changes everything.

Jagged forks of light ripped across the sky and thunder rolled in tidal waves over the rooftops and spires of London. With the rain lashing down and the clouds crashing above, it felt like the whole city was under the sea.

- 5 But Cordelia Hatmaker was not afraid. In her candle-lit room at the very top of Hatmaker House, she was pretending to be aboard the *Jolly Bonnet*. The ship was being tossed by massive waves as she staggered across the deck (really her hearthrug\*), fighting a howling wind.

*BOOM.*

- 10 'Batten down those hatches, Fortescue!' she yelled. 'I've got to lash myself to the wheel!'

A tin soldier stared blankly from the mantel\*.

'Aye, aye, Cap'n!' Cordelia squeaked, out of the corner of her mouth.

*BOOM.*

- 15 'Enemy fire!' Cordelia cried, seizing the back of her wood chair and heaving. Under her hands it had become a great ship's wheel.

*BOOM.*

A violent gust of wind blew the window open. The candle sputtered out and Cordelia was plunged into darkness.

- 20 *BOOM, BOOM, BOOM.*

Echoing up the five storeys of Hatmaker House came the sound of somebody pounding the front door.

### Glossary

\*hearthrug – rug next to a fireplace

\*mantel – the shelf above a fireplace

**Questions**

1a. Look again at paragraphs 1 and 2 (lines 1-4). Write down **two** words or phrases used to describe the weather.

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[2 marks]

1b. **In your own words**, explain what these words or phrases suggest to you about the weather.

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[2 marks]

2. Look again at paragraph 3, lines 5-8.

What impressions do you get about Cordelia in this paragraph?

You should aim to write **one paragraph** and support your ideas with **at least one quotation**.

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[3 marks]



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[10 marks]

4. Re-read the last three paragraphs, lines 18-22.

How does the writer create a powerful ending to this description?

You should aim to write **one paragraph** to answer this question and **use at least one quotation** in your answer.

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[3 marks]

**Please turn over for Section B: Writing**

## SECTION B: WRITING

In this section, you will be marked on the **accuracy and creativity of your writing**.

*Take care with spelling, punctuation and sentence construction and your use of paragraphs.*

5. Write a response to **one** of the following two questions:

**Either:**

a) Write a story with the title 'The Visitor'.

In your writing you should:

- create a clear viewpoint
- use a range of descriptive devices and powerful language
- think carefully about your structure

**[20 marks]**

**Or:**

b) Write a story that starts with the sentences: *'It was a wild and lightning-struck night. The kind of night that changes everything.'*

In your writing you should:

- create a clear viewpoint
- use a range of descriptive devices and powerful language
- think carefully about your structure

**[20 marks]**

**You should write your answer on the lines on the following pages.**







