

Lower College Entrance Examination Paper 2014 - 2015

English as an Additional Language

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Instructions

- Answer **ALL** questions.
- You may **not** use a dictionary.
- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.

Information

• You will be marked on the content, organisation (structure) as well as the grammar and vocabulary used.

Advice

- It is a good idea to spend some time planning the content and structure of questions 2 and 3 before you start writing.
- You should use your own ideas, knowledge and experience and support your arguments with examples and relevant evidence.

Candidate's name:	
First Language:	V

Question 1 – Reading Comprehension Read the text and then decide whether the sentences below are true or false.

Where the Wind Blows

 $(Adapted \ from: \ \underline{http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/england/north_yorkshire/7116585.stm \ and \ Macmillan \ Topics: Environment \ p12)$

Wind can provide energy. In the past, sailors used wind for their ships and farmers used it to grind corn in windmills. The modern world needs a lot of energy to create electricity to heat our houses, power our computers and run our transport. Where will it come from in the future? Many people believe the power of the wind may be the solution as it is renewable unlike fossil fuels which will eventually run out.



In some places there are groups of 20 or 30 enormous wind machines similar to windmills which produce electricity. These turbines must stand in open, windy places such as hillsides or in the middle of the sea. In some of these places, the wind can be more than 100 kilometres an hour. Some of the wind turbines are 90 metres high. They can produce a lot of electricity. Sounds good, doesn't it?

Pannal Primary School, near Harrogate in the north of England, decided to install a wind turbine to generate its own "green" electricity. The school received some money from the government and from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), an international charity, to help pay for the machine, which was very expensive to set up. They hope to get about 17,000 kilowatts of free electricity a year. Any excess energy will be sold and fed back into the national grid and the money they save on electricity bills can be used to pay for new facilities at the school.

The headmaster, John O'Connor, said: "The children have learnt a lot about the environment since we got our wind turbine. They watch the dials and see how much power we need to run our school. They have also realised that we can save energy if we turn off lights and computers."

However, not everyone thinks wind turbines are a good idea. There are plans to build a lot of wind farms around the coasts of Britain. Those who oppose the idea think the environment will suffer. For example, birds who migrate¹, such as swans and geese, fly at about 40 metres above the sea and they won't be able to see the wind machines and may fly into them. The turbines are also really ugly and noisy. People who live near them are worried about the problem of noise pollution.

The children at Pannal Primary School are happy with their wind turbine but the discussion "for and against" wind farms is still continuing. What do you think?

¹ To migrate (verb) = to go to a warmer or colder part of the world for part of the year.

True or False? Circle your answer.	(8 marks)	
The article talks about an environmentally friendly energy source.	True	False
Wind turbines are huge wind machines which generate electricity.	True	False
You can put wind turbines in sheltered places such as forests and towns.	True	False
The wind turbine at Pannal Primary School was paid for by organising charity events such as a concert and a bake sale.	True	False
If the machine generates more electricity than the school needs, the extra electricity is wasted.	True	False
Another way the school saves electricity is to turn off the lights and computers.	True	False
There are pluses and minuses to wind turbines.	True	False
Some people think that wind energy could harm wildlife.	True	False

Question 2 – Guided Writing

You and a group of your school friends want to organise an event to raise money for a charity. Write a letter to the Headmaster of your school (Dr. Peterken) asking for permission to organise a charity event and asking for his support.

Tell him:

- what charity you want to raise money for.
- why you want to raise money for this charity.
- what the charity will do with the money you raise.
- how you plan to raise the money.
- what help you would like from him (and the other teachers).



Remember that when writing to someone like a Headmaster, you will need to write in a formal and polite way.

Space for planning			





(10 marks)

Dear Dr. Peterken,	
	,
Yours sincerely,	

(Your name)

Question 3 – Free Writing

The Environment

Our planet is very fragile and human activity is creating a lot of problems such as global warming and pollution. The problems will not go away unless we change our behaviour. We must protect our planet for future generations.

Write an article for your school magazine persuading young people to take care of their environment and offering ideas and advice on how to do this.

The speech bubbles below may give you some ideas (but make sure you use your own words), but you are free to use ideas of your own.

People should share cars on their way to work – often I see queues of cars in the morning with only one person in each.

it is much better for the

We should cycle to school because

environment. It's healthier too.

We need a car each in our family as we all work and study in different directions.

In our town we have different coloured rubbish bins for things which can be recycled. Green is for glass and blue is for paper.

We can all make a difference even with simple things such as turning the lights off when we don't need them and making sure the TV isn't left on "standby".

Every year I look at all of my clothes. If there are things I do not want I take them to a recycling bank – there are poorer people who can use the things I have finished with.

> We should use local food producers such as for fruit and vegetables. That way less fuel is used.

We have a big garden at home. My parents have started a compost heap where we put all our food waste. When it decomposes it is really good to put on the soil and it helps the plants grow

better!

Cycling is quite dangerous but

maybe if the town council created cycle lanes more people would choose this mode of transport.

I always reuse plastic bags, wrapping paper and things like envelopes

(20 marks)



Space for Planning	
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