Warwick School

12+ Sample Paper

English

Please write your full name here:

________________________________________

Before you start read these instructions:

➤ You have 60 minutes to complete this paper
➤ All your answers should be written on the booklet/accompanying paper
➤ If you get stuck, do not worry. Do not spend lots of time on it, just go on to the next question. You may have time at the end to try the question again.
➤ HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR FULL NAME IN THE BOX?
There is a passage for you to read and seven questions for you to answer. The first five questions test your reading skills, the sixth question tests both reading and writing, and the last question tests your writing. You will need to write more in your answers to the last two questions. Use the mark scheme to help you decide how long to make your answers.

*Dad by Elaine Feinstein*

Your old hat hurts me, and those black
fat raisins you liked to press into
my palm from your soft heavy hand:
I see you staggering back up the path
with sacks of potatoes from some local farm,
fresh eggs, flowers. Every day I grieve
for your great heart broken and you gone.
You loved to watch the trees. This year
you did not see their Spring.
The sky was freezing over the fen
as on that somewhere secretly appointed day
you beached: cold, white-faced, shivering.

What happened, old bull, my loyal
hoarse-voiced warrior? The hammer
blow that stopped you in your track
and brought you to a hospital monitor
could not destroy your courage
to the end you were
uncowed and unconcerned with pleasing anyone.

I think of you now as once again safely
at my mother's side, the earth as
chosen as a bed, and feel most sorrow for
all that was gentle in
my childhood buried there
already forfeit, now forever lost.

*fen* - flat, marshy land
*beached* - washed onto the beach
*forfeit* - confiscated
There is a passage for you to read and seven questions for you to answer. The first five questions test your reading skills, the sixth question tests both reading and writing, and the last question tests your writing. You will need to write more in your answers to the last two questions. **Use the mark scheme to help you decide how long to make your answers.**

1. What do you think the writer means in line 1 when he says: ‘Your old hat hurts me’? Explain your answer as fully as you can. **(2 marks)**

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2. Look at lines 13-14. What impression do you get of the father from the lines: ‘...old bull, my loyal/hoarse-voiced warrior?’ Explain your answer as fully as you can. **(3 marks)**

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3. What was the father like, even to the end of his life? Choose at least five phrases and give evidence to support your view. **(10 marks)**

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SAMPLE
4. How does the author show the emotion of her dying father? Choose two phrases and explain your choice. (4 marks)
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5. Who do you think the author is writing this poem for? How can you tell? Explain the purpose of the poem using the evidence from the text. (6 marks)
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6. How has Elaine Feinstein made this such a powerful poem? In your answer you should consider the following:
   • The impressions you get of the narrator and how she is feeling
   • The descriptions of the father before and after death
   • The powerful language used in the poem (25 marks)
7. Elaine Feinstein has chosen a very important person in her life to describe the poem.

- We’d like you to try to write a description now about an important person in your life, though without using poetry.
- Try to use some interesting language like Elaine Feinstein does, and even comparisons if you think they are appropriate.
- Give your work an appropriate title, and write no more than a side. (50 marks)