WCCS

8+ Comprehension & Composition

SPECIMEN PAPER

Time allowed: 1 hour 10 mins

Total marks: 50

Name……

Current School……

SECTION A – COMPREHENSION (50 MINS) *(35 marks)*

The following extract is from *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* by C.S. Lewis. Read the extract CAREFULLY and then answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Edmund and Lucy, who are brother and sister, are staying with their cousin, Eustace, for the summer holiday. One afternoon, when the three children are playing, something strange happens to the picture of a ship hanging on the wall…

What they were seeing may be hard to believe when you read it in print, but it was almost as hard to believe when you saw it happening. The things in the picture were moving. It didn't look at all like a cinema either; the colours were too real and clean and out-of-doors for that. Down went the prow of the ship into the wave and up went a great shock of spray. And then up went the wave behind her, and her stern and her deck became visible for the first time, and then disappeared as the next wave came to meet her and her bows went up again. At the same moment an exercise book which had been lying beside Edmund on the bed flapped, rose and sailed through the air to the wall behind him, and Lucy felt all her hair whipping round her face as it does on a windy day. And this was a windy day; but the wind was blowing out of the picture towards them. And suddenly with the wind came the noises – the swishing of waves and the slap of water against the ship's sides and the creaking and the overall high steady roar of air and water. But it was the smell, the wild, briny smell, which really convinced Lucy that she was not dreaming.

"Stop it," came Eustace's voice, squeaky with fright and bad temper. "It's some silly trick you two are playing. Stop it. I'll tell Auntie Alberta – Ow!"

The other two were much more accustomed to adventures, but, just exactly as Eustace Clarence said "Ow," they both said "Ow" too. The reason was that a great cold, salt splash had broken right out of the frame and they were breathless from the smack of it, besides being wet through.

"I'll smash the rotten thing," cried Eustace; and then several things happened at the same time.

Read the passage again carefully, and then answer the questions that follow in <u>full sentences</u>.

1. When the author says that the *'colours were too real and clean and out-of doors'* (line 4) to look like a cinema, what do you think he means? (3 marks)

……

……

……

……

2. What is 'a great shock of spray'? (lines 5-6) (3 marks)

……

……

……

3. What three things happen to the exercise book in the passage? (lines 9-10) (3 marks)

……

……

……

4. In which direction is the wind blowing in this passage? (line 12) (2 marks)

……

……

5. What noises are described in the passage? (lines 13-15) (4 marks)

……

……

……

……

6. What convinces Lucy that she is not dreaming? (lines 15-17) (2 marks)

……

……

7. How would you describe Eustace's behaviour and character in the passage? (lines 18-28) (8 marks)

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

8. **Read the passage again.** Looking carefully at words and images, explain how the author makes the events seem real, vivid and exciting. (10 marks)

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

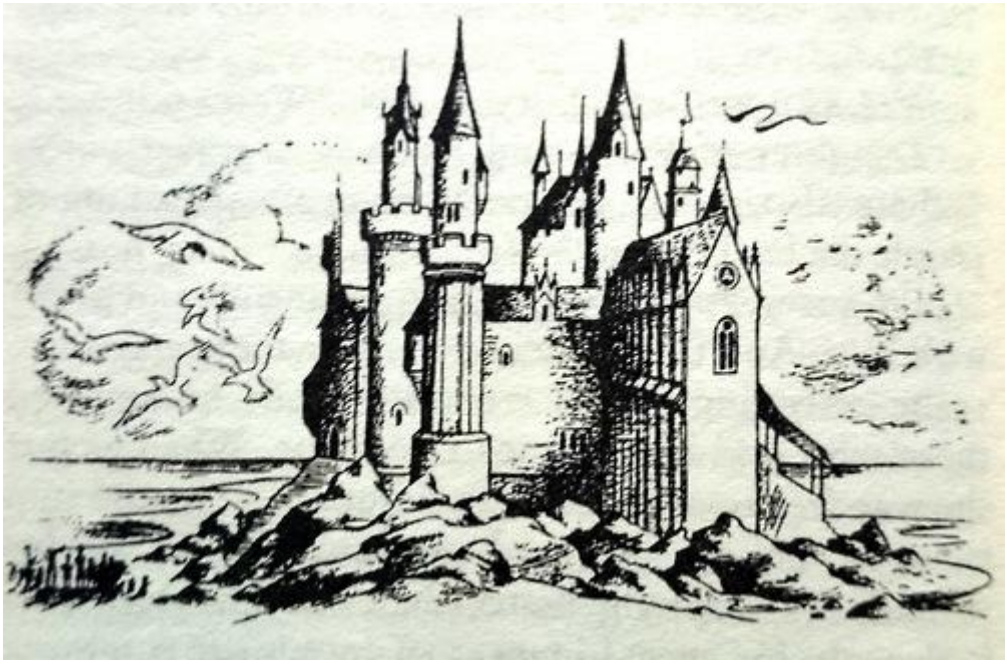
.....

.....

SECTION B – COMPOSITION (20 MINS) (15 marks)

Write a story entitled <u>The Castle by the Sea</u>

- Use the picture below to help you.
- Use your five senses: what do you see, smell, touch, hear and taste?
- Write in paragraphs.
- Write in full sentences, using capital letters, commas, apostrophes, question marks and full stops.
- Don't write a long story; writing an interesting one – thinking carefully about the words you choose.



……

……

……

……

……

……

……

……

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Now read your story over and check it for mistakes.

THIS PAGE TO STAY BLANK