



Year 9 Academic Scholarship

English

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions:

Answer all questions on this paper.

Remember: throughout all of the questions on this paper you will be assessed on the quality and accuracy of your writing.

Section A: 20 marks

Section B: 18 marks

Quality and accuracy of writing: 12 marks

Total for paper: 50 marks

Section A

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow. Use quotations and analysis to support your points.

Slow Reader

He can make a sculpture and fabulous machines, invent games, tell jokes, give solemn, adult advice- but he is slow to read.	5
When I take him on my knee with his <i>Ladybird</i> book he gazes into the air, sighing and shaking his head like an old man	10
who knows the mountains are impassible.	
He toys with words, letting them go cold as gristly meat, until I relent	15
and let him wriggle free: a fish returning to its elements, or a white-eyed colt – shying	20
from the bit – who sees that if he takes it in his mouth he'll never run quite free again.	

1. How are strong feelings about reading conveyed in the poem? Write about the feelings of the speaker and the feelings of the child. (10)
2. How does the poet use metaphors to create meaning in the poem? (10)

Section A total: 20 marks

Section B

Answer both questions in this section

1. Write a short description with the title 'The Library'. (10)
2. Why do you think writers like to use figurative language in their poems? You can use examples from the poem above to support your ideas or from any other poem you have studied. (8)

Section B total: 18 marks