



## 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.*

### Summer Farm

Straws like tame lightning lie about the grass  
And hang zigzag on hedges. Green as glass  
The water in the horse-trough shines.  
Nine ducks go wobbling by in two straight lines.

A hen stare at nothing with one eye, 5  
Then picks it up. Out of an empty sky  
A swallow falls and, flickering through  
The barn, dives up again into the dizzy blue.

I lie, not thinking, in the cool, soft, grass, 10  
Afraid of where a thought might take me – as  
This grasshopper with plated face  
Unfolds his legs and finds himself some space.

Self under self, a pile of selves I stand  
Threaded on time, and with metaphysic hand  
Lift the farm like a lid and see 15  
Farm within farm, and in the centre, me.

1. Explore how the poet uses language to convey feelings of peace and relaxation in the poem (10)
2. Explain your interpretation of the meaning of the last stanza. (8)

Section A total: 20 marks

## Section B

*Answer both questions in this section*

1. Write a description of a winter landscape (10)
2. Why do you think writers like to use sensory detail in poetry? You should use examples from the poem above, or others you have studied, to support your answer. (8)

Section B total: 18 marks