



# BENENDEN

**Lower School Scholarship Exam 2022**

**ENGLISH**

**13+**

**1 Hour**

<b>Name:</b>	.....
<b>School:</b>	.....
<b>Date:</b>	.....

**Instructions to Candidates:**

- Write your answers in the space provided in this booklet.
- The total mark for the paper is 100
- The first question is based on a fiction passage; the second question is to demonstrate your own writing skills. Both are worth the same number of marks and you should aim to spend the same amount of time on each.

*You should spend 30 minutes on Question 1 and 30 minutes on Question 2. Try to leave some time to read through and check your work thoroughly.*

***The following is an extract from 'Felicia's Journey' by William Trevor. Felicia is 17 and has travelled from Ireland to England in search of Johnny Lysaght. She believes that he works at Thompson Castings, a factory in this unnamed town she has travelled to.***

There are no hills. Against a grey sky, tall bleak chimneys belch out their own hot clouds. Factories seem like fortresses, their towers protecting an ancient realm of iron and wealth. The bricks everywhere have blackened to the insistent local black colour. The land is lost beneath a weight of purpose, its natural peculiarities stifled, contours pressed away.

The bus that carries Felicia through all this is almost empty. Women with shopping-bags occupy seats on their own, staring ahead at the driver's back. A child perpetually cries, ineffectually hushed by its mother. A man mutters as he turns the pages of a newspaper.

As the bus approaches the periphery of the town where Thompson Castings is, the flat roadside fields dwindle, and the factories intensify in number, one rubbing against another. In one of them, Felicia imagines Johnny Lysaght, with spare parts arranged behind him floor to ceiling, in wooden draws and shelves. She imagines him in his work clothes, a brown overall, the same brown as the assistants in Multilly's Hardware. He looks for something he has been asked for, and whistles the way he sometimes does.

She walks into the town from the bus stop, it has an older look than the town that she has travelled from but with the same signs on banks and stores. Streets amble and twist and turn, petering away to become lanes and alleys, the picturesque preserved as if in protest at the towers and chimneys that mar the town's surroundings. 'Excuse me,' Felicia interrupts a man in a wheelchair outside a teashop with small-paned windows that bulge out in a bow. 'Push me in, dear,' the man directs. 'We'll inquire inside.' But when Felicia inquires inside about Thompson Castings they are stumped. On the streets no-one she asks knows either.

So Felicia returns to the teashop and sits over a cup of tea because they were helpful to her there. The tables all around her are full, with housewives and office employees who've slipped out for a moment: the waitresses hurry, chivvied by the cashier, who leaves her till from time to time in order to find people seats. The two women at Felicia's table are talking about a third woman's unsatisfactory marriage.

- 1. How does the writer bring the book's setting to life in this extract?** (You may want to think about, for example, his use of specific language or vocabulary, his sentencing, his choice of images or anything else that strikes you as interesting in how it has been written).

(50 marks)

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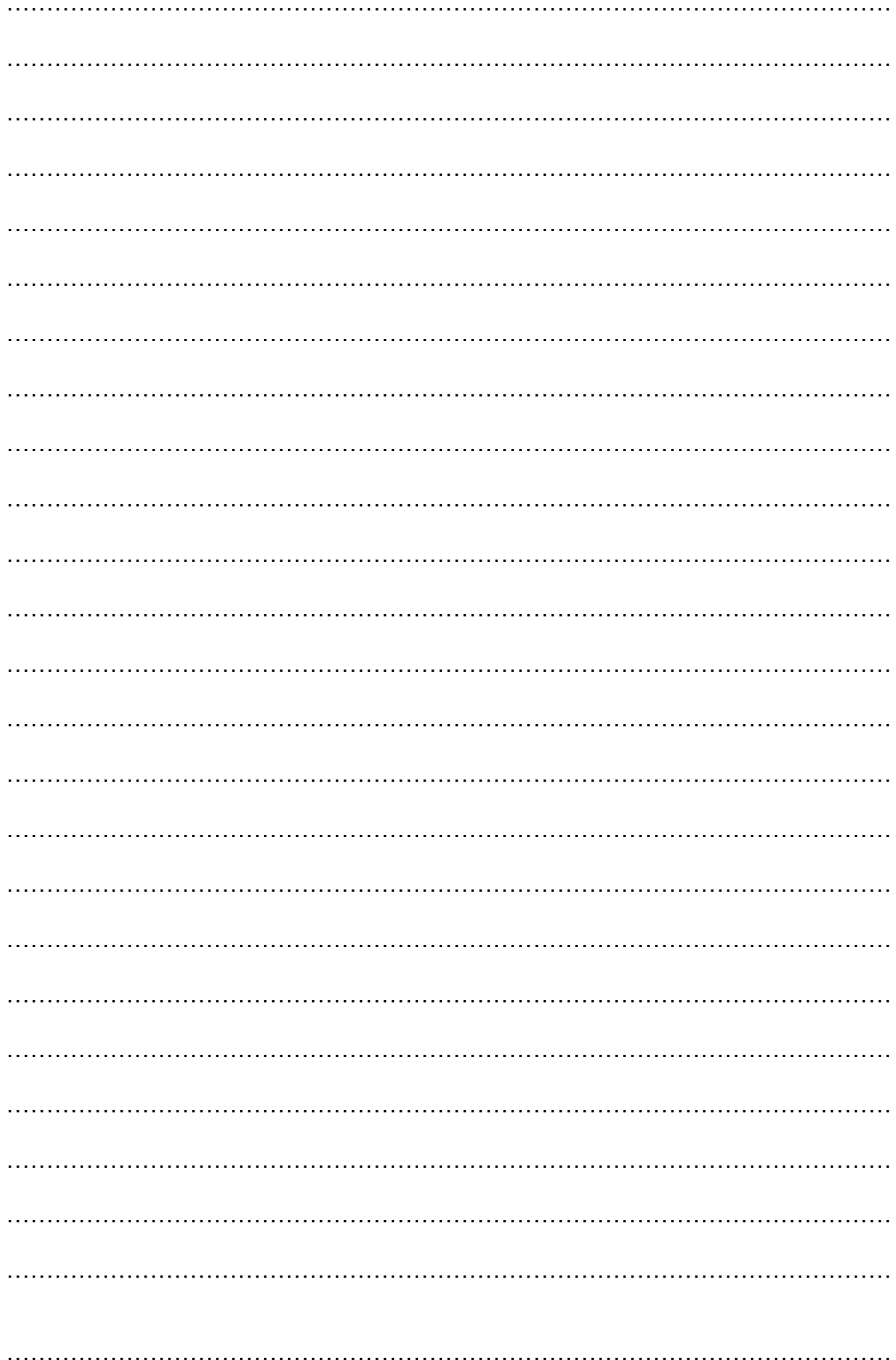
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1. **Creative/Descriptive writing: Write a story, or the start of a story, in which your central character journeys to a place that is unknown to them.** This could be based on a real experience or an imagined one. Your work will be assessed for the creativity of your ideas and the accuracy of your expression.

(50 marks)

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**Total for paper: 100 marks**