

11 Plus Essex CSSE – English B

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read the instructions carefully.

This test consists of two sections:

- **Section one: COMPREHENSION** (40 minutes plus 10 minutes reading time). On the next page there is a passage of text. Read the passage carefully when you are told to do so. You then have to answer the questions that follow. You do not need to wait to be told to start the questions. Remember, this is not a test of memory. You can look back at the passage to check your answers as many times as you want.
- **Section two: CONTINUOUS WRITING** (20 minutes)

Total time: 1 hour 10 minutes

Instructions:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Work quickly but carefully through the questions.
3. The number of marks available for each question is indicated in the right-hand margin.
4. Incorrect spelling and grammar will be penalised.
5. Punctuation should be clear and exact.
6. Where you are asked to choose between a number of responses, always choose the most appropriate response.
7. If you finish with time to spare, please remember to check your work.
8. Once the test has begun, you should not ask about questions in the test.

Read the extract from *Jo's Boys* by Louisa M. Alcott then answer the questions that follow.

This was the beginning of the summer holiday, and it was curious to see what a pleasant little stir Dan's and Emil's coming made in the quiet life of the studious community; for they seemed to bring a fresh breeze with them that enlivened everyone. Many of the collegians remained during vacation; and Plumfield and Parnassus did their best to make these days pleasant for them, since most came from distant States, were poor, and had few opportunities but this for culture or amusement. Emil was hail-fellow-well-met with men and maids, and went rollicking about in true sailor fashion; but Dan stood rather in awe of the 'fair girl-graduates', and was silent when among them, eyeing them as an eagle might a flock of doves. He got on better with the young men, and was their hero at once. Their admiration for his manly accomplishments did him good; because he felt his educational defects keenly, and often wondered if he could find anything in books to satisfy him as thoroughly as did the lessons he was learning from Nature's splendidly illustrated volume. In spite of his silence, the girls found out his good qualities, and regarded 'the Spaniard', as they named him, with great favour; for his black eyes were more eloquent than his tongue, and the kind creatures tried to show their friendly interests in many charming ways.

He saw this, and endeavoured to be worthy of it—curbing his free speech, toning down his rough manners, and watching the effect of all he said and did, anxious to make a good impression. The social atmosphere warmed his lonely heart, the culture excited him to do his best, and the changes which had taken place during his absence, both in himself and others, made the old home seem like a new world. After the life in California, it was sweet and restful to be here, with these familiar faces round him, helping him to forget much that he regretted, and to resolve to deserve more entirely the confidence of these good fellows, the respect of these innocent girls.

So there was riding, rowing, and picnicking by day, music, dancing, and plays by night; and everyone said there had not been so gay a vacation for years. Bess kept her promise, and let the dust gather on her beloved clay while she went pleasuring with her mates or studied music with her father, who rejoiced over the fresh roses in her cheeks and the laughter which chased away the dreamy look she used to wear. Josie quarrelled less with Ted; for Dan had a way of looking at her which quelled her instantly, and had almost as good an effect upon her rebellious cousin. But Octoo did even more for the lively youth, who found that her charms entirely eclipsed those of the bicycle which had been his heart's delight before. Early and late he rode this untiring beast, and began to gain flesh—to the great joy of his mother, who feared that her beanstalk was growing too fast for health.

Demi, finding business dull, solaced his leisure by photographing everybody he could induce to sit or stand to him, producing some excellent pictures among many failures; for he had a pretty taste in grouping, and endless patience. He might be said to view the world through the lens of his camera, and seemed to enjoy himself very much squinting at his fellow beings from under a bit of black cambric. Dan was a treasure to him; for he took well, and willingly posed in his Mexican costume, with horse and hound, and all wanted copies of these effective photographs. Bess, also, was a favourite sitter; and Demi received a prize at the Amateur Photographic Exhibition for one of his cousin with all her hair about her face, which rose from the cloud of white lace draping the shoulders. These were freely handed round by the proud artist; and one copy had a tender little history yet to be told.

SECTION ONE

Spend about 40 minutes on this section.

| | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1. | What was the impact of Dan's and Emil's arrival on the community during summer vacation? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | 2 marks |
| 2. | How did Emil behave among the students during the vacation? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | 2 marks |
| 3. | How did Dan feel about the 'fair girl-graduates'? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | 2 marks |
| 4. | Why did Dan try to curb his free speech and tone down his rough manners? <hr/> <hr/> | 1 mark |
| 5. | How did the social atmosphere affect Dan? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> | 2 marks |
| 6. | Which literary device is the below quote an example of? 'Plumfield and Parnassus did their best' <hr/> | 1 mark |
| 7. | What hobby did Demi take up during the vacation? (Tick one box) A. painting landscapes <input type="checkbox"/> B. playing musical instruments <input type="checkbox"/> C. photography <input type="checkbox"/> D. horseback riding <input type="checkbox"/> E. cookery <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 mark |

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|-----|--|---------|
| 8. | <p>In paragraph three, what three things are said to be done in the day?</p> <p>(i) _____</p> <p>(ii) _____</p> <p>(iii) _____</p> | 3 marks |
| 9. | <p>In paragraph three, what three things are said to be done by night?</p> <p>(i) _____</p> <p>(ii) _____</p> <p>(iii) _____</p> | 3 marks |
| 10. | <p>What time of year is this passage set?</p> <p>_____</p> | 1 mark |
| 11. | <p>In the below quote, which word is a proper noun?</p> <p>'After the life in California, it was sweet and restful to be here...'</p> <p>_____</p> | 1 mark |
| 12. | <p>How did the girls view Dan, and what nickname did they give him?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> | 2 marks |
| 13. | <p>For what did Demi receive a prize for at the Amateur Photographic Exhibition?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> | 1 mark |
| 14. | <p>Select the correct meaning of the word 'defects'. (Tick one box)</p> <p>A A shortcoming, imperfection or lack. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>B A narrow space between two surfaces that have broken or been moved apart. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>C An allotted place in an arrangement or scheme. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>D Cause (someone) to deviate from an intended purpose. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>E Prevent (someone) from concentrating on something. <input type="checkbox"/></p> | 1 mark |

| 15. | Describe the general mood of the summer holiday as presented in the passage. _____ _____ _____ | 2 marks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------|-----|------------------|-------|-----|-----------------------|-------|------|----------------------|-------|-------|---------|
| 16. | Why did the students admire Dan? Provide two reasons from the text. _____ _____ _____ | 2 marks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17. | How did the 'social atmosphere' affect Dan's feelings? Provide evidence from the text. _____ _____ _____ | 2 marks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18. | Identify and explain the use of one metaphor in the passage. _____ _____ _____ | 2 marks | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19. | <p>Select from the passage the ONE WORD which most closely corresponds to the word or phrase on the left. The line numbers on the right give you an idea of where in the passage the word can be found.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"></th> <th style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">Word from passage</th> <th style="width: 35%; text-align: center;">Look in lines</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A. academic</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1-2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. wonder</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7-8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. achievement</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9-10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. articulate</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14-15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | Word from passage | Look in lines | A. academic | _____ | 1-2 | B. wonder | _____ | 7-8 | C. achievement | _____ | 9-10 | D. articulate | _____ | 14-15 | 9 marks |
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|-----------|------------------|-------|-------|--|
| E. | attempt | _____ | 16-17 | |
| F. | delighted | _____ | 27-28 | |
| G. | put an end to | _____ | 29-30 | |
| H. | comforted | _____ | 35-36 | |
| I. | non-professional | _____ | 41-42 | |

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR CONTINUOUS WRITING SECTION.

