

Name: .....



**Sydenham**  
High School

G D S T  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

TOTAL MARKS

SECTION A

SECTION B

# English

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## Entrance Examination

### SAMPLE

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This paper consists of two sections

Section A: Reading

Section B: Writing

You must answer both sections.

You will have 10 minutes to read the extract in the Reading Booklet.

You have 30 minutes to answer the questions in section A.

You have 30 minutes to spend on the creative writing task in section B.

**Section A: Reading Paper**  
**30 minutes**

**Read the extract carefully. Then answer all questions.**

1. Why does Aunt March need a companion? (1 mark)

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2. Aunt March is described as blunt, irascible and peppery. What type of words are these? (1 mark)

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3. Look at paragraph 3. Which phrase shows that although the job 'did not suit Jo at all', she does really enjoy being her Aunt March's paid companion? (1 mark)

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4. In paragraph 4 the library of books in Aunt March's house is described as "the wilderness of books in which she could wander". What device is this? (1 mark)

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5. In paragraph 5, what type of words are "quiet", "sweetest" and "perilous"? (1 mark)

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6. Scan paragraphs 1-6. Find a word or phrase to show Jo enjoys reading. (1 mark)

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7. Scan paragraphs 1-6. What evidence is there that Aunt March was a difficult person to work for? (1 mark)

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8. In paragraph 6, Jo is described as having a "restless spirit". What type of word is "restless"? (1 mark)

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9. Read paragraph 6 again. Jo is a restless character. Using your own words, give evidence from the text that shows this is the case. (3 marks)

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10. Name the device used in this description of Jo: "*like a bookworm*". (1 mark)

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## Section B: Writing Paper

30 minutes

20 marks for Content

20 marks for Style

10 marks for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Choose one of the following tasks:

Imagine that you are 'Aunt March'. You have just finished writing a diary entry before calling for Jo to come and help you. **Write that diary entry to describe a day in your life and explain your thoughts and feelings about finding it hard to walk and having Jo as your companion.**

You might consider:

- What Aunt March's room looks like
- How she might feel about living in this large, old house by yourself
- What she might be thinking about Jo's character and attitude to work.

Write 2-3 paragraphs.

You should plan and proofread your work.

**OR**

The setting of the extract is a large old house with a wonderful room full of books. Describe the setting and explain how someone might feel as they walk through it.

You might consider:

- Where this setting is
- What it looks like
- How it makes someone feel as they visit

Write 2-3 paragraphs.

You should plan and proofread your work.









