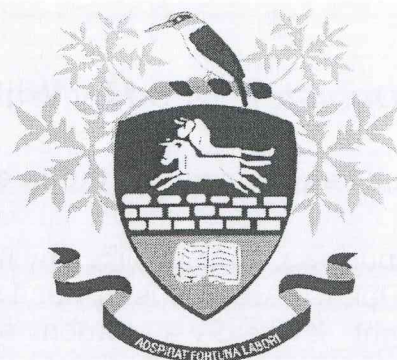


# HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL



MAY 2011<sup>2</sup>

## ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE

Grade 8

Time: 2 hours

Marks: 100

Examiner : Mrs P Schwarz

Moderator : Mrs R Coetzer

N.B. This question paper consists of 9 pages

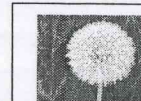
### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS**

1. Draw a 2cm wide margin on the right hand side of each page of your answer booklet.
2. Leave a line between answers.
3. Read and follow ALL instructions carefully.
4. Rule off on completion of EACH section.
5. It is in your own interests to write and present your work neatly.
6. Spelling and grammar count.
7. Use your time carefully.
8. Answer in **full sentences** unless you are instructed otherwise.
9. This paper consists of FOUR sections. You are required to answer ALL the questions.

**Dictionary**

<b>burrows</b>	<i>noun</i>	tunnels, warrens, hideaways
<b>marsh</b>	<i>noun</i>	swamp, wetland
<b>inexorably</b>	<i>adjective</i>	unstoppable, unchangeable, relentless
<b>voles</b>	<i>noun</i>	small rat-like, plant-eating animals
<b>distortion</b>	<i>noun</i>	twisted, deformed
<b>plague</b>	<i>noun</i>	rat-borne disease, epidemic, outbreak
<b>luminescent</b>	<i>adjective</i>	glowing, luminous, bright
<b>paly</b>	<i>adjective</i>	pale, loss of colour
<b>dandelion</b>	<i>noun</i>	seed of an edible plant, weed



Dandelion

**QUESTIONS**

- 1.1 What type of animal is Bracken? 1
- 1.2 Why is the smoke described as a 'mist'? (Line 1) Quote from the text to support your answer. 2
- 1.3 In your own words, explain 'minute, black, dusty particles, light as the seeds of dandelions, floated down' (Lines 4-5). 3
- 1.4 Explain why the 'flaming reds and oranges' are 'paled by the sunlight'. 2
- 1.5 What are the 'smouldering and charred remnants' (Lines 11-12) that are left behind by the fire? 2
- 1.6 Why did the snake get caught in the fire? 1
- 1.7 Explain why the author uses the word 'hissed'. (Line 22). 2
- 1.8 The fire leaves 'distortions of life among the ashes.' (Line 23) What does this mean? 2
- 1.9 Why does the smoke smell 'cleaner than the plague'? (Lines 26-27). 2
- 1.10 State whether the following statements are true or false. Quote to support your answer.
- 1.10.1 The moles decide to leave the burrows. 2
- 1.10.2 Bracken leads his friends towards the fire. 2
- 1.10.3 The moles cannot hear. 2
- 1.11 Refer to the Dictionary extracts above.
- 1.11.1 What part of speech is 'luminescent'? 1
- 1.11.2 Use the word 'distortion' in a sentence of your own. 2
- 1.11.3 Explain what 'paly' means in the context of the story. 2
- 1.12 Do you think the fire or the plague is more dangerous to the moles? Explain your answer. 2



## 3.2

**Wind**  
by Ted Hughes

This house has been far out at sea all night,  
The woods crashing through darkness, the booming hills,  
Winds stampeding the fields under the window  
Floundering black astride and blinding wet

Till day rose; then under an orange sky 5  
The hills had new places, and wind wielded  
Blade-light, luminous black and emerald,  
Flexing like the lens of a mad eye.

At noon I scaled along the house-side as far as 10  
The coal-house door. Once I looked up -  
Through the brunt wind that dented the balls of my eyes  
The tent of the hills drummed and strained its guyrope,

The fields quivering, the skyline a grimace,  
At any second to bang and vanish with a flap;  
The wind flung a magpie away and a black- 15  
Back gull bent like an iron bar slowly. The house

Rang like some fine green goblet in the note  
That any second would shatter it. Now deep  
In chairs, in front of the great fire, we grip  
Our hearts and cannot entertain book, thought, 20

Or each other. We watch the fire blazing,  
And feel the roots of the house move, but sit on,  
Seeing the window tremble to come in,  
Hearing the stones cry out under the horizons.

## QUESTIONS

- 3.2.1 Explain how Ted Hughes indicates **time** in the first three stanzas. Quote to support your answer. 2
- 3.2.2 What figure of speech is used in 'the skyline a grimace,'? (Line 13) 1
- 3.2.3 Explain why this figure of speech works so well in the poem. 2
- 3.2.4 What figure of speech is used in 'gull bent like an iron bar'? (Line 16) 1
- 3.2.5 Explain why this figure of speech is effective. 2
- 3.2.6 The **literal** meaning of the poem is a wind storm. What is the **figurative** meaning of the poem? 2

[10]

**SECTION D: WRITING**

**QUESTION 4:**

Select a title from one of the three poems in this examination paper and write your own poem.

The titles of the poems are a) *An eagle*; b) *The wind*; c) *A baby*

Your poem should be at least 80 words and 14 lines long.

You are required to carefully check and edit your poem, ensuring as few errors as possible are made. It is not necessary to do a final (clean) version of the poem. Your completed poem can show some editing.

Concentrate on being original and creative, using strong verbs, adjectives, figures of speech and other sensory techniques.

Your poem must have a **title**.

[20]

**IF IT IS TO BE IT IS UP TO ME**