



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Junior Cycle Final Examination 2025

English

Ordinary Level

Wednesday 4 June Morning 9:30 – 11:30

180 marks

Examination Number

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Date of Birth

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For example, 3rd February
2005 is entered as 03 02 05

Centre Stamp

The theme for this examination paper is

Different Viewpoints

Instructions

There are **four** sections in this paper.

Section A	Analysing Information	30 marks	3 questions
Section B	Exploring Language and Ideas	60 marks	4 questions
Section C	Engaging with Reading	60 marks	3 questions
Section D	Communicating as a Writer	30 marks	2 questions

Answer all 12 questions.

The questions do not all carry equal marks. The number of marks for each question is stated at the top of the question.

You should spend about 25 minutes on Section A, 35 minutes on Section B, 35 minutes on Section C and 20 minutes on Section D.

When answering on studied material, you must use texts in line with what is prescribed for this year.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. You may lose marks if you do not do so. You are not required to use all of the space provided. You should read each question in full before beginning your response.

Extra pages are provided if needed. Label any extra work clearly with the question number and part.

You may only use blue or black pen when writing your answers. Do not use pencil.

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

Suggested time for Section A: 25 minutes

Read the following article about chimpanzees. Answer the questions that follow.

Fast Facts Chimpanzees



Who are they?

Western chimpanzees are one of the four subspecies of the common chimpanzee. They are similar in size to a human and have a coat of black hair. Chimpanzees have long arms, hands, and fingers, which help them climb trees and swing from branch to branch.

Where do they live?

Western chimpanzees live in a range of West African forest **habitats** including lowland tropical forests, mountainous forests, and swamp forests.

How long do they live?

Up to 40-50 years in the wild, and more than 60 years in zoos.

What do they eat?

Western chimpanzees are omnivores. They **mainly** eat fruit, leaves, seeds, and flowers, but also feed on insects and honey.

Chimpanzees are our closest living relatives.

Humans and chimps are believed to share a common ancestor who lived 7 to 13 million years ago.

Tools

Chimpanzees are one of the few species we know to use tools. Different groups of chimpanzees use tools in different ways. They use sticks to reach termites in their mounds and dig insects out of logs. They also use stones to open nuts and leaves to scoop up drinking water.

Don't smile...

Chimpanzees use facial expressions to show emotions, but a human smile that shows all your teeth is seen as a threatening expression to chimpanzees.

Reflections

Chimpanzees are one of the few species that can **recognise** themselves in a mirror.

Communication

A chimpanzee will sometimes hug, pat, or brush the face of another chimpanzee to try to **reassure** them or calm them down. They can make many sounds including barks, hoots, and grunts.

Danger

The chimpanzee's greatest natural **predators** are leopards and lions, but their greatest threat is humans.

Question 1**(10 marks)**

(a) How long can a chimpanzee live for?

(b) What helps chimpanzees climb trees?

Question 2**(10 marks)**

Look carefully at the article, **Fast Facts Chimpanzees**. Answer the questions below. Choose the correct answer, as they are used in the article, by placing a tick ✓ in the appropriate box. Tick **one** box only in each case.

(a) What are habitats, as used in the article on page 3?

Living place ☐

Cave ☐

Treetop ☐

(b) What is the meaning of the word mainly, as used in the article on page 3?

Maybe ☐

Mostly ☐

Might ☐

(c) What does the word recognise mean, as used in the article on page 4?

Identify ☐

Remember ☐

Remind ☐

(d) What does the word reassure mean, as used in the article on page 4?

Tell ☐

Talk ☐

Comfort ☐

(e) What is the meaning of predators, as used in the article on page 4?

Friends ☐

Ancestors ☐

Enemies ☐

Question 3

(10 marks)

Look carefully at the article **Fast Facts Chimpanzees**. From your reading of this article, do you think that chimpanzees are clever animals? Give reasons for your answer.

Optional rough work

Suggested time for Section B: 35 minutes

Read the following poem, *A Tiger in the Zoo*, by Leslie Norris and answer the questions that follow.

A Tiger in the Zoo

He **stalks** in his vivid stripes
The few steps of his cage,
On pads of velvet quiet,
In his quiet **rage**.

He should be **lurking** in shadow,
Sliding through long grass
Near the water hole
Where plump deer pass.

He should be **snarling** around houses
At the jungle's edge,
Baring his white fangs, his claws,
Terrorising the village!

But he's locked in a concrete cell,
His strength behind bars,
Stalking the length of his cage,
Ignoring visitors.

He hears the last voice at night,
The patrolling cars,
And stares with his brilliant eyes
At the brilliant stars.



Question 4**(10 marks)**

Look carefully at the poem, *A Tiger in the Zoo*, on page 7. Answer the questions below. Choose the correct answer, as they are used in the poem, by placing a tick ✓ in the appropriate box. Tick **one** box only in each case.

(a) StalksSits ☐Skips ☐Strides ☐**(b) Rage**Attack ☐Anger ☐Annoy ☐**(c) Lurking**Lying in wait ☐Lying down ☐Lying beside ☐**(d) Snarling**Growling ☐Grabbing ☐Growing ☐**(e) Ignoring**Taking care of ☐Taking no notice of ☐Taking risks ☐

Question 5**(15 marks)**

Optional Rough Work

(a) What impression do we get of the tiger in Stanzas 1 and 4?

(b) What impression do we get of the tiger in Stanzas 2 and 3?

(c) What do you think the tiger is thinking about in Stanza 5?

Question 6**(15 marks)**

Think about a poem you have studied that explored an important theme. You may not use the poem printed on this paper.

Optional rough work

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

Poem:

Poet:

(b) What was the important theme in this poem?

(c) Describe one image the poet used to show this important theme.

Question 7

(20 marks)

Look carefully again at the poem, *A Tiger in the Zoo*, on page 7. Imagine you have visited this zoo and have seen this tiger. Write a letter to the zoo describing your thoughts and feelings about the tiger’s life in the zoo.

Optional rough work

Suggested time for Section C: 35 minutes

Read the following extract from *A Sound of Thunder* by Ray Bradbury. Answer the questions that follow.



Using a time machine, Time Safari Inc. transports people into the past. Eckels, a hunter, together with their guide, Travis, is visiting a prehistoric jungle to hunt a Tyrannosaurus Rex.

The jungle was high, and the jungle was broad. Sounds like music and flying tents filled the sky, and those were dinosaurs soaring with huge grey wings. Everyone stopped. Travis raised his hand. 'Ahead,' he whispered, 'in the mist. There he is. There's his Royal Majesty now.'

The jungle was full of twittering, rustlings, murmurs, and sighs. Suddenly it all ceased, as if someone had shut a door. Silence. A sound of thunder. Out of the mist, one hundred yards away, came Tyrannosaurus Rex. It towered thirty feet above half of the trees.

From the great breathing cage of the upper body those two arms dangled out front, and the snake neck coiled. Its mouth gaped, exposing a fence of teeth like daggers. Its eyes were empty of all expression save hunger. It closed its mouth in a death grin.

It ran, crushing aside trees and bushes, its feet clawing damp earth, leaving prints six inches deep. It moved into the sunlight, its hands feeling the air.

'Why, why...' Eckels twitched his mouth, 'it could reach up and grab the moon.'

'Ssh!' Travis jerked angrily, 'He hasn't seen us yet!'

'Turn around,' commanded Travis, 'Walk quietly to the Machine.'

'I didn't realise it would be this big,' said Eckels, 'and now I want out. It sees us!'

'Don't run,' said Travis. 'Turn around. Hide in the Machine.'

The Monster lunged forward with a terrible scream.

Question 8

(15 marks)

(a) What could be heard in the jungle?

(b) Why did all the sounds suddenly stop?

(c) Why does Travis order everyone to leave?

Question 9

(15 marks)

Imagine you are **Eckels**. You have returned to the future and have written a blog post about your visit. Write out the blog post, in which you describe your visit to the jungle.



Optional rough work

Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

Question 10**(30 marks)**

Read all parts of this question carefully before starting your answer.

(a) Name a play you have studied.

Play:
Playwright:

Optional rough work

(b) Describe a scene where a character had a difficult decision to make.

(c) Do you think your chosen character made the right decision? Give reasons for your answer.

Optional rough work

[illegible]

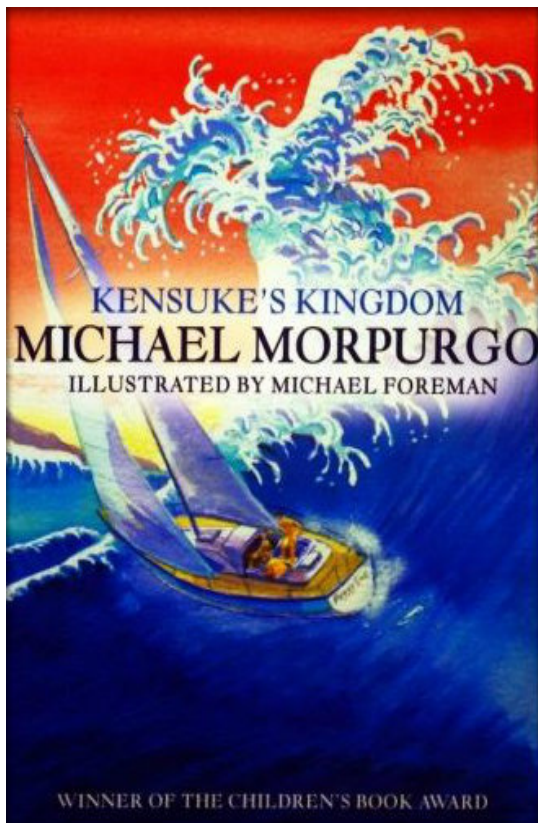
Suggested time for Section D: 20 minutes

Look carefully at the book review, book cover and blurb of *Kensuke's Kingdom* below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Book Review

Beautifully illustrated by Michael Foreman, *Kensuke's Kingdom* is a stylish, deceptively simple, and magical book that will effortlessly capture the heart and imagination of anyone who reads it, ensuring that Morpurgo continues to stand tall amid the ranks of classic children's authors. (Ages 9 and over)

Susan Harrison



Blurb

When Michael is washed up on an island in the Pacific after falling from his parents' yacht, the *Peggy Sue*, he struggles to survive on his own. But he soon realises there is someone close by, someone who is watching over him and helping him to stay alive.

Following a close-run battle between life and death after being stung by a poisonous jellyfish, the mysterious someone--Kensuke--allows Michael into his world and they become friends, teaching and learning from each other.

Morpurgo tells a story which gently captures the adventures of a desert-island tale, but the real strength lies in the descriptions of friendship and trust.

Question 11

(10 Marks)

- (a)** What does the reviewer, Susan Harrison, praise about the book *Kensuke's Kingdom*?

- (b)** Look again at the blurb on page 19. Would this blurb encourage you to read this book? Give a reason for your answer.

Question 12

(20 marks)

Think about a novel you have studied. Then answer the questions that follow.



(a) Name the novel and the author.

Title of Novel:
Author:

You have been asked to write a **book review** of your chosen novel. You should give your book review a **heading**.

(b) **Heading**

Optional rough work

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Additional Writing Space. Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

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Acknowledgements

Images

Image on page 3, <https://media.istockphoto.com/id/519106121/photo/chimpanzees-talk-it-over-in-committee.jpgs=612x612&w=0&k=20&c=LBXfmks7zDrx9Yn5tuvfOBCMDQoF5Wk84linnu53Dw>

Image on page 7, https://live.staticflickr.com/7547/27411430283_a5f83b957a_h.jpg

Image on page 13, <https://quizlet.com/540019964/a-sound-of-thunder-flash-cards/>

Image on page 15 <https://copysmiths.com/maintain-successful-blog/>

Image on page 19, https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1033346.KENSUKE_S_KINGDOM

Image on page 21, freerangestock.com/photos/84959/book-review-represents-reviewing-fiction-and-knowledge.html

Texts

Text page 3 and 4, <https://www.dublinzoo.ie/animal/chimpanzee/>

Text page 7. <https://www.english-for-students.com/tiger.html>

Text page 13, A Sound of Thunder, HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. Copyright ©2005 Ray Bradbury ISBN: 0060785691

Text page 19, https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1033346.KENSUKE_S_KINGDOM

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