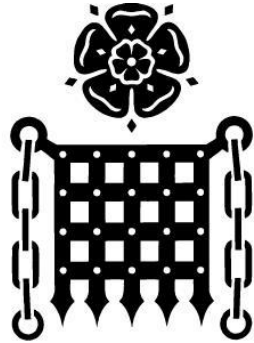


For markers only:

Section A: /20

Section B: /20

Total: /40



Emanuel School

PAPER A I I+ English Entrance Paper

45 minutes

Name: _____

School: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

- * Read the passage in Section A and answer **all** the questions as fully as possible.
- * You should spend up to 20 minutes on Section A.
- * Then complete Section B (composition). Spend 25 minutes on this section.
- * You are told the number of marks available for each question.
- * Check through your work carefully at the end of the exam.

Section A: Reading Comprehension

Spend up to 20 minutes on this section. Read the passage carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

In this extract, which is at the beginning of a novel, Ralph has just finished watching a play at the Palace Theatre.

The hush in the theatre was electric. Even as the curtain hit the stage there was still a dumb silence and then it was broken suddenly by great waves of applause. Looking down at the audience from the gallery, his hands smarting with the ferocity of his clapping, Ralph could see people hurriedly wiping away their tears. The curtain sprang up revealing the cast in their Victorian costumes, holding hands. There was only one man, Basil Duke. He had played Albert Feathers, the blackmailing scoundrel of a nephew.

From below Ralph could hear cheering. He applauded with even more vigour, yelling with them. It was one of the most magical moments in the Palace Theatre for months.

Elsbeth Harding, who had played the murderess, Ellen Creed, stepped forward and the audience roared their appreciation. The women in the box office had been right, thought Ralph. She did have star quality.

Basil Duke had star quality too. But of a different kind. He was the actor that Ralph most wanted to be like. He was totally different in each part he played, almost unrecognisable at times.

The actress, smiling with pleasure, indicated the cast and they all bowed again to **tumultuous** applause. She lifted her hand and gradually the auditorium grew quiet. 'Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of myself and the entire company,' she began in her deep husky voice, 'we thank you for the way you have received our play tonight.'

The Billy Dixon Trio in the pit began to play the introductory notes of 'God save the King' and four hundred and fifty seats slammed noisily back as everyone stood for the National Anthem.

As soon as it had finished the curtain came down and the theatre was buzzing with chatter. Down in the pit the three musicians had disappeared with their usual speed. Ralph stayed leaning over the railing, drinking in the red, cream and gilt of the Edwardian theatre, the nymphs and shepherdesses on the ceiling, the chandeliers, the endless rows of shabby red velvet-coloured chairs. He was **conscious** that it might be his last Friday night here if he couldn't find a job.

He made up his mind there and then to knock on one of those doors that night while he had some courage left.

He drew away from the railing and leapt up the steps to the swing doorway. Pausing for a moment he took a last glance back down the stage now hidden by an **immense** red and gold curtain.

'One night,' he muttered with determination, 'one night I'll be playing here.' And he pushed the doors open and headed for the next flight of stairs.

Now answer each of the following questions in full sentences.

You will be awarded marks for your spelling, punctuation and grammar, so check your answers once you have finished.

1. Name **two** of the **characters** in the play that the actors are performing. [2 marks]

/2

2. Re-read the first paragraph (lines 1-6). **In your own words**, explain how the audience reacted to the play. [3 marks]

/3

3. Look closely at lines 19-27. How does the author make the theatre seem exciting and interesting? In your answer, refer to two examples from the text and explain their effect. You can use quotations if you wish.

[4 marks]

/4

4. Explain the meanings of the following words, which are in **bold** in the passage. You do not need to write in full sentences. [3 marks]

a. tumultuous (line 16)

b. conscious (line 26)

c. immense (line 31)

/3

5. In the following extract you will find several mistakes in spelling and punctuation. Copy out the extract, **putting in the correct punctuation and spelling**.

[5 marks]

ralph relly wants to be a actor and its his dream to spend his Life in the theeter, he is going try to get a job their

/5

Mark for SPaG	/3
Total mark for Section A	/20

Please turn over for Section B

