



CATERHAM
SCHOOL

**11+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IN ENGLISH
SPECIMEN PAPER**

Section A: Reading

Section B: Writing

Instructions to Candidates:

1. You have a total of 45 minutes to complete this paper. We recommend that you spend about 20 minutes on each section, with 5 minutes to check your work.
2. In Section A, read the passage carefully before you answer the question.
3. In Section B, you are only asked to write the *opening* of a description, not a full story.

Section One - Reading

Read the following short extract from *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. The extract focuses on Montag, a fire-starter, whose job is to burn books.

It was a pleasure to burn.

It was a special pleasure to see things eaten, to see things blackened and changed. With the brass nozzle in his fists, with this great python spitting its venomous kerosene upon the world, the blood pounded in his head, and his hands were the hands of some amazing conductor
5 playing all the symphonies of blazing and burning to bring down the tatters and charcoal ruins of history. With his symbolic helmet numbered 451 on his solid head, and his eyes all orange flame with the thought of what came next, he flicked the igniter and the house jumped up in a gorging fire that burned the evening sky red and yellow and black. He strode in a swarm of fireflies. He wanted above all, like the old joke, to shove a marshmallow on a stick in the furnace, while the
10 flapping pigeon-winged books died on the porch and lawn of the house. While the books went up in sparkling whirls and blew away on a wind turned dark with burning.

Montag grinned the fierce grin of all men singed and driven back by flame.

- 1) Looking at the extract as a whole, how does the writer use language, imagery and structure to make the text dramatic? You should use quotations from the extract to support your answers and try to be as technical with your analysis as you can. (10 marks)

Section Two – Writing

Write the opening of a description inspired by the picture below. You only have around twenty minutes so focus on filling your writing with the most imaginative language and imagery.

(10 marks)

