

SECONDE ACCUEIL

ADMISSIONS TEST

Wednesday 23rd January 2019

Instructions to candidates:

- Please do NOT turn over until you are told to do so
- Answer Part One AND Part Two on different sheets of paper
- Write your candidate number at the top of each page you write on
- Write in English
- You have **90 MINUTES** for this test. We suggest you spend half the time (45 minutes) on Part One and the other half of the time (a further 45 minutes) on Part Two
- When you have finished, number the pages you have written e.g. 1 of 2 (if you have written 2 pages), 1 of 3 (if you have written 3 pages) etc.

Advice to candidates:

There are no 'right' answers to the questions: you will be judged on the intelligence of your ideas, and your ability to communicate them in English.

Spend five minutes **planning** your answers before writing. If you are unhappy with any part of your answer, cross it out and continue.

You should try to write at least two pages.

PART ONE: LITERATURE

Read the poem by John Agard below. Write about the poem, and try to comment on:

- The themes and ideas raised in the poem
- The poet's use of images
- The mood of the poem
- The structure of the poem

'The Hurt Boy and the Birds'

The hurt boy talked to the birds and fed them the crumbs of his heart.

It was not easy to find the words for secrets he hid under his skin. The hurt boy spoke of a bully's fist that made his face a bruised moon his spectacles stamped to ruin.

It was not easy to find the words for things that nightly hissed as if his pillow was a hideaway for creepy-crawlies - the note sent to the girl he fancied held high in mockery.

But the hurt boy talked to the birds and their feathers gave him welcome -

Their wings taught him new ways to become.

crumbs = miettes
bully = harceleur
spectacles = lunettes
creepy-crawlies = bestiole
the girl he fancied = son amoureuse

PART TWO: HISTORICAL IDEAS

In your opinion, which historical event should every child study at school? Explain why.