

Comprehension – Back to school

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Date: _____

English Language

Instructions: Read the passage twice. Then answer all questions.

Sept. 5

Ann and I both started at our new schools today. She says that she likes hers, but she is not sure that she will like all the teachers. The school has a creative dance club and she is going to see whether she can join it. Creative dancing is like ballet, I think. I don't know what's so great about that. But Ann is always skipping and dancing around so she'll be happy.

Ann can easily walk to school, but I have to take the bus just as I did from St. Peter's to the secondary school in Cross Town. Just my luck. Last night I looked at the bus schedule and found there is a frequent service, but when I went out this morning, it was all scrambling and pushing and fighting to get on a bus. There was a notice about making a queue or line but nobody paid any attention to that. I shall have to be out earlier than all that rush-hour crowd. Life can be hard!

This school is much bigger than my last one. It is called St. John's Boys' Secondary. I went to the Headmaster's office first. He looked like an ogre, but he spoke in a kind tone. I was surprised. His name is Mr. Burns. I heard the boys calling him Burnsey. He told me I was to go to 2A and gave me a little speech about how he hoped I would be well-behaved because he insisted on good discipline. Do all teachers have to give you that kind of sermon? Most of us want to learn if it isn't too uninteresting. Who wants to be troublesome and learn nothing? Some fools, maybe.

One of the prefects took me along to 2A and the form-master, Mr. Clarke (Clarkey) gave me a book list and a desk. One of the boys next to me was a boy Ann and I met when we were walking around. His name Leslie Chinnia. I asked him about loud mouthed Charlie. He said Charlie was in a higher form in the same school but that he wasn't really a bully, just a show-off. It makes him feel important. Well, that remains to be seen. We didn't have much homework today but all the teachers warned us that we'll have plenty later on. They made it sound like punishment. I hope that won't interfere too much with writing in my diary. I really enjoy doing it. It's hard enough now to put down all that I wish. There is so much to write about. Take today for example. I can't write half of the things I noticed – not tonight anyway. When I get a chance I will sort out the more important impressions I got, and record all I remember about them.

One interesting thing I heard is that there is going to be a class play soon. Mr. Nelson, the English teacher, told us he wants us to try and make one up, if possible. Not all of the boys seemed interested, but I would like to be in it, even if I just have to help with what Mr. Nelson calls backstage work.

Well, time's up. ***It will have to be early to bed and early to rise for me if I want to beat that mob.***

Questions\

Section A: Multiple Choice (4 Marks)

Instructions: Write the correct letter for each question in the space provided.

1. Peter is looking forward to: ____
 - a. his new school
 - b. his new fiends
 - c. the class play
 - d. dinner with the family
2. A synonym for headmaster is: ____
 - a. teacher
 - b. janitress
 - c. principal
 - d. security
3. Creative dancing is like ____
 - a. drawing
 - b. running
 - c. dancing
 - d. ballet
4. Charlie is ____
 - a. Peter's best friend
 - b. the bully of the school
 - c. a misunderstood student
 - d. All of the above

Section B: Short Answer Questions 13 Marks

Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

5. What did Ann find of most interest in her school?
_____(1pt)
6. Why does Peter have to be out earlier?
_____(2pts)
7. What did Peter think about the headmaster?
_____(2pts)
- .b. Why did the headmaster's have a quick conversation with Peter?
_____(2pts.)

8. What is a bus schedule?

_____ (2pts)

9. What two difficulties is Peter now having in keeping his diary?

_____ (2pts)

10. *It will have to be early to bed and early to rise for me if I want to beat that mob.* What does Peter mean by those words?

_____ (2pts)

B. Vocabulary 3 Marks

Instructions: Define the following terms based on the use in the passage.

a. rush-hour crowd _____ (1pt)

b. a queue _____ (1pt)

c. headmaster _____ (1pt)

Total Marks 20