



ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL (SECONDARY)

Preliminary Examinations 2026

CANDIDATE NAME

CLASS

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REGISTER NUMBER

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/02

Paper 2 Comprehension

17 August 2026

Secondary 4 Express and 5 Normal Academic

1 hour 50 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your class, register number and name in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black ballpoint pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, correction fluid/tape or highlighters.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided on the Question Paper.

The Insert contains the texts for all the sections.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the start of each question or part question.

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	5
Section B	20
Section C	25

Total	50
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Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the online advertisement (**Text 1**) and the news report (**Text 2**) on page 2 and 3 of the Insert and answer Questions 1–4.

- 1 Look at Text 1. Tick (✓) the most suitable summary for this poster.

☐

Emergency crew need space to work

☐

Civic mindedness can save lives

☐

Private property does not belong in common spaces

[1]

- 2 With reference to Text 1, how is the image above the caption “Obstruction to emergency crew access due to constricted corridor” effective?

.....

.....

.....[1]

- 3 Give one detail from Text 2 that emphasises the importance of following the guidelines in Text 1.

.....

.....

.....[1]

4 Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below.

Tick (✓) the correct answer for each statement.

(a) One purpose of both texts is...

☐

To warn residents about the dangers of cluttered common spaces.

☐

To highlight the efforts of the town council to keep common spaces clear.

☐

To describe the dos and don'ts when using common spaces.

[1]

(b) The tone of the language used in Text 2 is...

☐

critical.

☐

anxious.

☐

angry.

[1]

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to **Text 3** on pages 4 and 5 of the Insert for Questions 5–15.

- 5** At the beginning of the text, the writer describes the effects of the change in season on the surroundings. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 makes the vegetation seem lifeless. Support your ideas with two details from the paragraph.

.....

 [2]

- 6** The writer uses the phrase ‘bully my way through’ (line 8) to get to the house. Explain why you think she had to do so.

.....
 [1]

- 7** Identify a phrase in Paragraph 1 that emphasises how lightly the frost is falling.

..... [1]

- 8 (a)** In Paragraph 2, why does the writer feel ‘warmer, instantly’ (lines 10-11)?

.....
 [1]

- (b)** Why does the writer say ‘The first hard frost, no matter how late, always comes before any of us is ready’ (lines 14-15)?

.....
 [2]

- 9 In Paragraph 3, 'This weekend for sure,' you said, sounding guilty, regretful' (lines 17-18). Why do you think the writer's friend replied in that tone?

.....
 [1]

- 10 From Paragraph 4, identify two phrases which suggest that the writer is walking up a hill.

(i) [1]

(ii)..... [1]

- 11 Which word in Paragraph 4 has the same meaning as 'polished'?

..... [1]

- 12 Quote a phrase in Paragraph 6 that tells us that the weeds are entwined.

..... [1]

- 13 In Paragraph 6, the writer gives the impression that her friend's house and garden have been neglected. Give **three** pieces of evidence from Paragraph 6 and explain how this is shown.

.....

 [3]

- 14 The text has been written in the present tense. What is the effect of this?

.....

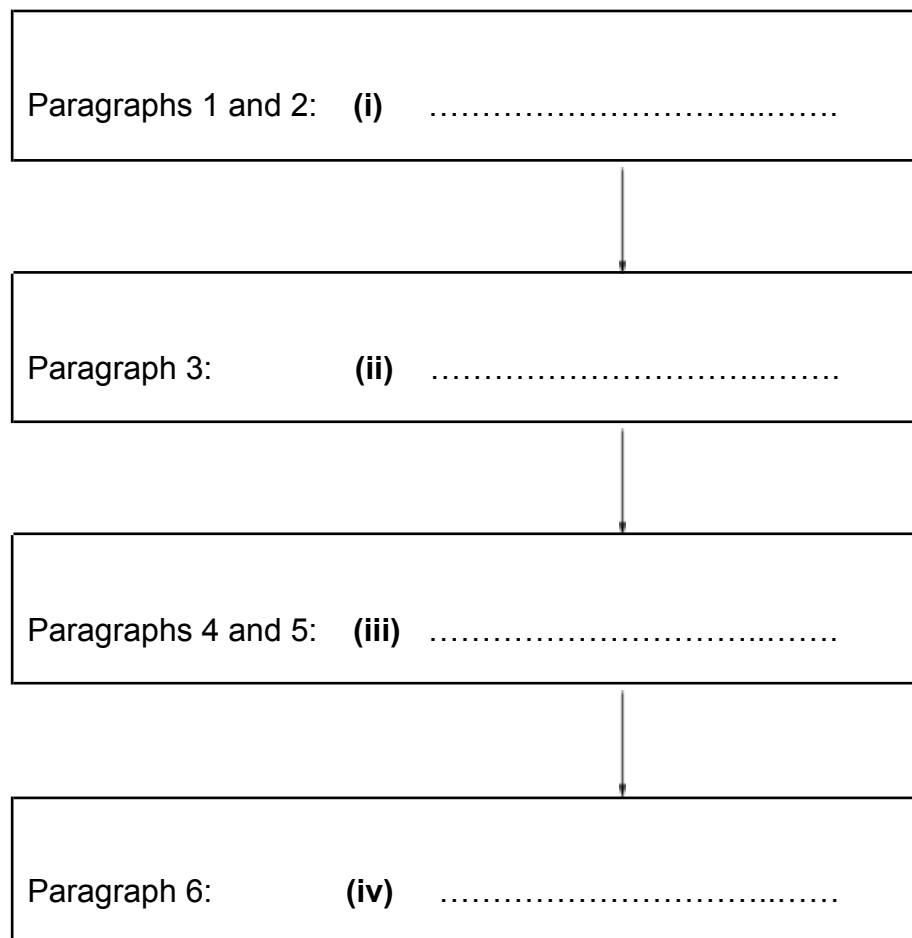
..... [1]

- 15** The structure of the text reflects the thoughts and feelings of the writer as her journey unfolds. Complete the flowchart by choosing one word from the box to summarise the main thoughts or feelings of each stage of the writer's encounter. There are some extra words in the box you do not need to use.

The writer's thoughts and feelings

wistful	nostalgic	solemn	thoughtful
uncertain	disappointed	yearning	

Flow chart



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to **Text 4** on pages 6 and 7 of the Insert for Questions 16–21.

- 16** From Paragraph 1, why is the Carnival of Ivrea regarded as significant?

.....
 [2]

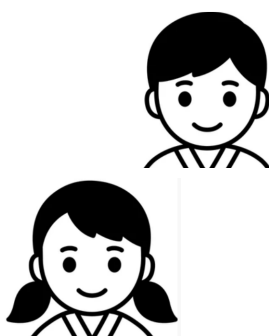
- 17** What does the word 'raucous' (line 10) suggest about the atmosphere of the Battle of the Oranges?

..... [1]

- 18** From Paragraph 3, what does the phrase 'rightly so' (line 18) reveal about the writer's overall opinion of the Battle of the Oranges?

.....
 [2]

- 19** Here is a part of a conversation between two students, Ravi and Ella, who have read the article.



Ravi

The Battle of the Oranges demonstrates environmental irresponsibility.

I disagree. Nothing valuable is sacrificed.

Ella

- (a)** Give one piece of evidence from Paragraph 5 to support Ravi's view.

.....

..... [1]

(b) Give two pieces of evidence from Paragraph 5 to support Ella's view.

(i)

.....

(ii)

.....

[2]

- 20** In Paragraph 7, the writer states that 'While the Battle of the Oranges is a spectacle, at its heart, it remains a solemn nod to a town's resilient spirit' (lines 45-46). In **your own words**, explain what the writer means by this comment.

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 21** **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the negative impacts of the Battle of the Oranges on the community and the positive contributions it makes.

Use only information from Paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 of Text 4.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin).

One negative impact of the Battle of the Oranges is

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

No. of words

