



SECONDE ACCUEIL

ADMISSIONS TEST

Wednesday 12th March 2014

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 Gavin Ewart 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

'A 14-Year-Old Convalescent Cat in the Winter'

I want him to have another living summer,
to lie in the sun and enjoy the *douceur de vivre* –
because the sun, like golden rum in a **rummer**,
is what makes an **idle** cat *un tout petit peu ivre* –

I want him to lie stretched out, contented,
revelling in the heat, his fur all dry and warm,
an Old Age **Pensioner**, retired, **resented**
by no one, and happinesses in a beelike **swarm**.

to settle on him – **postponed** for another season
that last fated hateful journey to the vet
from which there is no return (and age the reason),
which must soon come – as I cannot forget.

rummer - large drinking-glass

idle - without work; lazy

revel - to dance, drink, sing, etc. at a party or in public, especially in a noisy way

Pensioner – *retraité*

resent - to feel angry because you have been forced to accept someone or something that you do not like

swarm - a large group of insects all moving together

PART TWO: HISTORICAL IDEAS

Analyse the causes and consequences of revolutions. Try to include examples from your general knowledge and the history you have studied this year in your answer.