

# SEVENOAKS SCHOOL



## YEAR 9 (13+) SCHOLARSHIP

May 2023  
for entry in September 2023

## ENGLISH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

**Time allowed:** 1 hour 10 minutes

**Equipment needed:** Pen, pencil, lined paper, eraser.

**Information for candidates:**

1. Write your name and school on this page.
2. Write your answers on the **separate paper** provided. Please put your name on all the sheets of paper you use.
3. There are 2 sections in this paper, section A and Section B. You should attempt both of them.
4. The paper will be marked out of 40. The marks for each question or part question are indicated in square brackets [ ].

## SECTION A

*Read the poem below and answer all the questions. You are advised to use quotations and analysis in support of your answers.*

### **Great City**

When I returned at sunset,  
The serving-maid was singing softly  
Under the dark stairs, and in the house  
Twilight had entered like a moon-ray.  
Tune was so dead I could not understand  
The meaning of midday or of midnight,  
But like falling waters, falling, hissing, falling,  
Silence seemed an everlasting sound.

I sat in my room,  
And watched sunset,  
And saw starlight.  
I heard the tramp of homing men,  
And the last call of the last child;  
Then a lone bird twittered,  
And suddenly, beyond the housetops,  
I imagined dew in the country,  
In the hay, on the buttercups;  
The rising moon,  
The scent of early night,  
The songs, the echoes,  
Dogs barking,  
Day closing,  
Gradual slumber,  
Sweet rest.

When all the lamps were lighted in the town  
I passed into the street ways and I watched,  
Wakeful, almost happy,  
And half the night I wandered in the street.

HAROLD MONRO

1. What is the significance of the title of the poem? [4 marks]
2. How does Harold Monro make us feel sunset is something special? [5 marks]
3. How does the poet contrast sound and silence in the poem and to what effect? You are advised to use examples in support of your ideas and explain what they show. [5 marks]
4. The poem creates a winding down effect as the day moves to an end. Explain how the poet achieves this. You might want to look at the use of language and structure in support of your ideas. [6 marks]

## SECTION B

*You should select **one** of the titles below. You are reminded that you will be rewarded for the quality of your ideas and your imagination and accurate use of spelling and punctuation.*

### **EITHER:**

1. Continue the poem to describe what Monro sees as he wanders the streets through the night. You may write this either as a poem or prose description. Try to keep the sense of wonder of a night scene as he does in the poem. [20 marks]

### **OR**

2. Write an essay that explores the difference between the city and the countryside. In your writing you might choose to consider, what both locations look like, how they are different as places to live as well as the difference in atmosphere, or any ideas of your own. [20 marks]