



HARROW SCHOOL

Academic Scholarship Syllabus – 2018 Entry

English

From 2018 onwards, candidates will be asked to write an extended response (an essay, article, speech or letter) on a particular topic, as well as an extended analytical essay on a short reading passage (prose, poetry or drama). Spelling, grammar and punctuation will be assessed in both sections.

Mathematics

There are two papers, both set at Level 3 of the Common Entrance syllabus. Calculators are permitted in the first paper, which consists of straightforward questions designed to test a boy's general mathematical ability. The second paper contains less formulaic questions, with the emphasis being on problem-solving and the production of written solutions, rather than merely the completion of mathematical processes; calculators are not permitted in the second paper, which boys are not necessarily expected to complete.

Analytical Reasoning

This is a one-hour computer-based intelligence test, for which boys cannot prepare.

Philosophy and Applied Ethics

This is designed to show the candidates' ability to analyse several articles on an issue with which they are not familiar and to construct a short written argument based on a question about it.

Science

From 2018 onwards, the Science paper will adopt a synoptic, problem-solving approach. It will consist of a single 90-minute paper on all three sciences (Biology, Physics and Chemistry), based on the Common Entrance syllabus for these subjects and designed specifically to test a candidate's problem-solving ability. The new-style paper will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, short- and long-answer questions and some data analysis.

History

The paper consists of a document-response exercise based on one or two primary sources relating to a historical topic with which candidates will not be familiar, an essay from a choice of two (which can be answered using knowledge of any historical period from the Common Entrance syllabus) and a task designed to test general historical intelligence and reasoning. This requires no prior knowledge of the topic in question, but some imaginative and lateral thinking.

Geography

The paper is based on the Common Entrance syllabus. Candidates answer a map-interpretation question and a structured data-response question, and select one essay from a broad choice of topics. Candidates may also submit a fieldwork project following the guidelines set out in the Common Entrance syllabus, although this is not compulsory.

French and Other Languages

This consists of a written paper and an oral test. The written paper includes a short passage for translation into English, sentences to translate into French and a composition in French of approximately 130 words, based on an outline given in English. In the oral test, both speaking and listening comprehension are assessed. Candidates talk briefly about themselves and relate an imaginary incident, using past or present tenses and others as appropriate.

Papers in other foreign languages, which follow a similar format to the French assessment, may be available on request but may not count as one of the three optional papers.

Latin

Candidates answer comprehension questions on the narrative meaning and grammar of two Latin passages and translate another passage into English. The final part of the paper consists of two optional questions: one consisting of three sentences in English to be translated into Latin and one consisting of comprehension questions on harder, less adapted passages of Latin. The paper is based on the Common Entrance syllabus (scholarship level), but may contain additional vocabulary.

Classical Greek

The paper contains differentiated questions set along the lines of the Common Entrance examination and ends with a harder piece of continuous Greek for translation.

The Admissions Office can provide copies of past Academic Scholarship papers, other than analytical reasoning and additional language papers such as Spanish and Mandarin. We provide feedback documents every year but do not, in general, provide mark schemes.