



**PEPONI SCHOOL
ENGLISH LITERATURE SCHOLARSHIP
EXAMINATION**

SURNAME	OTHER NAMES	SCHOOL	DATE
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**ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP
EXAMINATION**

PAPER 2

TIME: 1 HOUR

TOTAL MARKS: 25

YOU MUST HAVE LINED PAPER

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Use a black or blue pen
2. Read the passage and the question carefully before you start to answer it.
3. Use the bullet points to help you as you plan and write
4. Write your answer neatly and in good English

English Literature (Poetry)

Discuss the presentation of the bees, the box and their effects in the following poem. In your answer, consider the choice of language, imagery and structure. [25]

THE ARRIVAL OF THE BEE BOX

I ordered this, clean wood box
Square as a chair and almost too heavy to lift.
I would say it was the coffin of a midget
Or a square baby
Were there not such a din in it.

The box is locked, it is dangerous.
I have to live with it overnight
And I can't keep away from it.
There are no windows, so I can't see what is in there.
There is only a little grid, no exit.

I put my eye to the grid.
It is dark, dark,
With the swarmy feeling of African hands
Minute and shrunk for export,
Black on black, angrily clambering.

How can I let them out?
It is the noise that appalls me most of all,
The unintelligible syllables.
It is like a Roman mob,
Small, taken one by one, but my god, together!

I lay my ear to furious Latin.
I am not a Caesar.
I have simply ordered a box of maniacs.
They can be sent back.
They can die, I need feed them nothing, I am the owner.

I wonder how hungry they are.
I wonder if they would forget me
If I just undid the locks and stood back and turned into a tree.
There is the laburnum, its blond colonnades,
And the petticoats of the cherry.

They might ignore me immediately
In my moon suit and funeral veil.
I am no source of honey
So why should they turn on me?
Tomorrow I will be sweet God, I will set them free.

The box is only temporary.

(Sylvia Plath 1962)

English Literature (Poetry)