

The Mysterious House on Hawthorne Lane

It was on the first day of the summer holidays that Daniel and his younger sister, Sophie, discovered the house on Hawthorne Lane. They had been riding their bikes down the quiet country road, the warm afternoon sun casting long shadows across the fields. It was Sophie who spotted it first—half-hidden behind a row of towering oak trees, its paint peeling, its windows dark and empty.

"Look at that place," she whispered, slowing her bike to a stop. "It looks completely abandoned."

Daniel followed her gaze. The house did look deserted, but there was something else about it—something unsettling. The air around it seemed eerily still, as if the very earth was holding its breath. A rusted gate stood slightly ajar, creaking softly in the breeze.

"We should go," Daniel said quickly.

Sophie, however, was already off her bike, pushing open the gate. "Just a quick look," she insisted. "It's probably just an old farmhouse."

Reluctantly, Daniel followed her up the narrow path. Weeds had taken over the garden, twisting around broken fence posts and pushing up through cracks in the stone steps. The door, a heavy wooden slab with an iron handle, was shut tight.

Sophie knocked once. The sound echoed through the empty air.

Then, to their shock, the door creaked open.

They exchanged a nervous glance. Daniel's stomach tightened. "Let's not go inside," he muttered.

But Sophie was already stepping forward. "Hello?" she called into the dim hallway. There was no answer. Dust floated in the air, catching the light from the single, cracked window. The walls were lined with faded wallpaper, curling at the edges like old parchment. A large mirror hung at the end of the corridor, its surface smudged and cloudy.

As Daniel hesitated in the doorway, a sudden noise made him jump. A soft, almost whisper-like sound—like someone breathing. Or was it just the wind?

"Sophie," he hissed, grabbing her arm. "Let's go."

But before they could turn back, something moved in the mirror.

Not a reflection. Not a trick of the light. Something real.

A shape—indistinct but undeniably human—shifted in the glass.

Daniel barely had time to react before the door slammed shut behind them.

Sixième Entry Test

Time: 2h00 min

You must complete sections A, B and C. You should spend 45 minutes on Section A, 15 minutes on Section B and 60 minutes on Section C. Make sure that you write clearly and neatly.

Section A: Comprehension (20 marks)

1. Where does the story take place? (1 mark)
2. What does Sophie notice first about the house? (1 mark)
3. How does Daniel feel about exploring the house? Give one piece of evidence from the text. (2 marks)
4. What is the last thing that happens in the passage? (2 marks)
5. Find and copy one word that suggests the house is old and neglected. (1 mark)
6. What does the phrase "the air around it seemed eerily still, as if the very earth was holding its breath" suggest about the atmosphere? (2 marks)
7. What does the word "indistinct" mean in the sentence: "A shape—indistinct but undeniably human—shifted in the glass"? (1 mark)
8. The phrase "weeds had taken over the garden, twisting around broken fence posts" is an example of personification. What effect does this have on the reader? (2 marks)
9. Why does Daniel's stomach tighten when the door creaks open? (2 marks)
10. Do you think Sophie is being brave or reckless? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2 marks)
11. Why do you think the mirror is an important detail in the story? (2 marks)
12. The last line says, "Daniel barely had time to react before the door slammed shut behind them." What do you think will happen next? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

Section B: Translate the following extract from the text above into French (5 marks)

It was on the first day of the summer holidays that Daniel and his younger sister, Sophie, discovered the house on Hawthorne Lane. They had been riding their bikes down the quiet country road, the warm afternoon sun casting long shadows across the fields.

Section C: Creative Writing (20 marks)

Through the Door

In the first paragraph, describe discovering a mysterious door in an unexpected place. Use your five senses to bring the scene to life—what does the door look like? How does the air feel around it? Do you hear anything unusual?

In the second paragraph, write about what happens when you decide to open the door. Does it lead to a strange new place? Does something—or someone—emerge from the other side? Build suspense and mystery.

In the third paragraph, describe your reaction and what happens next. Do you step through? Do you run? Does the door disappear behind you?

You should aim to spend **45 minutes** on this section.

Please follow these instructions:

- **Write in the first person (I).**
- **Write in paragraphs. Please leave a line between each paragraph.**
- **Include plenty of descriptions to add detail to your writing.**
- **Make your account original and interesting: use your imagination.**
- **Write as accurately as you can. Leave 5 minutes at the end of the test to check your work.**
- **You should aim to write *at least* 200 words (over half a side of A4). Write more if you can.**

End of test.
