SECTION A: COMPREHENSION (15 MARKS)

Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in FULL SENTENCES, unless otherwise stated.

First day at school

A million billion million miles from home
Waiting for the bell to go. (To go where?)
Why are they so big, other children?
So noisy? So much at home they
Must have been born in uniform
Lived all their lives in playgrounds
Spent the years inventing games
That don't let me in. Games
That are rough, that swallow you up.

All the railings.
All around, the railings.
Are they to keep out wolves and monsters?
Things that carry off and eat children?
Things you don't take sweets from?
Perhaps they're to stop us getting out
Running away from the lessins, Lessin,
What does a lessin look like?
Sounds small and slimy.
They keep them in the classrooms.
Whole rooms made out of glass, Imagine,

I wish I could remember my name
Mummy said it would come in useful.
Like wellies, When there’s puddles.
Yellowwellies, I wish she was here.
I think my name is sewn on somewhere
Perhaps my teacher will read it for me.
Teacher. The one who makes the tea.

By Roger McGough

1. Who is the poet of “First day at school”? (1)
2. Quote a line from the poem that is an example of a HYPERBOLE. (1)
3. In which grade do you think this child is? Give a reason for your answer. (2)
4. Find a synonym in stanza 1 for ‘creating’. (Write only the word) (1)
5. What are lessins and classrooms supposed to be? (Write only the words) (2)
6. Why does the child think that the big children “Must have been born in uniform”? Explain the meaning of this in your own words. (2)
7. Name two reasons why the child thinks that there are railings around the school. (2)
8. What are “Yellowwellies”? (1)
9. Why do you think the child can’t remember his/her name? (1)
10. Why do you think the child thinks the teacher is the one who makes tea? (2)
SECTION B: LANGUAGE (25 MARKS)

1. Parts of Speech (5)

Read the paragraph below and answer the questions, using words from the passage.

It was the little boy's first day of school. His teacher was Miss Brown. She seemed lovely but he was frightened to leave his family. It was soon time for them to leave and for him to go to class. In the classroom, he sat across from a little girl. The two of them started to draw pictures.

1.1. Write down an example of a COLLECTIVE NOUN. (1)
1.2. Write down an example of an ABSTRACT NOUN. (1)
1.3. Write down an example of a CONJUNCTION. (1)
1.4. Write down an example of a COMPOUND PREPOSITION. (1)
1.5. Write down an example of a PROPER NOUN. (1)

2. Pronouns (4)

Identify the following underlined PRONOUNS in the sentence.

2.1. He asked the little girl if she liked his picture. 2.2. The picture of a big house was his. He was quite proud of 2.3. himself for the work that he had done. 2.4. “What else should I add to the picture?” he asked.

3. Direct and Indirect Speech (7)

Change the following sentences from DIRECT to INDIRECT SPEECH.

3.1. The little girl exclaimed, “It is going to be so much fun at school today!” (2)
3.2. The boy replied, “I am not too sure because I am scared.” (2 1/2)
Change the following sentence from INDIRECT to DIRECT SPEECH.

3.3. The little girl said that they should have played outside. (2 ½)

4. Figures of Speech

Identify the following FIGURES OF SPEECH.

4.1. Ding dong went the school bell. (1)
4.2. The little boy was shaking like a leaf. (1)
4.3. "Turn that frown upside down," said the teacher. (1)
4.4. He was crying buckets of tears. (1)

5. Punctuation

Rewrite the following passage and fill in the correct punctuation marks in colour pen. Please do not use red or yellow pen.

The scared little boy wanted to go home. Why don't you play on the playground with the other children asked Miss Brown. He went with the teacher, however he was still rather hesitant. On the playground were the following play things a slide swings and a see-saw. It looked like so much fun.