



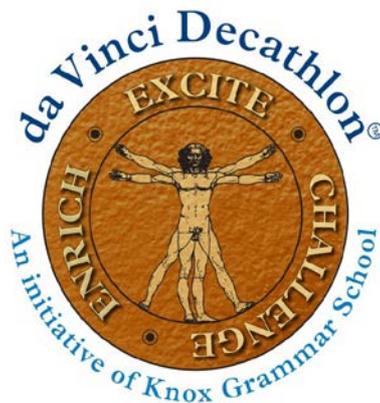
**KNOX
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL**

STATE

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2018

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS

IN YEARS 7 & 8



ENGLISH SOLUTIONS

TEAM NUMBER _____

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
/10	/10	/10	/30	/30	/20	/10	/120

QUESTION ONE

SUPRISING SPELLINGS

TEN WORDS WILL BE READ OUT TO YOU. PLEASE WRITE THE CORRECT WORDS BELOW

10 MARKS

1. bewilderment a confusing maze or tangle.	6. stupefaction overwhelming amazement.
2. consternation a sudden, alarming amazement or dread that results in utter confusion; dismay.	7. epiphany a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by some simple, homely, or common place occurrence or experience.
3. Precipitancy hasty or rash acts.	8. ambuscade An ambush
4. Perplexity the state of being perplexed; confusion; uncertainty	9. pandemonium wild uproar or unrestrained disorder; tumult or chaos
5. beguile to influence by trickery, flattery, etc.; mislead; delude.	10. muddlement to mix up in a confused or bungling manner; jumble.

QUESTION TWO

UNDERDOGS

THE BOOKS LISTED BELOW FEATURE UNEXPECTED HEROES – ALSO KNOWN AS UNDERDOGS. FILL IN THE MISSING BOOK, AUTHOR OR UNDERDOG TO COMPLETE EACH LINE.

10 MARKS

BOOK	AUTHOR	UNDERDOGS
<i>Harry Potter books</i>	J.K. Rowling	Ron Weasley
<i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>	Ken Kesey	Chief Bromden
<i>Catch 22</i>	Joseph Heller	Captain John Yossarian
<i>The Tortoise and the Hare</i>	Aesop	Tortoise
<i>Looking for Alaska</i>	John Green	Miles 'Pudge' Halter
<i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>	Douglas Adams	Arthus Dent
<i>Maniac Magee</i>	Jerry Spinelli	Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee
<i>The Wind in the Willows</i>	Kenneth Grahame	Ratty
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	William Shakespeare	Viola
<i>The Outsiders</i>	S.E.Hinton	Ponyboy

QUESTION THREE

UNEXPECTED ENDINGS

THE BOOKS LISTED BELOW FEATURE UNEXPECTED ENDINGS. FILL IN THE MISSING TITLE OR AUTHOR TO COMPLETE EACH LINE.

10 MARKS

TITLE	AUTHOR	CHARACTERS
<i>Shutter Island</i>	Dennis Lehane	Edward "Teddy" Daniels
<i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Chinua Achebe	Okonkwo
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	F.Scott Fitzgerald	Jay Gatsby
<i>We Were Liars</i>	E.Lockhart	Cadence Sinclair Eastman
<i>My Sister's Keeper</i>	Jodi Picoult	Anna Fitzgerald
<i>Charlotte's Web</i>	E.B. White	Wilbur
<i>The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas</i>	John Boyne	Bruno
<i>City of Bone</i>	Cassandra Clare	Clarissa "Clary" Fray/Fairchild/Morgenstern
<i>Ender's Game</i>	Orson Scott Card	Ender Wiggin
<i>I am Legend</i>	Richard Matheson	Robert Neville

QUESTION FOUR

TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED

A DIAMOND AS BIG AS THE RITZ BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

30 MARKS

Late that night, he found his way to camp and twelve hours later all the males among his darkies were back by the squirrel hole digging furiously at the side of the mountain. He told them he had discovered a rhinestone mine, and, as only one or two of them had ever seen even a small diamond before, they believed him, without question. When the magnitude of his discovery became apparent to him, he found himself in a quandary. The mountain was a diamond—it was literally nothing else but solid diamond. He filled four saddle bags full of glittering samples and started on horseback for St. Paul. There he managed to dispose of half a dozen small stones—when he tried a larger one a storekeeper fainted and Fitz-Norman was arrested as a public disturber. He escaped from jail and caught the train for New York, where he sold a few medium-sized diamonds and received in exchange about two hundred thousand dollars in gold. But he did not dare to produce any exceptional gems—in fact, he left New York just in time. Tremendous excitement had been created in jewelry circles, not so much by the size of his diamonds as by their appearance in the city from mysterious sources. Wild rumors became current that a diamond mine had been discovered in the Catskills, on the Jersey coast, on Long Island, beneath Washington Square. Excursion trains, packed with men carrying picks and shovels, began to leave New York hourly, bound for various neighboring El Dorados. But by that time young Fitz-Norman was on his way back to Montana.

By the end of a fortnight he had estimated that the diamond in the mountain was approximately equal in quantity to all the rest of the diamonds known to exist in the world. There was no valuing it by any regular computation, however, for it was one solid diamond—and if it were offered for sale not only would the bottom fall out of the market, but also, if the value should vary with its size in the usual arithmetical progression, there would not be enough gold in the world to buy a tenth part of it. And what could any one do with a diamond that size?

It was an amazing predicament. He was, in one sense, the richest man that ever lived—and yet was he worth anything at all? If his secret should transpire there was no telling to what measures the Government might resort in order to prevent a panic, in gold as well as in jewels. They might take over the claim immediately and institute a monopoly.

There was no alternative—he must market his mountain in secret. He sent South for his younger brother and put him in charge of his colored following—darkies who had never realized that slavery was abolished. To make sure of this, he read them a proclamation that he had composed, which announced that General Forrest had reorganized the shattered Southern armies and defeated the North in one pitched battle. The negroes believed him implicitly. They passed a vote declaring it a good thing and held revival services immediately.

Fitz-Norman himself set out for foreign parts with one hundred thousand dollars and two trunks filled with rough diamonds of all sizes. He sailed for Russia in a Chinese junk and six months after his departure from Montana he was in St. Petersburg. He took obscure lodgings and called immediately upon the court jeweller, announcing that he had a diamond for the Czar. He remained in St. Petersburg for two weeks, in constant danger of being murdered, living from lodging to lodging, and afraid to visit his trunks more than three or four times during the whole fortnight.

On his promise to return in a year with larger and finer stones, he was allowed to leave for India. Before he left, however, the Court Treasurers had deposited to his credit, in American banks, the sum of fifteen million dollars—under four different aliases.

He returned to America in 1868, having been gone a little over two years. He had visited the capitals of twenty-two countries and talked with five emperors, eleven kings, three princes, a shah, a khan, and a sultan. At that time Fitz-Norman estimated his own wealth at one billion dollars. One fact worked consistently against the disclosure of his secret. No one of his larger diamonds remained in the public eye for a week before being invested with a history of enough fatalities, amours, revolutions, and wars to have occupied it from the days of the first Babylonian Empire.

From 1870 until his death in 1900, the history of Fitz-Norman Washington was a long epic in gold. There were side issues, of course—he evaded the surveys, he married a Virginia lady, by whom he had a single son, and he was compelled, due to a series of unfortunate complications, to murder his brother, whose unfortunate habit of drinking himself into an indiscreet stupor had several times endangered their safety. But very few other murders stained these happy years of progress and expansion.

Just before he died he changed his policy, and with all but a few million dollars of his outside wealth bought up rare minerals in bulk, which he deposited in the safety vaults of banks all over the world, marked as bric-a-brac. His son, Braddock Tarleton Washington, followed this policy on an even more tensive scale. The minerals were converted into the rarest of all elements—radium—so that the equivalent of a billion dollars in gold could be placed in a receptacle no bigger than a cigar box.

A. IDENTIFY THE THEMES WHICH ARE BEST REPRESENTED BY EACH QUOTE. CHOOSE FROM THE THEMES LISTED BELOW

8 MARKS

QUOTES	THEMES
'...he was compelled, due to a series of unfortunate complications, to murder his brother, whose unfortunate habit of drinking himself into an indiscreet stupor had several times endangered their safety.'	Greed as a Downfall
' He remained in St. Petersburg for two weeks, in constant danger of being murdered, living from lodging to lodging, and afraid to visit his trunks more than three or four times during the whole fortnight.'	Overcoming the Odds
'There he managed to dispose of half a dozen small stones--when he tried a larger one a storekeeper fainted and Fitz-Norman was arrested as a public disturber.'	Individual vs. Society
'The minerals were converted into the rarest of all elements--radium--so that the equivalent of a billion dollars in gold could be placed in a receptacle no bigger than a cigar box.'	Power of Wealth
'If his secret should transpire there was no telling to what measures the Government might resort in order to prevent a panic, in gold as well as in jewels. They might take over the claim immediately and institute a monopoly.'	Capitalism
'No one of his larger diamonds remained in the public eye for a week before being invested with a history of enough fatalities, amours, revolutions, and wars to have occupied it from the days of the first Babylonian Empire.'	Freedom and Confinement
'At that time Fitz-Norman estimated his own wealth at one billion dollars.'	Power of Silence
'To make sure of this, he read them a proclamation that he had composed, which announced that General Forrest had reorganized the shattered Southern armies and defeated the North in one pitched battle.'	Deception
THEMES	
<p style="text-align: center;"> Power of Wealth Freedom and Confinement Deception Capitalism Individual vs. Society Overcoming the Odds Greed as a Downfall Power of Silence </p>	

B. COMPREHENSION: MULTIPLE CHOICE

8 MARKS

1. What is another word for 'magnitude' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) **significance**
 - b) consequence
 - c) weight
 - d) degree

2. What is another word for 'tremendous' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) whopping
 - b) vast
 - c) **monumental**
 - d) jumbo

3. What is another word for 'computation' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) ciphering
 - b) figuring
 - c) gauge
 - d) **calculation**

4. What is another word for 'predicament' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) crisis
 - b) **quagmire**
 - c) jam
 - d) fix

5. What is another word for 'aliases' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) tag
 - b) nickname
 - c) **pseudonym**
 - d) handle

6. What is another word for 'amours' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) **liaisons**
 - b) courting
 - c) flings
 - d) encounters

7. What is another word for 'indiscreet' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) **careless**
 - b) insensitive
 - c) hasty
 - d) rude

8. What is another word for 'receptacle' in reference to how it is used in the text?
 - a) bowl
 - b) trunk
 - c) **case**
 - d) jar

C. COMPREHENSION: SHORT ANSWER RESPONSE

8 MARKS

Why was Fitz-Norman in a quandary?	He was rich, and had a huge diamond but couldn't sell it as it was, so he had to excavate small samples in order to be able to sell it.
Why did Fitz-Norman need to leave New York so quickly?	He had already caused disturbances and did not want to cause anymore in case he was caught with all of his diamonds.
Why might the Government institute a monopoly?	So that they can control the diamond, gold and jewel trade; becoming rich in the process.
Why did his slaves continue to work for him?	He had lied and wrote a proclamation saying the South had won during the Civil War.
Why was he in 'constant danger of being murdered' while in Russia?	The Czar and others wanted his diamonds without paying for them.
When did Fitz-Norman Washington leave America?	Approximately 1866.
How did his brother endanger their safety?	He would get drunk to talk too much about the diamond.
Why did Fitz-Norman Washington name the minerals 'bric-brac'?	To avoid anyone searching through the rare, valuable minerals in the safety vaults.

D. EXTENDED LITERACY RESPONSE

6 MARKS

Is there a moral to this story? If so, what is it? Is there any moral ambiguity in the text, or is it all cut-and-dried?

Criteria	Sound	Effective	Skillful
Reasonably defines a moral and how it is relevant to the story.	½	1	2
Uses at least 3 examples from the text to justify their argument.	½	1	2
Reasonably structures their argument in a cohesive manner.	½	1	2

QUESTION FIVE

UNEXPECTED ENDINGS

UNEXPECTED ENDINGS OFTEN ADD A UNIQUE TWIST TO STORIES TO ENGAGE THE READER AND FORESHADOW THE OUTCOME OF THE TEXT.

30 MARKS

Task: You are to write the next chapter of *A Diamond as Big as the Ritz* to emulate Fitzgerald's writing. This is known as a pastiche. A pastiche is a literary piece that imitates another famous literary work of another writer. Unlike parody, its purpose is not to mock but to honour the literary piece it imitates. Ensure that you continue to write in a similar way to Fitzgerald to create interesting characters, surprising plot twists, vivid vocabulary and detailed descriptions that emulating his style. Make sure you create a title for your chapter. **Maximum length two pages.**

CRITERIA	SOUND	EFFECTIVE	SKILFUL
The title and ideas reflect the topic chosen	1-2	3	4-5
Imitates the Fitzgerald's style	1-2	3	4-5
Surprising plot twists	1-2	3	4-5
Originality	1-2	3	4-5
Rich vocabulary	1-2	3	4-5
Control of language, spelling and structure – writing conventions	1-2	3	4-5
			Total /30

QUESTION SIX

UNEXPECTED VISITORS

BECAUSE I COULD NOT STOP FOR DEATH BY EMILY DICKINSON

20 MARKS

BECAUSE I COULD NOT STOP FOR DEATH BY EMILY DICKINSON

Because I could not stop for Death-
He kindly stopped for me-
The Carriage held but just Ourselves-
And Immortality.

We slowly drove- He knew no haste
And I had put away
My labor and my leisure too,
For His Civility-

We passed the School, where Children strove
At Recess- in the Ring-
We passed the Fields of Gazing Grain-
We passed the Setting Sun-

Or rather- He passed us-
The Dews drew quivering and chill-
For only Gossamer, my Gown-
My Tippet- only Tulle-

We paused before a House that seemed
A Swelling of the Ground-
The Roof was scarcely visible-
The Cornice- in the Ground-

Since then- 'tis Centuries- and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity-

A. FIND A WORD – GIVE THE DEFINITION

IDENTIFY 6 WORDS IN THE POEM THAT MEET THE DEFINITIONS PROVIDED

6 MARKS (1 MARK EACH)

WORD	DEFINITION
immortality	Unending life
civility	A polite action or courtesy
quivering	To shake with a slight but rapid motion
eternity	Infinite time
scarcely	Barely; hardly; not quite
gossamer	A thin, light fabric

B. VOCABULARY

FIND THE SYNONYM IN THE POEM FOR THE WORDS BELOW

4 MARKS (½ MARK EACH)

WORD FROM POEM	SYNONYM
Stop	Halt
Haste	Urgency
Labor	Activity
Strove	Endeavor
Paused	Suspend
Scarcely	Just
Visible	Obvious
Surmised	Deduced

C. POETIC DEVICES AND THEME
IDENTIFY THE FIVE EXAMPLES OF POETIC DEVICES AND THREE THEMES USED IN THE POEM. PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF EACH FROM THE POEM.

4 MARKS (½ MARK EACH)

POETRY DEVICE AND THEME	POEM EXAMPLE
Personification	Death
Metaphor	The Carriage or The House
Repetition	We passed
Alliteration	Gazing Grain or Setting Sun or Horses' Heads
Symbolism	Setting Sun
Mortality	Because I could not stop for Death
Immortality	The Carriage held but just Ourselves – And Immortality
Love	He kindly stopped for me

D. ANALYSIS: SHORT ANSWER
RESPOND TO THE QUESTION IN ONE OR TWO SENTENCES. YOU MUST ALSO PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE FROM THE POEM TO SUPPORT YOUR RESPONSE.

6 MARKS (2 MARK EACH)

QUESTION	ANSWER
How does the speaker feel about Death?	Welcomes Death as he is kind and civil to her and allowed her time to look back on life. Example: We slowly drove- He knew no haste And I had put away My labor and my leisure too, For His Civility-
Is the speaker alive or dead? How can you tell?	We assume she is dead and reflecting on her death. She is greeted by death in a carriage that will take her to eternity. Example: Since then- 'tis Centuries- and yet Feels shorter than the Day I first surmised the Horses' Heads Were toward Eternity-
How has Dickinson slowed the pace of the poem?	She uses capital letters to emphasise nouns this can make the words seem more important; it certainly stands out, and it can also slow the reader down a little, making them pause to consider the word. The dashes have a similar effect. They make the reader pause before we move onto the next line. Example: Any capitalised word or line with a dash

QUESTION SEVEN

PUZZLING PICTOGRAMS

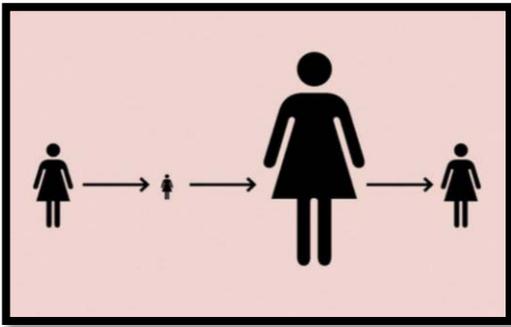
LITERATURE TITLES AND AUTHORS

A PICTOGRAM IS AN IDEOGRAM THAT CONVEYS MEANING THROUGH ITS PICTORIAL RESEMBLANCE OF A PHYSICAL OBJECT. IN THIS CASE HOWEVER, THE PICTOGRAM REPRESENTS THE TITLE OF A WELL KNOWN TEXT.

EXAMINE THE PICTOGRAMS BELOW AND NAME THE TITLE OF THE TEXT AND THE AUTHOR.

10 MARKS (1 MARK PER TITLE, 1 MARK PER AUTHOR)

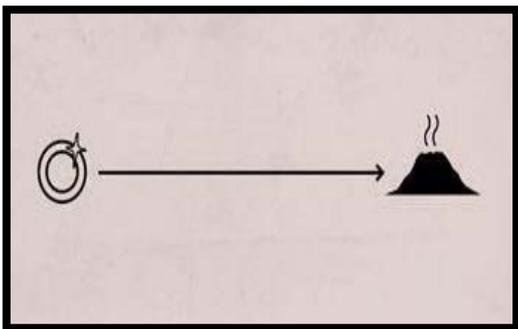
Puzzle 1



Title of text: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

Author of text: *Lewis Carroll*

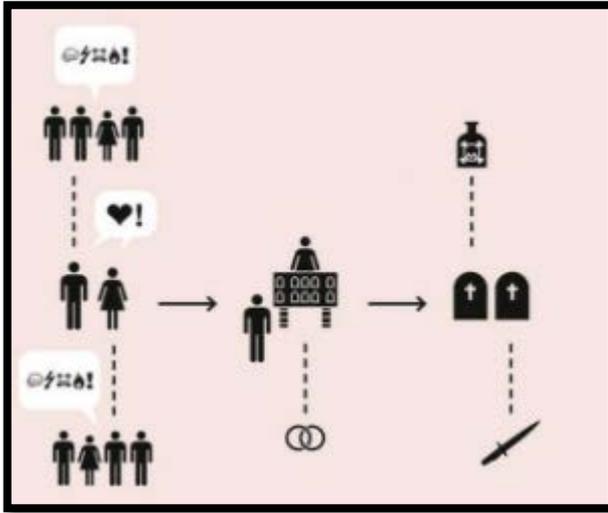
Puzzle 2



Title of text: *Lord of the Rings*

Author of text: *J. R. R. Tolkien*

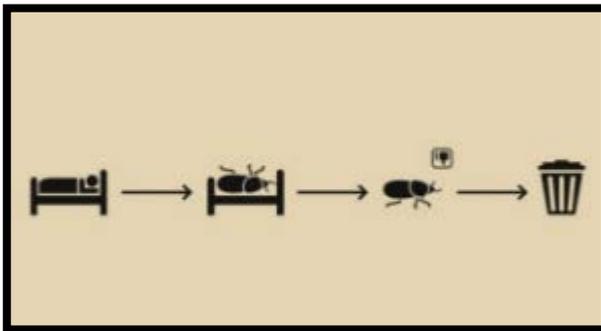
Puzzle 3



Title of text: **Romeo and Juliet**

Author of text: **William Shakespeare**

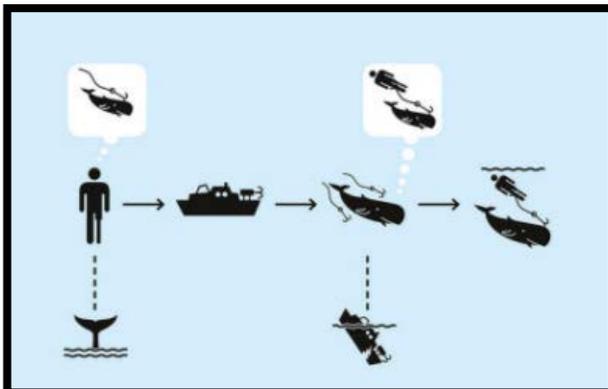
Puzzle 4



Title of text: **The Metamorphosis**

Author of text: **Franz Kafka**

Puzzle 5



Title of text: **Moby Dick or The Whale**

Author of text: **Herman Melville**

END OF PAPER