

RADLEY

2026 Scholarship Examination Paper

COMMON PAPER

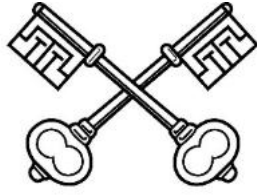
25th February – 26th February 2026

History – 30 minutes

Geography – 30 minutes

Religious and Ethical Studies – 30 minutes

This paper is split into 3 sections,
please clearly read each paper instructions



RADLEY

2026 Scholarship Examination Paper

HISTORY

25th February – 26th February

Time allowed – 30 minutes

The paper consists of a primary source and two questions.

The Paper is worth a total of 9 marks.

You are expected to be able to write accurate, grammatical, well-punctuated prose throughout this paper.

Instructions

You will be awarded:

- Up to three marks for inference (points that you can pick out from the source);
- Up to three marks for explanation (how your inferences/points can be supported with evidence/quotation from the text);
- Up to three marks for evaluation (reflect on the source's provenance: who wrote it; what type of document it is; when it was published - to reach a judgement on whether it would be useful as a piece of evidence).

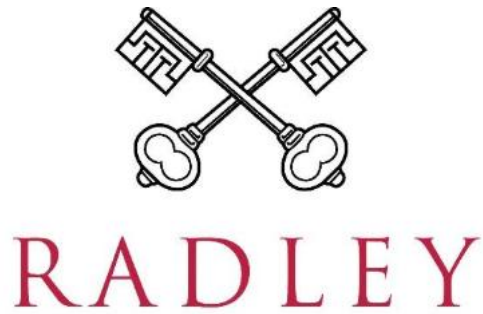
Study the extracts before answering the two questions below.

1. What can you infer from the source about conditions on a Middle Passage transatlantic slave voyage in the eighteenth century?
2. Would the source be a useful piece of evidence for an historian studying this question? Explain your answer.

This extract is from Chapter Two of Olaudah Equiano's autobiography, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*. The book was published in 1789 and recorded Equiano's personal experiences of slavery (he was captured in West Africa, sold to a European slave ship, transported across the Atlantic to Barbados and sold into slavery in Virginia to work on a plantation before later buying his freedom and travelling to England). The book was widely promoted across Britain by the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade and was reprinted in many newspapers upon its publication. After arriving in England Equiano was an important campaigner for the abolition of the slave trade until he died in 1797.

The stench of the hold while we were on the coast was so intolerably disgusting, that it was dangerous to remain there for any time. Some of us had been permitted to stay on the deck for the fresh air, but now that the whole ship's cargo were confined together, it became very dangerous. The closeness of the place, and the heat of the climate, added to the number in the ship, which was so crowded that each had scarcely room to turn himself, almost suffocated us. The air soon became unfit for respiration, from a variety of loathsome smells, and brought on a sickness among the slaves, of which many died. This wretched situation was again made worse by the chains attached to many of us, although luckily due to my youth I was not put in chains. The shrieks of the women, and the groans of the dying, made for a scene of horror that was almost unimaginable. I expected every hour to share the fate of my companions, some of whom were almost daily brought upon deck at the point of death.

One day, when we had a smooth sea, and a light wind, two of my countrymen, who were chained together, preferring death to such a life of misery, somehow made through the nettings and jumped into the sea. Those of us that were the most active were, in a moment, put down under the deck by the ship's crew. One of the men was drowned, but they got the other, and afterwards flogged him unmercifully for attempting to prefer death to slavery.



2026 Scholarship Examination Paper

GEOGRAPHY

25th February – 26th February 2026

Time allowed – 30 minutes

Instructions:

There are **six** questions to choose from, and you should **answer three**.

Spend the same amount of time answering each one. You are expected to be able to write accurate, grammatical, well-punctuated prose throughout this paper.

Each question is worth 6 marks. There are 18 marks available in total. For 6 marks, you should aim to write $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ side of an A4 page.

Credit will be given for referring to place-specific examples and knowledge of current affairs.

Answers on lined paper with your full name at the top of each piece of paper.

Question 1

Explain why access to clean water varies between different countries. (6 marks)

Question 2

Explain how tourism can have both positive and negative impacts on a place. (6 marks)

Question 3

Explain why air pollution is often worse in large cities than in rural areas. (6 marks)

Question 4

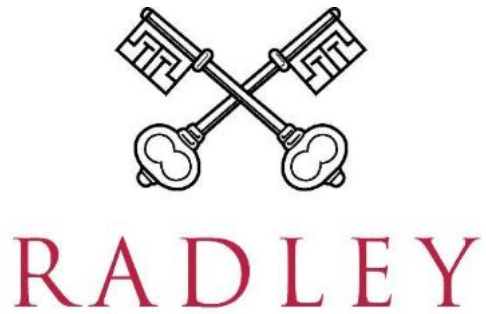
Explain why some countries experience food shortages. (6 marks)

Question 5

Explain how changes in land use can increase the risk of flooding. (6 marks)

Question 6

Explain why managing energy resources is important for the future. (6 marks)



2026 Scholarship Examination Paper

THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

25th February – 26th February 2026

Time allowed – 30 mins

Instructions

There are three questions on this paper. **Candidates must answer one question only.**

There are 25 marks available for this paper.

5 of these are for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Candidates should leave time at the end to check through their work.

Philosophy and Theology

Answer **ONE** of the following questions, either a), b) or question c).

Do not answer more than one question.

Each question is worth 25 marks. (5 marks are awarded for spelling, punctuation and grammar.)

EITHER:

- a. **'If God knows the outcome of human actions before they happen, do humans actually have free will?' [25]**

To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
You must refer to religion in your answer.

OR

- b. **Should freedom of speech have limits? [25]**

Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
You must refer to religion in your answer.

OR

- c. **Do Jesus' miracles prove that he was the Son of God? [25]**

Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
You must refer to religion in your answer.

End of Paper