

SHORTHAND EXAMINATION

Speed: 100wpm

Title: **Brave teenager saves toddlers from fire**

I now have to tell you about a fire which happened at a house in Oak Road last night. Anne Brown and her two children ($\frac{1}{4}$) were upstairs in bed at about eleven o'clock when the smoke alarm went off. Anne, who is a single mother, rushed downstairs to find that ($\frac{1}{2}$) her electric cooker had burst into flames. She called out for help, but remembered that her neighbours on one side were not at home and ($\frac{3}{4}$) the only people on the other side were an elderly lady and her grandson who is just fourteen. Anne could not get to the phone (1) to call the fire service and there was so much smoke that she could not get to the stairs to rescue her children. She ran ($\frac{1}{4}$) next door and was met by young Paul Smith. He told her where the telephone was and immediately ran to Anne's house while she phoned ($\frac{1}{2}$) for help. Then he bravely went into the burning house and up the stairs. He found Anne's four-year-old daughter, Sarah, in one of ($\frac{3}{4}$) the bedrooms. The little girl was terrified and crying, but Paul calmly carried her downstairs to safety. Then Anne asked him where her son was. (2)

INTERVAL OF THIRTY SECONDS

Paul had already breathed in a great deal of smoke. His eyes were hurting and he was coughing, but he returned to the house for ($\frac{1}{4}$) a second time to look for the children. He searched for the little boy, who is almost two years old, first in one bedroom and ($\frac{1}{2}$) then the other, but could not find him. Even though the smoke and flames were getting worse, he looked in the smaller bedroom once more ($\frac{3}{4}$) and found the terrified toddler hiding under the duvet. Paul managed to escape from the house with the child in his arms before he collapsed. (1)

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN SECONDS

Paul collapsed outside the house just before the ambulance arrived. He was treated by the ambulance crew and was then taken to hospital. Anne's smoke ($\frac{1}{4}$) alarm made her aware of the fire and, of course, I must praise Paul. I know Anne wants me to thank Paul and I hope ($\frac{1}{2}$) you will all report what I now have to say in your papers. **Paul risked his life by going into the house twice. He did ($\frac{3}{4}$) it knowing that he had asthma and would suffer badly in the smoke. He is a very courageous young man.** Thank you for your attention. (1)

TRANSCRIPTION TIME ALLOWED FORTY-FIVE MINUTES

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