

LONDON UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION EXAMINATION, 1880.
ENGLISH.

2. "Distinguish between the Classical and Teutonic elements in English. Point out the several ways in which words of Latin origin have been introduced into the language."

The Classical and Teutonic elements in English are distinguished in two ways, (1) with regard to the form of the words, (2) with regard to their meaning.

I. *As to form* we notice that the following are from the A. S. :

(a.) The articles, adjective pronouns, and nearly all our conjunctions and prepositions.

(b.) All adjectives with irregular comparison, and our defective and auxiliary verbs.

(c.) Words which in any of their forms undergo vowel changes.

(d.) Words with distinctive A. S. endings, as : hood, ness, ling, ful, ish, &c., &c.

(e.) Words that begin with 'wh,' 'kn,' 'sh,' 'ea,' 'ye,' 'gl,' 'th,' with a few exceptions; also those having 'ough' or 'ng' in the root.

(f.) Most compound or derivative words, the parts of which are in use.

(g.) Most words of one syllable.

On the other hand we have from the Classics :

(a.) Nouns in 'sion,' 'tion,' 'ure,' 'ity,' 'ice,' 'nce,' 'ncy,' 'tude,' 'our,' 'ation,' 'osity,' 'tor,' 'sor,' 'trix.'

b. Adjectives in 'ant,' 'ent,' 'ar,' 'ary,' 'tive,' 'sive,' 'tory,' 'sory,' 'ic,' 'ical,' 'ose,' 'aeon,' 'ine.'

(c.) Most verbs in 'ize,' and 'fy.'

(d.) Words having j, æ, œ, ph, rh, ch hard and vowel y in any syllable but the last.

II. Distinguished *according to mean-*

ing we find that we have from A. S.

(a.) Words that are expressive of natural feeling and names of our earliest and dearest connections.

(b.) Names of most objects of sense and those which recall individual and therefore vivid conceptions.

(c.) All words used in childhood and early youth.

(d.) Words used in business, in the shop, in the market, in the street and on the farm.

(e.) National proverbs and the most forceable words of invective, satire, humour, &c.

While from the Classics we have :

(a.) All our general terms.

(b.) Abstract nouns.

(c.) Words used in controversy and exposition.

(d.) Words relating to luxury, law, religion, fashion, chivalry, war and the chase.

The extensive use of A. S. words renders a writer's style vivid, impressive and picturesque, while the use of classical words gives brevity to style; and where the ideas are abstract classical terms have the advantage of clearness. The influence on style depends on the fact, that we particularize and define things in A. S., while we generalize and define abstractions in words of classic origin.

[For the last part of this question see February No. of THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE, Eng. Grammar, ques. 1.]

3. "Define the terms vowel, diphthong, consonant. What letters are called mutes, and how are they subdivided? Tell the substance of Grim's law."