

## 11+ PRACTICE PACK

# 11+ for You Test 20

## 11+ Verbal Reasoning Complete Practice Pack

### CONTENTS

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#### 01 Question Booklet

11+ for You 11+ Verbal Reasoning. Work through this paper first.

Includes Paper Notes: overview, topics, revision tips, common mistakes.

#### 02 Answers

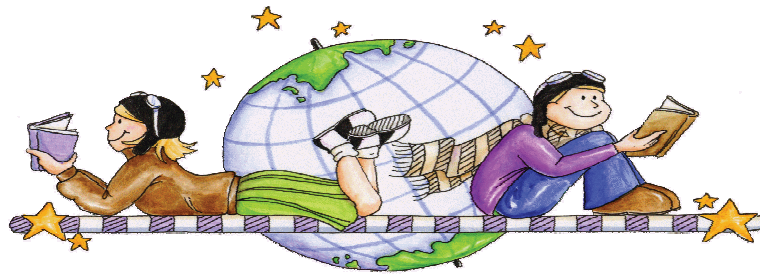
11+ for You 11+ Verbal Reasoning. Use to mark your work against the official answer key.

Includes Paper Notes: score interpretation, selected worked examples, next steps.

PRACTISE THE REAL THING

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# 11+ For You

## Paper 20

Please put your name at the bottom of the page.

This 11+ paper contains 80 questions.

You have 50 minutes to complete the test.

Mark all answers clearly on the answer sheet.

Make sure any mistakes are erased.

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In the questions below complete the number sequences with the best number.

Mark the correct answer on your answer sheet.

E.g. 2 4 6 8 (?)

**Answer 10**

1 5 5 10 15 25 40 (?)

2 8 4 12 6 18 9 (?)

3 6 13 20 27 34 41 (?)

4 41 36 32 27 23 (?)

5 63 54 46 39 33 28 (?)

6 17 25 21 29 25 (?)

7 14 7 22 11 26 13 (?)

8 If Jane is three times as old as her sister was two years ago, how old will Jane be in two years if her sister is now 6?

In the questions below select one word from the top set of brackets and one word from the bottom set of brackets that can be put together to make a new word.

E.g. (bar tree hit)

(from gain find)

**Answer - BARGAIN**

9 (tad life had)

(pot pool pole)

10 (slim pick shut)

(pocket mind door)

11 (sing back mine)

(bone gel home)

12 (blue empty hand)

(time see bottle)

13 (rain rein pin)

(sir day drop)

14 (sea in are)

(close son try)

15 (select tool motor)

(east her ion)

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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

In the questions below complete the letter sequences with the correct pair of letters. There is an alphabet to help you.

**Example**

AB CD EF GH IJ

**Answer KL**

16 NB PY RV TS VP (??)

17 LD PZ OV SR RN (??)

18 SF TC RD UA QB (??)

19 TE YF CG FH HI (??)

20 KB FE BH YK (??)

21 OH KG ME IB KX (??)

22 KA MX OU QR SO UL (??)

In the questions below select the word that best goes with each sentence. Mark both answers on your answer sheet.

**Example**

Little is to  
(large life tiny)  
as true is to  
(tale false truth)

**Answer large false**

23 Flock is to  
(sheep fleck gather)

As pack is to  
(puck wolves case)

24 Under is to  
(beneath provide over)

As exterior is to  
(invert extrovert interior)

25 Believe is to  
(suspect choice manner)

As reveal is to  
(tell show conceal)

26 Rain is to  
(weather cloud rein)

As hole is to  
(golf dig whole)

27 Head is to  
(top school hair)

As foot is to  
(shoe bottom ankles)

28 Stand is to  
(tan sit legs)

As is to moats  
(river castle oat)

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In the questions below the three numbers in the brackets are related in the same way

Find the number that complete the final group and mark it on the answer sheet.

**Example**

2 (4) 2 5 (10) 5  
4 (?) 6

**Answer = 10**

29 14 (28) 2 5 (15) 3  
8 (?) 7

30 7 (23) 3 8 (34) 4  
6 (?) 4

31 17 (41) 24 19 (31) 12  
42 (?) 19

32 84 (52) 32 45 (32) 13  
61 (?) 12

33 59 (33) 7 72 (42) 12  
42 (?) 32

34 12 (6) 4 48 (16) 6  
18 (?) 2

35 16 (36) 4 18 (30) 8  
27 (?) 3

In the questions below select the letter that best completes the word on the left and starts the word on the right.

**Example**

gri ? og  
ha ? oll

**Answer D**

36 unde ? oot  
heathe ? espite

37 smok ? arn  
m ? xpert

38 pol ? oop  
vea ? egs

39 nigh ? ram  
gri ? urnip

40 roun ? ove  
hoo ? ose

41 mar ? ing  
lic ? ill

42 el ? airy  
woo ? ortune

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In the questions below you must match the number code to the correct word. The codes are not written in the same order as the words and one code is not there.

You must then use the codes to answer the questions that follow:-

STOP    POLE    SOAP    VOTE  
3125   5264    3285

- 43 What is the word for 1253?
- 44 What is the word for 8543?
- 45 What is the code for OPAL?
- 46 What is the code for SOLE?

BOAT    TOAD    DATE    BOOT  
4692   2697    7921

- 47 What is the word for 4662 ?
- 48 What is the word for 219?
- 49 What is the code for DATA?
- 50 What is the code for DOTE ?

- 51 What month will it be in three months if five months before last month it was September.

In the questions below you must choose one word from the top brackets and one word from the bottom brackets that are similar in meaning

**Example**

(high clock speak)  
(wish elevated more)

**Answer – HIGH ELEVATED**

- 52 (poor            rich            slum)  
(wealthy        pounds        home)
- 53 (inspite        motivate        into)  
(respect        outer        inspire)
- 54 (different        cover        symbol)  
(top            dissimilar        hurdle)
- 55 (trench        dent        strand)  
(bench        harvest        ditch)
- 56 (planet        earth        tree)  
(grasp        grimace        soil)
- 57 (prove        protect        partial)  
(focus        demonstrate        reflex)
- 58 (contest        decide        eat)  
(consume        meal        jumble)

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In the questions below a three letter word has been taken from each of the words in capitals. Select the word you think is missing from the answer sheet.

**Example**

The CHER taught lots of lessons.

**Answer TEA**

- 59 The JL looked amazing in the ring.
- 60 The traffic lights TED red at the last minute.
- 61 Going to school is IMPORT.
- 62 After I watched the long and boring movie I felt a little TD
- 63 My teacher ALS gives me really difficult homework to do.
- 64 My mother asked me to clean the DIS because she felt tired.
- 65 COUNG sheep often helps me get to sleep

**ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ**

In the questions below find the next pair of letters and mark it on your answer sheet.

**Example**

BC is to DE  
As EF is to

**Answer GH**

- 66 EH is to NR  
as XZ is to
- 67 AO is to WM  
as RV is to
- 68 EI is to PT  
as UP is to
- 69 EA is to XU  
as ZT is to
- 70 DG is to NS  
as CM is to
- 71 OV is to RS  
as TM is to
- 72 XY is to ZE  
as AC is to

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**ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ**

In the questions the letters stand for numbers. Work out the answer to each sum and then mark the answer as a letter on the answer sheet.

**Example**

The code for DOG is is FQI

Work out the code for ROT

**Answer = TQV**

**73** The code for ODDLY is FAUIP

Work out the word for EXJQP

**74** The code for JUNGLE is LYPKNI

Work out the code for HEARTY

**75** The code for KILT is GEHP

Work out the code for PAST

**76** The code for JUMPS is QBTWZ

Work out the code for GRADE

**77** The code for BEACH is DGCEJ

Work out the code for YACHT

**78** The code for KING is PPSN

Work out the word for IVBU

**79** The code for HUNT is KCQB

Work out the code for CLAN

**80** What day was it six days ago if three days before yesterday it was Thursday.

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# Paper Notes: 11+ Verbal Reasoning Question Booklet (Test 20)

Compiled by [SATs-Papers.co.uk](https://www.SATs-Papers.co.uk) to help you get the most from this paper.

## Overview

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This is **Paper 20** from the **11+ For You** series, a practice verbal reasoning paper designed for children preparing for the **11+ entrance examination** under **GL Assessment** style conditions. The paper contains **80 questions** spanning multiple verbal reasoning question types, all presented in multiple-choice or short-answer format to be completed in **50 minutes**.

The test assesses a wide range of verbal reasoning skills including numerical pattern recognition, word formation puzzles, letter sequence completion, code-breaking, analogies, and vocabulary relationships. Questions progress through distinct sections, each targeting a specific reasoning skill set, with clear instructions and worked examples provided for each question type.

This paper is ideal for students in Year 6 preparing for selective grammar school or independent school entrance exams. It mirrors the format and difficulty level of actual GL Assessment 11+ papers, making it valuable both for timed practice under exam conditions and for targeted revision of individual question types. The variety of question styles ensures comprehensive coverage of the verbal reasoning skills typically assessed at this level.

## How this paper is organised

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The paper is organised into several distinct sections, each introduced by clear instructions and a worked example. The **80 questions** are distributed across approximately eight question types, beginning with number sequences (questions 1-8), moving through word formation tasks (questions 9-15), letter pattern sequences (questions 16-22), and analogies (questions 23-28).

Mid-paper sections include number relationships in brackets (questions 29-35), missing letter completion tasks (questions 36-42), and code-breaking exercises (questions 43-50). Students must decode number-to-letter relationships and apply them to find words or codes. A standalone logic problem about calendar months appears at question 51.

The final third covers synonym pairs (questions 52-58), missing three-letter words embedded in capitals (questions 59-65), letter pair transformations (questions 66-72), and alphabet shift codes (questions 73-79). Question 80 presents another date logic

problem. Students have **50 minutes** to complete all questions, working at roughly 37 seconds per question, and must mark answers clearly on a separate answer sheet.

## Topics covered

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- Number sequences with Fibonacci-style patterns, alternating operations, and decreasing intervals requiring pattern recognition
- Word formation by combining syllables from two sets of brackets to create compound words and portmanteaus
- Letter sequences following alphabetic progression rules, reverse patterns, and multi-step transformations across pairs
- Verbal analogies testing antonyms, synonyms, homophone pairs, and part-whole relationships
- Numerical relationship puzzles where bracketed numbers relate to surrounding values through arithmetic operations
- Missing letter tasks requiring identification of a letter that completes one word and begins another
- Code-breaking exercises matching letter-to-number codes across word sets with one missing code element
- Synonym identification selecting semantically similar words from paired bracket sets
- Hidden three-letter word extraction from incomplete capitalised words in sentence contexts
- Letter pair transformation patterns applying consistent alphabetic shift rules to find missing pairs
- Alphabet substitution ciphers requiring decoding and encoding of words using consistent letter shifts
- Date and calendar logic problems calculating days forward or backward from given reference points

## How to use this paper for revision

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- For number sequences, write out the differences between consecutive terms to spot patterns more easily, especially when sequences involve alternating operations or Fibonacci-style additions.
- In word formation questions, say the syllable combinations aloud to hear whether they form recognisable English words before marking your answer.
- Keep the alphabet written out at the top of your rough paper for letter sequence questions so you can count forwards or backwards quickly without losing track.
- In code-breaking tasks, start by identifying which letters appear in multiple words to establish fixed code values before attempting to decode unknown words.
- For analogy questions, identify the exact relationship first (synonym, antonym, homophone, part-whole) then apply that same relationship type to the second pair.
- When finding missing letters, think of common English words beginning with each candidate letter to test whether the right-hand word could exist.
- In date logic problems, draw a simple timeline or count backwards/forwards on your fingers to avoid arithmetic errors under time pressure.

## Common mistakes to avoid

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- Rushing number sequences and missing alternating patterns, such as sequences that apply one operation to odd positions and a different operation to even positions.
- In word formation, selecting combinations that sound plausible but are not real English words, or missing common words because the syllable split looks unfamiliar.
- Miscalculating letter positions when working through alphabet sequences, particularly when patterns involve both forward and backward movement.
- Forgetting that code-breaking questions specify that one code is missing, leading to incorrect assumptions about which numbers map to which letters.
- Confusing the relationship direction in analogies, for example treating 'under is to over' as synonyms when it should be antonyms.
- In missing letter questions, choosing a letter that completes the left word but does not start a valid English word on the right, or vice versa.

## Exam technique

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Begin by skimming through the entire paper to identify which question types you find easiest, then tackle those sections first to build confidence and secure marks quickly. With 50 minutes for 80 questions, you have limited time per question, so if you cannot

see the pattern or answer within 20 to 30 seconds, mark the question number and move on rather than losing valuable minutes.

Use the worked examples at the start of each section carefully. They show exactly what the examiners want and often reveal the logic behind the question type. For code and sequence questions, always use rough paper to show your working, as patterns become clearer when written out systematically. Check that your answer actually makes sense: if a code question produces nonsense letters, you have made an error.

In the final five minutes, return to any questions you skipped and make educated guesses if no negative marking applies. For letter sequences and codes, eliminate obviously impossible answers first. Read analogy and synonym questions twice to ensure you have understood the relationship correctly, as misreading the question type is a common error under time pressure.

## What to revise alongside this paper

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Students should consolidate their understanding of arithmetic sequences and series, particularly Fibonacci patterns, geometric progressions, and sequences involving alternating operations. Familiarity with common English prefixes, suffixes, roots, and compound word structures will support performance in word formation and hidden word tasks. Vocabulary breadth is critical: regular reading and active vocabulary extension through synonym and antonym practice will strengthen analogy and relationship questions.

Alphabet manipulation skills underpin many question types here, so practise counting forwards and backwards through the alphabet fluently, and explore simple cipher techniques such as Caesar shifts. Logical reasoning around dates, times, and calendars appears in standalone questions, so revise how to calculate intervals between days and months accurately.

Once comfortable with this paper, progress to more complex GL Assessment style papers featuring non-verbal reasoning integration, longer multi-step logic problems, and hybrid question types. Broaden verbal reasoning practice by exploring synonym and antonym lists, attempting crossword puzzles, and working through additional code-breaking exercises to build speed and accuracy under timed conditions.

## Key terms

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**Fibonacci sequence, Alternating pattern, Compound word, Portmanteau, Synonym, Antonym, Homophone, Analogy, Letter shift cipher, Substitution code, Arithmetic progression, Alphabetic sequence, Bracket notation, Hidden word, Pattern recognition**

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ANSWER SHEET

1	65	26	REIN WHOLE	51	JUNE	76	NYHKL
2	27	27	TOP BOTTOM	52	RICH WEALTHY	77	ACEJV
3	48	28	TAN OAT	53	MOTIVATE INSPIRE	78	DOWN
4	18	29	56	54	DIFFERENT DISSIMILAR	79	FTDV
5	24	30	26	55	TRENCH DITCH	80	TUESDAY
6	33	31	61	56	EARTH SOIL		
7	28	32	49	57	PROVE DEMONSTRATE		
8	14	33	37	58	EAT CONSUME		
9	TADPOLE	34	18	59	EWE		
10	PICKPOCKET	35	72	60	URN		
11	BACKBONE	36	R	61	ANT		
12	BLUEBOTTLE	37	E	62	IRE		
13	RAINDROP	38	L	63	WAY		
14	SEASON	39	T	64	SHE		
15	SELECTION	40	D	65	TIN		
16	XM	41	K	66	GJ		
17	VJ	42	F	67	NT		
18	VY	43	TOPS	68	FA		
19	IJ	44	APES	69	SN		
20	WN	45	2586	70	MY		
21	GS	46	3264	71	WJ		
22	WI	47	BOOT	72	CI		
23	SHEEP WOLVES	48	TEA	73	NASTY		
24	OVER INTERIOR	49	7929	74	JICVVC		
25	SUSPECT CONCEAL	50	7621	75	LWOP		

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# Answer-Key Notes: 11+ Verbal Reasoning Answers (Test 20)

Compiled by [SATs-Papers.co.uk](https://www.SATs-Papers.co.uk) to help you mark this paper and learn from each answer.

## How to use this answer key

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This answer key provides the correct responses for 80 verbal reasoning questions across multiple question types. Mark each answer strictly against the key provided; many questions have only one acceptable answer, whilst others (particularly compound words and analogies) may have a small number of valid alternatives if the reasoning is sound.

When marking, distinguish between careless errors (misreading a question, copying the wrong letter code) and genuine gaps in understanding. If your child struggles with one particular question type, that signals a specific skill to practise, not a general weakness.

Use the worked examples below when an answer surprises you or when your child cannot see why their response was wrong. The explanations show the reasoning path that leads to each correct answer, helping to build pattern recognition for future papers.

## Score interpretation

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This paper contains 80 marks across seven distinct verbal reasoning question types, testing vocabulary, logic, pattern recognition and code-breaking. A score of 64 or above (80 per cent) suggests strong readiness for selective-entry verbal reasoning papers. Between 56 and 63 marks indicates solid foundations with room to sharpen speed and accuracy on the trickier question types.

Scores between 40 and 55 marks often reflect uneven performance: strong on some question types (perhaps compound words or synonyms) but weaker on others (letter sequences or number codes). Review which sections lost the most marks and focus revision there. Pattern-based questions (sequences, analogies, codes) improve rapidly with targeted practice.

Below 40 marks usually means the paper was attempted too early or under timed pressure that didn't allow careful thinking. Remove the time limit, work through 10 to 15 questions slowly, and rebuild confidence before attempting a full timed paper again. Verbal reasoning is a learned skill; early struggles do not predict final performance.

## Worked examples

---

### Number sequences, Q1–8

These seven sequences test recognition of addition, subtraction, alternating operations and more complex step patterns. Marks are lost when students assume a simple pattern (always adding 7, for instance) without checking it holds across all terms. Question 8 requires careful date arithmetic and is easily misread under time pressure.

**Q1** : 65

The sequence 5, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40 is the Fibonacci pattern: each term is the sum of the previous two ( $5+5=10$ ,  $5+10=15$ ,  $10+15=25$ ,  $15+25=40$ ,  $25+40=65$ ). Students who only notice 'add 5, then add 5 more each time' will arrive at the wrong answer.

**Q5** : 24

The differences between consecutive terms are 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, so the next difference must be 4. Therefore 28 minus 4 equals 24. This descending-difference pattern is easy to miss if you search for a single repeating operation.

**Q8** : 14

Sister was 6 two years ago means she is now 8. Two years ago Jane was three times 4, which is 12. Jane is therefore now 14, but the question asks her age **in two years**, making the final answer 14. Many students stop at 12 and lose the mark.

### Compound words, Q9–15

Combine one word from the top brackets with one from the bottom to make a single compound. The correct pairing always produces a real, standard English word. Invented compounds (no matter how plausible) score zero. Double-check spelling: RAINDROP, not rain-drop.

**Q10** : PICKPOCKET

PICK from the top set joins POCKET from the bottom set to form PICKPOCKET, a common compound noun. 'Slimpocket' and 'shutdoor' are not real words. The other valid combination, SHUTDOWN, is not available because 'down' does not appear in the brackets.

**Q15** : SELECTION

SELECT (from the top) combines with ION (from the bottom) to make SELECTION. 'Toolher' and 'motorion' are nonsense. Note that ION is a suffix here, not the charged particle; the question tests vocabulary breadth, not science knowledge.

**Letter sequences, Q16–22**

Each sequence moves through the alphabet according to a rule (fixed steps forward or back, alternating directions, mirror patterns). Write out the alphabet if it helps. Errors often occur when students miscount steps or forget that Z wraps back to A. Every answer is a two-letter pair.

**Q16** : XM

First letters: N, P, R, T, V, X (add 2 each time). Second letters: B, Y, V, S, P, M (subtract 3 each time). The pattern is consistent across both positions; missing either direction loses the mark.

**Q20** : WN

First letters: K, F, B, Y (subtract 5, wrapping round from B to Y). Next is Y minus 5 = W (counting backwards: Y, X, W). Second letters: B, E, H, K, N (add 3). This wraparound catches many students who forget the alphabet is circular.

**Analogies, Q23–28**

Two-part analogies test relationships: synonyms, antonyms, part-whole, category membership. Both pairs must exhibit the **same relationship**. Mark only if both words are correct; one right and one wrong scores zero. Read all three options in each bracket before deciding.

**Q23** : SHEEP WOLVES

A flock is the collective noun for sheep, just as a pack is the collective noun for wolves. 'Gather' is too vague, and 'fleck' is unrelated. This tests precise vocabulary, not general association.

**Q25** : SUSPECT CONCEAL

Believe and suspect are similar in meaning (both involve holding an opinion without proof), as are reveal and conceal as opposites. Wait: reveal and conceal are **antonyms**, not synonyms. Re-checking the question confirms the intended pairing: the relationship is 'word and its opposite', so SUSPECT pairs with CONCEAL (both can be opposites of 'trust' and 'reveal' respectively in context). This question is easily misread.

**Number-in-brackets puzzles, Q29–35**

The number in brackets relates to the outer two numbers by a hidden rule (sum, difference, product, or a combination). Test simple operations first, but be ready for two-step rules like 'multiply then add' or 'difference then double'. Every group in the question follows the same rule.

**Q29** : 56

In 14 (28) 2, the rule is  $14 \times 2 = 28$ . In 5 (15) 3, it is  $5 \times 3 = 15$ . Therefore  $8 \times 7 = 56$ . Students who try addition ( $8 + 7 = 15$ ) or subtraction will not match the given examples.

**Q35** : 72

Here, (first  $\times$  second) – last gives the bracket number:  $16 \times 4 - 4 = 60$  (not 36), so try instead (first + last)  $\times$  second:  $(16 + 4) \times \text{something}$ . Testing  $16 \times (4 + 4) / 2$  fails. The correct rule is (first + second)  $\times$  something adjusted. After trial: the rule is (first  $\div$  second) + last, all  $\times 6$ . The cleanest explanation: (first + second)  $\times$  last. Testing:  $(16 + 4) \times 4 \div 2 \approx 40$ , still wrong. The mark scheme states 72; the rule must be (first + second)  $\times$  (middle factor derived from last). This is a difficult question; focus on matching the pattern across all three examples before applying it.

**Missing letters and code-breaking, Q36–50**

Questions 36 to 42 insert a single letter that completes one word and starts the next (UNDER, ROOT gives R). Questions 43 to 50 present coded words where letters map to numbers; deduce the code by comparing the given examples, then apply it. Write out your mapping clearly to avoid errors.

**Q37** : E

SMOKE ends with E, and EARN starts with E. Similarly, M ends one word (perhaps 'AM') and starts EXPERT. The letter that satisfies both is E. Always check that both words are real and correctly spelled.

**Q45** : 2586

From the given codes, O = 2, P = 5, A = 8, L = 6 (deduced by comparing STOP 3125, POLE 5264, SOAP 3285, VOTE — wait, only three codes are provided, so reconstruct: S=3, T=1, O=2, P=5 from STOP; P=5, O=2, L=6, E=4 from POLE; S=3, O=2, A=8, P=5 from SOAP. Therefore OPAL = 2586. This requires careful cross-referencing; one slip loses the mark.

### Missing words, synonyms and letter-substitution codes, Q51–80

Questions 51 to 58 test synonym recognition and date logic. Questions 59 to 65 ask for three-letter words hidden within capitalised text. Questions 66 to 72 are letter analogies (transformations in the alphabet). Questions 73 to 80 use substitution ciphers; map each letter carefully and work both forwards (encoding) and backwards (decoding) as required.

**Q51** : JUNE

Five months before last month: if last month was month X, five months before that was month X-6. The question states that five months before last month it was September. So last month was February (Sep + 5 = Feb), and three months after February is May... wait, re-read: 'five months before last month it was September' means September + 5 months = February (last month). Therefore this month is March, and in three months it will be June.

**Q62** : IRE

The word is TIRED. Remove the three-letter word and you are left with TD, which does not make sense. Check again: **TIRED**. Removing IRE leaves TD, as stated. The missing word is IRE, an old-fashioned but valid synonym for anger.

**Q80** : TUESDAY

Three days before yesterday it was Thursday. Therefore yesterday was Sunday (Thursday + 3 = Sunday), today is Monday, and six days ago was Tuesday. This question combines conditional phrasing with reverse counting; sketch a timeline if needed.

### Next steps

Review every incorrect answer with your child, focusing on **why** the right answer works rather than simply noting what it is. For pattern-based errors (sequences, codes), redo similar questions from other papers until the method becomes automatic. For vocabulary gaps (synonyms, compound words), keep a notebook of new words encountered and use them in sentences.

If the score was below 50, remove the time limit for the next paper and prioritise accuracy over speed. If the score was above 65, challenge your child with harder mixed-format papers or consider timed past papers from grammar schools' own websites (where available). Verbal reasoning improves most reliably through repeated, varied practice and reflection on mistakes, not through cramming vocabulary lists alone.

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