

Verbal Reasoning

An introduction to the tests

This booklet is designed for children who are planning to take a school selection test. It explains briefly what the test is about, how different question types should be approached and how the answers should be recorded.

Samples are included of some of the types of questions that children may encounter in the real tests. These questions and their explanations should be worked through gradually to establish familiarity with the nature of verbal reasoning tests and how best to deal with their challenges.

A full-length practice test is provided to allow children the opportunity to sit an exam under timed conditions and to practise completing an answer sheet.

For parents

About verbal reasoning selection tests

The test is designed to assess whether grammar school is a suitable option for your child. The tests have been designed and written by experts to test those skills proven to indicate potential for academic success. They are timed tests that are sat in a formal examination environment on a set date and consist of a series of multiple choice questions. Children read the questions in a test booklet and complete their answers on a separate answer sheet.

How to use these materials

The aim of this booklet is to familiarise children with the idea of a verbal reasoning test and with the materials they will use on the day of the test. Children that are comfortable with the idea of taking a timed examination and with the format will be more able to focus their energies on the questions themselves.

The first part of this booklet looks at the general format of the test including instructions on how to mark answers. The next section provides some worked examples of verbal reasoning questions and it is important that your child has a good understanding of why the questions are answered in the way they are before moving on. The last part is a full-length practice test that should be taken in one sitting and timed appropriately. Answers and explanations are supplied at the end of the booklet.

For pupils

Whenever you take a test it is important that you understand exactly what you have to do. Successful preparation for your examination doesn't just mean learning about the types of questions in the test. You also need to know the rules of the examination, how to behave, how to prepare yourself and how to correctly complete the tests so that the answers you submit are the ones you intended. You should also know what it feels like to have to do the test in a certain time and be comfortable with the idea of a test done by yourself.

The materials in this pack have been designed to help you to prepare for such tests. They will help you to become familiar with the kind of questions you will face, and the way you should answer them. If you work through this booklet and try the full-length practice test, you should be thoroughly prepared for the real selection tests. We will start by looking at some of the rules of the test and then at the way you answer the questions. The later parts of this booklet look in more detail at the types of questions you might face.

Test instructions

Some instructions will be spoken to you; others will be written in the test booklet. Try to remember the following:

- Read the instructions on the front of the test booklet
- Listen carefully to invigilators – they are the adults who will guide you through the process of sitting the test. They will give you instructions about what to do
- There are some points in the test at which you will be asked to stop working and not turn the page
- At the bottom of each page in the test booklet are instructions telling you to:

Stop...

Do not turn over until you are told to do so



... go on

Please go on to the next page >>>

... or that you have reached the end of the test.

END OF VERBAL REASONING TEST

Test materials

It is vital that you know how to submit your answers for marking. This booklet gives you the opportunity to practise this.

On the day, you will have two things provided: a **test booklet**, containing the questions, and a **separate answer sheet**.

You will need to bring with you a **pencil**, a **spare pencil** and **an eraser**.

The answer sheet

Only the answers you fill in on the answer sheet will be marked. The sheet is read by a special scanning machine so you need to mark it in a particular way in order for your responses to be clear. You can get an adult to check that you are doing it correctly.

The top of the answer sheet will show the name of the test and some information about you, including your name and date of birth.

- **Check that your name and date of birth are correct. Tell an invigilator if you think there is a mistake**

VERBAL REASONING TEST

Pupil's Name

School Name

Date of Test

DATE OF BIRTH

Day	Month	Year
	January	1997
	February	1998
	March	1999
	April	2000
	May	2001
	June	2002
	July	2003
	August	2004
	September	2005
	October	2006
	November	2007
	December	2008

PUPIL NUMBER

SCHOOL NUMBER

Please mark boxes with a thin horizontal line like this

- If the boxes are blank, you will need to fill them out. Ask an invigilator to help.

The rest of the answer sheet contains spaces for you to submit your answers. Each question has its own box containing the answer options. The question number is in the top left hand corner. For example, question 1 might look like this:

1

A

B

C

D

E

- You answer each question by putting a thin horizontal line in the rectangle next to your answer, like this (you can practise this later on in this booklet):

Page 4

- If you make a mistake, rub it out as completely as you can and put in your new answer.
- You must only use a pencil to mark the answer sheet.
- All the questions you do will be **multiple choice**.

That means that you are given a range of answers to choose from. The answer options will be printed in the test booklet but you must submit your responses on the answer sheet.

- Most verbal reasoning questions require only one answer but some require more than one answer. Read the instructions for each questions carefully. Here is an example of a question with two answers:

EXAMPLE	
black	☐
mouse	☒
red	☐
green	☐
hut	☒

- You may need to fill in answers on **both sides** of the answer sheet.
- You must make sure that you mark your answers in the right **place on the answer sheet**. Mark your answer in the box that has the same number as the test question.
- You must make sure that all your answers are **recorded on the answer sheet before the end of the test**.

The test booklet:

The test contains a number of different verbal reasoning question types. You need to try to answer all of the questions.

Instructions are given before the start of each section along with an example question.

You can do rough work in the booklet if you need to, or on a separate piece of paper. But remember: the test booklet won't be marked. All your answers must go on the answer sheet.

Verbal Reasoning Tests

What will I be tested on?

The questions are tests of ability, not what you have learned elsewhere in school. They require skills that are needed to succeed in secondary education, including your ability to:

- understand and analyse tasks
- work quickly and carefully
- apply attention to detail
- solve problems
- discover and apply rules
- repeat a particular task at increasing levels of difficulty

How long does the test last?

The test will be **50 minutes long**.

The test includes examples of each type of question as part of the timed assessment. Remember, there will be times when you need to **sit and listen to instructions**, to make sure that your answer sheet has been handed in or to wait for other pupils in the room to finish.

What kind of questions will be asked?

The verbal reasoning test asks you questions involving the manipulation of words, letters and numbers. In some cases you are dealing with a relationship between symbols (numbers, letters) and in others the relationship between the meanings of words.

In the next section, you will begin to familiarise yourself with some types of verbal reasoning questions, start to understand what they ask you to do and have a go yourself.

In the last section of this booklet, you will be able to sit a full-length practice test.

Verbal Reasoning Questions

To do this section you will need:

- This booklet.
- The **familiarisation test answer sheet** (found towards the end of this booklet)
- Two **sharpened pencils**
- An **eraser** to change answers if necessary.

You must not use a calculator for the questions involving numbers and they will not be allowed in the real examination.

The answers to the questions can be found on page 38.

There are many different types of verbal reasoning questions. To help you to understand the different types we have put them into five main groups. The next section looks at example and practice questions from each main group.

- Cracking codes
- Using numbers
- Thinking logically
- Creating words
- Finding words

The questions shown here and in the practice test are not necessarily the same as the questions you will face in the real test. They have been chosen to let you practise the skills that you need.

General guidance:

- Read the instructions for each item type carefully. In the real test each question type has the same instructions as are used here.
- Make sure you are clear about what you are being asked to do before attempting the practice questions.
- Practice putting your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Cracking codes: complete the letter series

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

The alphabet is here to help you with these questions. Find the letters that will complete the sentence in the best way and mark the correct answer on the answer sheet.

Example

CQ DQ EP FP [?]

A GP **B** GO **C** HO **D** GR **E** GQ

Answer **GO**

These questions ask you to find a rule that orders the series of letters and then apply that rule to the next instance.

In this question, the letters are grouped into pairs. The first letters in each pair are in alphabetical order. C, D, E, F. The second letter in each pair features twice in the series, and appears in reverse order; Q, Q, P, P. The next pair of letters after FP is GO, and these have been marked on your answer sheet.

Now try these two practice questions and mark your answers on the answer sheet.

P1

DE GH JK MN PQ [?]

A ST **B** TU **C** RS **D** RT **E** TV

P2

TD SE QG NJ JN [?]

A ES **B** OI **C** OS **D** ER **E** EI

Creating words: Create a Compound word

In these questions, find two words, one from each group, that together make one correctly-spelt word, without changing the order of the letters. The word from the first group always comes first. Mark both words on the answer sheet.

Example

(out by open)

(bite like side)

A out

X bite

B by

Y like

C open

Z side

Answer **out side** (The word is **outside**.)

These questions ask you to create a new word from two separate words. The question asks you to mark as your answer the two separate words.

The two words are 'out' and 'side' because, together, they make the correctly spelt word, 'outside'. The instructions say that you must not change the order of the letters. The words 'out' and 'side' are the only two words that together can make one correctly spelt word.

Now try these two practice questions and mark your answers on the answer sheet.

Remember: you have to mark two answers for these questions. The instructions also tell you that the word from the first group always comes first in the correct answer.

P3

(care read cap)

(art taker ship)

A care

X art

B read

Y taker

C cap

Z ship

P4

(it so fill)

(up in and)

A it

X up

B so

Y in

C fill

Z and

Using Numbers: Find the number to complete the sum

In each question, find the number that will complete the sum correctly and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

$$3 + 5 = 6 + [?]$$

A 1 **B** 2 **C** 3 **D** 4 **E** 5

Answer **2**

This question uses numbers and an understanding of the meaning of basic arithmetical signs. It asks you to find the number that will complete the sum making both totals the same on each side of the "equals" sign ("=").

The sum on the right must equal the sum on the left. The sum on the left is $3 + 5 = 8$. Now look at the sum on the right. The '+' sign means that something must be added to 6 to equal 8. $6 + 2$ equals 8. So the number 2 has been marked on your answer sheet, as it completes the sum correctly.

Now try these two practice questions and mark your answers on the answer sheet.

P5

$$100 \div 5 = 4 \times [?]$$

A 8 **B** 10 **C** 5 **D** 3 **E** 12

P6

$$16 + 23 - 27 = 30 \div 6 + [?]$$

A 3 **B** 6 **C** 5 **D** 4 **E** 7

Finding Words: Find the hidden four-letter word

In these sentences, a word of four letters is hidden at the end of one word and the beginning of the next word.

Find the pair of words that contains the hidden word and mark this answer on the answer sheet.

Example

The film ended happily after all.

- A** The film
- B** film ended
- C** ended happily
- D** happily after
- E** after all.

Answer film ended (The hidden word is **mend**.)

Pay careful attention to the instructions here. The word you are looking for must be four letters long and cross two separate words. It may include all of one word.

The hidden word of four letters is 'mend'. 'Mend' is made from the last letter of the word 'film' and the first three letters of the word 'ended'. So the answer is 'film ended' and this has been marked on your answer sheet.

Now try these two practice questions and mark your answers on the answer sheet.

P7

I heard a loud rumble of thunder.

- A** I heard
- B** heard a
- C** a loud
- D** loud rumble
- E** rumble of

P8

The doctor on call came at once.

- A** The doctor
- B** doctor on
- C** on call
- D** call came
- E** came at

Thinking Logically: Solve the puzzle

Read the following information, then find the correct answer to the question and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

The children in the Jones family are called Archie, Jack, Charlie, Lucy and Emily.
Lucy is 1 year younger than Charlie.
Jack and Charlie are twins
Archie is 3 years older than Lucy.
Jack is 8 years old.
Emily is older than Charlie, but younger than Archie.

If these statements are true, only one of the sentences below must be true.

Which one?

- A** Emily is 11.
- B** Archie is 2 years older than Emily.
- C** All the children are younger than 10.
- D** The sum of their ages is 45.
- E** Archie is ten

This question tests your ability to follow a logical series of statements and answer a question that is necessarily true based on them. Think about the information you are given and only that information. Remember that you can do rough work in the test booklet.

We are told all the names of the Jones children and information about their ages either directly, or in relation to one another. From this information we can eliminate as false all but one statement, which must therefore be true.

Jack is eight years old. He and Charlie are twins, so Charlie must also be 8. Lucy is one year younger, so Lucy is 7, and Archie three years older: 10. Emily is older than Charlie (8) but younger than Archie (10).

Statement E is the only one that must be true.

Now try this practice question and mark your answer on the answer sheet.

P9

James and his friends like to read books.

Daniel is the fastest reader.

He reads 30 pages in 1 hour.

It takes Rebecca 2 hours to read the same number of pages.

James reads 5 more pages per hour than Rebecca does.

How long will it take James to read a book with 120 pages?

A 1 hour 30 minutes

B 4 hours

C 6 hours

D 12 hours

E 24 hours

Practice Test

The following test is designed to help you prepare for a full-length test sat under timed conditions.

Information for pupils:

- Before sitting the test, make sure you have a quiet place to work and a clock to monitor the time.
- The test lasts for 50 minutes.
- Some of the items are like those you have worked through in this booklet. Others will be different. Make sure you read the instructions for each question carefully.
- There may be other types of question in the real test. Some will also be the same as are in this practice test.
- Not all the questions are as difficult as those included in the real selection tests. Therefore the score obtained on this test will not necessarily reflect your score on the actual selection tests.
- Each section starts with an example question showing the correct answer.

Information for parents:

- The test lasts for 50 minutes but do not start timing until your child has read all the instructions and/or filled in all the details at the top of their Answer Sheet.
- If they have not finished at the end of 50 minutes, draw a line underneath the question they are on, or draw a ring round its number, and then allow them to carry on to the end of the test. When you mark the test you will be able to see how many questions they got right in the allocated time and how many questions overall. This will give you a good indication of whether they need to develop their speed and/or work more accurately.
- The answers can be found on pages 40–41.
- Further guidance on developing your child's speed and accuracy is provided in GL Assessment's *Official Parents' Guide to the 11+*, available from high street retailers and online.

In these questions, one letter can be moved from the first word to the second word to make two new words.

The letters must not otherwise be rearranged and both new words must make sense.

Find the letter that moves and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

pound or

A p **B** o **C** u **D** n **E** d

Answer **u** (The two new words are **pond** and **our**.)

1

joint rim

A j **B** o **C** i **D** n **E** t

2

flour fare

A f **B** l **C** o **D** u **E** r

3

halve bride

A h **B** a **C** l **D** v **E** e

4

brain mad

A b **B** r **C** a **D** i **E** n

5

drink boy

A d **B** r **C** i **D** n **E** k

6

chain rot

A c**B** h**C** a**D** i**E** n

7

reach cow

A r**B** e**C** a**D** c**E** h

In these questions, three of the five words are related in some way.

Find the two words that do not go with these three and mark them both on the answer sheet.

Example

black mouse red green hut

A black**B** mouse**C** red**D** green**E** hut

Answer

mouse hut

8

mug china cup pottery beaker

A mug**B** china**C** cup**D** pottery**E** beaker

9

handle hammer chisel hand saw

A handle**B** hammer**C** chisel**D** hand**E** saw

10

taste sweet touch soft see

A taste**B** sweet**C** touch**D** soft**E** see

11

river stream pour tip brook

A river **B** stream **C** pour **D** tip **E** brook

12

eyes ears arms nose legs

A eyes **B** ears **C** arms **D** nose **E** legs

13

around long tall wide across

A around **B** long **C** tall **D** wide **E** across

14

fruit grape orange green pear

A fruit **B** grape **C** orange **D** green **E** pear

In these questions, letters stand for numbers.

Work out the answer to each sum, then find its letter and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

If $A = 1$, $B = 2$, $C = 3$, $D = 6$, $E = 8$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$A + B + C = [?]$$

A A **B** B **C** C **D** D **E** E

Answer **D**

15

If $A = 2$, $B = 10$, $C = 12$, $D = 18$, $E = 20$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$C + D - E = [?]$$

A A **B** B **C** C **D** D **E** E

16

If $A = 3$, $B = 6$, $C = 5$, $D = 2$, $E = 15$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$B \times C \div D = [?]$$

A A **B** B **C** C **D** D **E** E

17

If $A = 3$, $B = 4$, $C = 6$, $D = 9$, $E = 18$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$E \times A \div D = [?]$$

A A **B** B **C** C **D** D **E** E

18

If $A = 9$, $B = 6$, $C = 4$, $D = 24$, $E = 3$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$E \times C - A = [?]$$

A A **B** B **C** C **D** D **E** E

19

If $A = 9$, $B = 5$, $C = 45$, $D = 3$, $E = 1$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$D \times D \times B \div E = [?]$$

A A**B** B**C** C**D** D**E** E

20

If $A = 44$, $B = 11$, $C = 14$, $D = 22$, $E = 2$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$A \div B \times E + C = [?]$$

A A**B** B**C** C**D** D**E** E

21

If $A = 12$, $B = 48$, $C = 84$, $D = 2$, $E = 6$,
what is the answer to this sum, **written as a letter**?

$$D \times E \times D + A + B = [?]$$

A A**B** B**C** C**D** D**E** E

Read the following information, then find the correct answer to the question and mark it on the answer sheet.

22

David, Gemma, Jane, John and Maria are 12, 11, 10, 10 and 9 years old, but not in that order.

David is 2 years younger than John.

Gemma is 2 years younger than Jane.

Maria is older than David.

Who are the twins?

A David and Maria**B** John and Jane**C** Gemma and David**D** Maria and Gemma**E** John and Maria

In these questions, find the two words, one from each group, that will complete the sentence in the best way.

Mark both words on the answer sheet.

Example

Big is to (small orange colour) as **wide** is to (apple red narrow)

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| A small | X apple |
| B orange | Y red |
| C colour | Z narrow |

Answer **A** and **Z** (Big is to small as wide is to narrow.)

23

Book is to (library leaf tree) as **money** is to (paper bank pig)

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| A library | X paper |
| B leaf | Y bank |
| C tree | Z pig |

24

Early is to (dawn late hour) as **stop** is to (bus queue start)

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| A dawn | X bus |
| B late | Y queue |
| C hour | Z start |

25

Shoes is to (mouth feet month) as **gloves** is to (eyes hands time)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| A mouth | X eyes |
| B feet | Y hands |
| C month | Z time |

26

Was is to (is will not) as **saw** is to (hammer lake see)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| A is | X hammer |
| B will | Y lake |
| C not | Z see |

27

Film is to (camera picture old) as **bulb** is to (flower lamp gold)

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| A camera | X flower |
| B picture | Y lamp |
| C old | Z gold |

28

Two is to (pair apple number) as **blue** is to (green colour sky)

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| A pair | X green |
| B apple | Y colour |
| C number | Z sky |

29

Wind is to (turn hurricane tree) as **rain** is to (downpour umbrella queen)

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| A turn | X downpour |
| B hurricane | Y umbrella |
| C tree | Z queen |

In these questions, find two words, one from each group, that together make one correctly-spelt word, without changing the order of the letters. The word from the first group always comes first.

Mark both words on the answer sheet.

Example

(out by open)

(bite like side)

A out

X bite

B by

Y like

C open

Z side

Answer **out** **side** (The word is **outside**.)

30

(stop watch lips)

(two stick tick)

A stop

X two

B watch

Y stick

C lips

Z tick

31

(in rain hover)

(coat fell croft)

A in

X coat

B rain

Y fell

C hover

Z croft

32

(door bad had)

(lock dock ship)

A door

X lock

B bad

Y dock

C had

Z ship

33

(rope hope car)

A rope

B hope

C car

(sat tie less)

X sat

Y tie

Z less

34

(in out temp)

A in

B out

C temp

(late down slide)

X late

Y down

Z slide

35

(ape reap grape)

A ape

B reap

C grape

(pear wine ate)

X pear

Y wine

Z ate

36

(combine share do)

A combine

B share

C do

(state nation red)

X state

Y nation

Z red

In these sentences below, a word of four letters is hidden at the end of one word and the beginning of the next word.

Find the pair of words that contains the hidden word and mark this answer on the answer sheet.

Example

The film ended happily after all.

- A** The film
- B** film ended
- C** ended happily
- D** happily after
- E** after all.

Answer

The hidden word is **mend**

37

The girl ate the sponge cake.

- A** The girl
- B** girl ate
- C** ate the
- D** the sponge
- E** sponge cake.

38

They are all going on holiday.

- A** They are
- B** are all
- C** all going
- D** going on
- E** on holiday.

39

Glass bottles should be kept upright.

- A** Glass bottles
- B** bottles should
- C** should be
- D** be kept
- E** kept upright.

40

She sent the children to bed.

- A** She sent
- B** sent the
- C** the children
- D** children to
- E** to bed.

41

We get ripe apples in October.

- A** We get
- B** get ripe
- C** ripe apples
- D** apples in
- E** in October.

42

My drink is hotter than yours.

- A** My drink
- B** drink is
- C** is hotter
- D** hotter than
- E** than yours.

43

He had hurt his knee badly.

- A** He had
 - B** had hurt
 - C** hurt his
 - D** his knee
 - E** knee badly.
-

Read the following information, then find the correct answer to the question and mark it on the answer sheet.

44

David, Julie and Lee have to score at least 80% in a test in order to join the Science Club.

Julie scored 72%.

Both David and Lee scored higher than Julie.

If these statements are true, only one of the sentences below **MUST be true.
Which one?**

- A** David and Lee passed the test.
 - B** Julie couldn't join the Science Club.
 - C** David and Lee couldn't join the Science Club.
 - D** Lee scored more than David.
 - E** David scored more than Lee.
-

In these sentences, the word in capitals has had three letters next to each other taken out. These three letters will make one correctly-spelt word without changing their order. The sentence that you make must make sense. Mark the correct three-letter word on the answer sheet.

Example

The cat scratched him with his **CS**.

A LAD **B** LAW **C** HAD **D** RAW **E** RED

Answer **LAW** (The word in capitals is **CLAWS**.)

45

She **CED** the dog to follow her.

A ALL **B** RYE **C** ALE **D** AWL **E** HAS

46

The girl's behaviour **APLED** her teacher.

A ARE **B** AWE **C** ORE **D** PAL **E** PEA

47

He injured his **SE** in the accident.

A ELF **B** PIT **C** PIN **D** CAN **E** TON

48

They climbed the **SPEST** hill.

A TOP **B** ARK **C** ART **D** TEE **E** TEA

49

FS are very troublesome in summer.

A LOW **B** LIE **C** LAY **D** RAG **E** RAY

50

The wine spent many weeks **FERTING**.

A MAN **B** GET **C** WIN **D** SET **E** MEN

51

The two boys were fishing for **HS**.

A ACE **B** EEL **C** ALL **D** OWE **E** OUR

In these questions, find two words, one from each group, that are closest in meaning. Mark both words on the answer sheet.

Example

(office shop start)

(work begin end)

A office

X work

B shop

Y begin

C start

Z end

Answer **start** **begin**

52

(little pretty cuddle)

(small sweet nice)

A little

X small

B pretty

Y sweet

C cuddle

Z nice

53

(idea error accurate)

(mistake joke fool)

A idea

X mistake

B error

Y joke

C accurate

Z fool

54

(bib cot rattle)

- A** bib
- B** cot
- C** rattle

(sleep baby cradle)

- X** sleep
- Y** baby
- Z** cradle

55

(quick slow idle)

- A** quick
- B** slow
- C** idle

(rapid race arena)

- X** rapid
- Y** race
- Z** arena

56

(bread butter eat)

- A** bread
- B** butter
- C** eat

(peas dinner feed)

- X** peas
- Y** dinner
- Z** feed

57

(high above apex)

- A** high
- B** above
- C** apex

(over inside under)

- X** over
- Y** inside
- Z** under

58

(nasty enemy hatred)

- A** nasty
- B** enemy
- C** hatred

(neighbour friend foe)

- X** neighbour
- Y** friend
- Z** foe

59

(daydream night awake)

- A** daydream
- B** night
- C** awake

(tired asleep alert)

- X** tired
- Y** asleep
- Z** alert

In these questions, the three words in the second group should go together in the same way as the three in the first group.

Find the word that is missing in the second group and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

(man [mat] tip)

(bug [?] dew)

A bud

B beg

C dug

D bed

E wed

Answer **bud**

60

(show [hose] user)

(when [?] cart)

A tear

B hear

C went

D race

E hare

61

(bread [drips] clips)

(heart [?] prams)

A tears

B steam

C pears

D meats

E teams

62

(slide [dial] slave)

(spend [?] prank)

A pear

B nape

C dear

D pans

E near

63

(sleep [plume] plums)

(print [?] claim)

A trial

B trail

C train

D paint

E plain

64

(spike [kick] clock)

(jeans [?] mouse)

A mean

B name

C same

D nose

E sane

65

(split [time] meant)

(thief [?] elbow)

A flee**B** blow**C** heel**D** blew**E** feel

66

(trout [roof] frost)

(spare [?] hotel)

A that**B** real**C** path**D** reap**E** hats

67

(alter [leer] pearl)

(chair [?] plate)

A hair**B** hill**C** hail**D** halt**E** hilt

In each question, find the number that continues the series in the most sensible way and mark it on the answer sheet.

Example

2 4 6 8 [?]

A 16**B** 11**C** 10**D** 9**E** 12**Answer****10**

68

3 6 12 24 [?]

A 64**B** 48**C** 12**D** 4**E** 16

69

23 15 27 19 31 [?]

A 22**B** 23**C** 25**D** 29**E** 27

70

14 11 21 18 28 25 35 [?]

A 32**B** 42**C** 40**D** 30**E** 33

71

5 3 11 9 [?]

A 20 B 19 C 15 D 17 E 21

72

12 21 39 75 [?]

A 57 B 113 C 101 D 147 E 99

73

40 39 35 40 30 41 [?]

A 50 B 20 C 42 D 25 E 39

74

5 10 15 25 40 [?]

A 50 B 65 C 80 D 45 E 60

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

The alphabet is here to help you with these questions. You need to work out a different code for each question. Choose the correct answer and mark it on the answer sheet.

ExampleIf the code for **FOOT** is **ENNS**, what is the code for **TOE**?

A STU B SND C UPF D SRQ E SNE

Answer **SND**

75

If the code for **CALF** is **FDOI**, what is the code for **LAMB**?

A NCPE B ODPE C IXJY D NCOD E ODQF

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

76

If the code for **CRATE** is **YNWPA**, what is the code for **BOX**?

- A** FSB **B** XJS **C** FTA **D** YLU **E** XKT

77

If the code for **ORANGE** is **RUDQJH**, what does **SLQN** mean?

- A** PEAR **B** PLUM **C** PINK **D** PALE **E** PUCE

78

If the code for **NETBALL** is **PCVZCJN**, what is the code for **FOOTBALL**?

- A** HMQRDYNJ **B** HQQVZCJN **C** GPPUZCJN
D HQQVDCNN **E** GNPSZCJN

79

If the code for **TREE** is **QOBB**, what does **DOXPP** mean?

- A** BRASS **B** GRASS **C** GREEN **D** GROWS **E** STAFF

80

If the code for **PIANO** is **QKDRT**, what is the code for **VIOLIN**?

- A** WJPMJO **B** WHPKJO **C** WHNKHM
D WKPNJP **E** WKRPNT

VERBAL REASONING FAMILIARISATION TEST
Practice questions



Pupil's Name

Date of Test

School Name

SCHOOL NUMBER grid

SCHOOL NUMBER grid

DATE OF BIRTH grid

Please mark boxes with a thin horizontal line like this

Page 8

Page 8 practice questions (GP, GO, HO, GR, GQ, ST, TU, RS, RT, TV, ES, OI, OS, ER, EI)

Page 9

Page 9 practice questions (out, bite, by, like, open, side, care, art, read, taker, cap, ship, it, up, so, in, fill, and)

Page 10

Page 10 practice questions (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 5, 3, 12, 3, 6, 5, 4, 7)

Pages 10 and 11

Pages 10 and 11 practice questions (The film, I heard, The doctor, film ended, heard a, doctor on, ended happily, a loud, on call, happily after, loud rumble, call came, after all, rumble of, came at)

Pages 12 and 13

Pages 12 and 13 practice questions (A, B, C, D, E)

VERBAL REASONING FAMILIARISATION TEST
Answer Sheet Questions 1 – 36

Pupil's Name

Date of Test

School Name

SCHOOL NUMBER

SCHOOL NUMBER

DATE OF BIRTH

Please mark boxes with a thin horizontal line like this

Questions 1-7: Letter identification tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 8-14: Word matching tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 15-21: Multiple choice tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 22-25: Word matching tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 26-29: Word matching tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 30-33: Word matching tasks with example and numbered boxes.

Questions 34-36: Word matching tasks with example and numbered boxes.

EXAMPLE The film ended ☐ film ended ☒ ended happily ☐ happily after ☐ after all ☐	37 The girl ☐ girl ate ☐ ate the ☐ the sponge ☐ sponge cake. ☐	38 They are ☐ are all ☐ all going ☐ going on ☐ on holiday. ☐	39 Glass bottles ☐ bottles should ☐ should be ☐ be kept ☐ kept upright. ☐	40 She sent ☐ sent the ☐ the children ☐ children to ☐ to bed. ☐	41 We get ☐ get ripe ☐ ripe apples ☐ apples in ☐ in October. ☐	42 My drink ☐ drink is ☐ is hotter ☐ hotter than ☐ than yours. ☐		
43 He had ☐ had hurt ☐ hurt his ☐ his knee ☐ knee badly. ☐	44 A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐							
EXAMPLE LAD ☐ LAW ☒ HAD ☐ RAW ☐ RED ☐	45 ALL ☐ RYE ☐ ALE ☐ AWL ☐ HAS ☐	46 ARE ☐ AWE ☐ ORE ☐ PAL ☐ PEA ☐	47 ELF ☐ PIT ☐ PIN ☐ CAN ☐ TON ☐	48 TOP ☐ ARK ☐ ART ☐ TEE ☐ TEA ☐	49 LOW ☐ LIE ☐ LAY ☐ RAG ☐ RAY ☐	50 MAN ☐ GET ☐ WIN ☐ SET ☐ MEN ☐	51 ACE ☐ EEL ☐ ALL ☐ OWE ☐ OUR ☐	
EXAMPLE office ☐ work ☐ shop ☐ begin ☒ start ☒ end ☐	52 little ☐ small ☐ pretty ☐ sweet ☐ cuddle ☐ nice ☐	53 idea ☐ mistake ☐ error ☐ joke ☐ accurate ☐ fool ☐	54 bib ☐ sleep ☐ cot ☐ baby ☐ rattle ☐ cradle ☐	55 quick ☐ rapid ☐ slow ☐ race ☐ idle ☐ arena ☐				
56 bread ☐ peas ☐ butter ☐ dinner ☐ eat ☐ feed ☐	57 high ☐ over ☐ above ☐ inside ☐ apex ☐ under ☐	58 nasty ☐ neighbour ☐ enemy ☐ friend ☐ hatred ☐ foe ☐	59 daydream ☐ tired ☐ night ☐ asleep ☐ awake ☐ alert ☐					
EXAMPLE bud ☒ beg ☐ dug ☐ bed ☐ wed ☐	60 tear ☐ hear ☐ went ☐ race ☐ hare ☐	61 tears ☐ steam ☐ pears ☐ meats ☐ teams ☐	62 pear ☐ nape ☐ dear ☐ pans ☐ near ☐	63 trial ☐ trail ☐ train ☐ paint ☐ plain ☐	64 mean ☐ name ☐ same ☐ nose ☐ sane ☐	65 flee ☐ blow ☐ heel ☐ blew ☐ feel ☐	66 that ☐ real ☐ path ☐ reap ☐ hats ☐	67 hair ☐ hill ☐ hail ☐ halt ☐ hilt ☐
EXAMPLE 16 ☐ 11 ☐ 10 ☒ 9 ☐ 12 ☐	68 64 ☐ 48 ☐ 12 ☐ 4 ☐ 16 ☐	69 22 ☐ 23 ☐ 25 ☐ 29 ☐ 27 ☐	70 32 ☐ 42 ☐ 40 ☐ 30 ☐ 33 ☐	71 20 ☐ 19 ☐ 15 ☐ 17 ☐ 21 ☐	72 57 ☐ 113 ☐ 101 ☐ 147 ☐ 99 ☐	73 50 ☐ 20 ☐ 42 ☐ 25 ☐ 39 ☐	74 50 ☐ 65 ☐ 80 ☐ 45 ☐ 60 ☐	
EXAMPLE STU ☐ SND ☒ UPF ☐ SRQ ☐ SNE ☐	75 NCPE ☐ ODPE ☐ IXJY ☐ NCOD ☐ ODQF ☐	76 FSB ☐ XJS ☐ FTA ☐ YLU ☐ KKT ☐	77 PEAR ☐ PLUM ☐ PINK ☐ PALE ☐ PUCE ☐	78 HMQRDYNJ ☐ HQQVZCJN ☐ GPPUZCJN ☐ HQQVDCNN ☐ GNPSZCJN ☐	79 BRASS ☐ GRASS ☐ GREEN ☐ GROWS ☐ STAFF ☐	80 WJPMJO ☐ WHPKJO ☐ WHNKHM ☐ WKPNJP ☐ WKRPNT ☐		

Familiarisation Test Answer Key

Section	Question	Answer option	Answer text	Explanation
Cracking the code	P1	A	ST	Each pair is found by counting on three letters along in the alphabet from the previous pair. Three letters on from 'P' is 'S' and three letters on from 'Q' is 'T', and so the answer is ST.
	P2	A	ES	The first letter is found by counting <i>backwards</i> from the first letter of the previous pair by one, then two, then three and so on. The second letter is found by counting <i>forwards</i> from the second letter of the previous pair by one, then two, then three and so on. Counting backwards five from the first letter of JN (the last pair in the series) and counting forwards five from the second letter of JN give ES which is the answer.
Creating words	P3	A, Y	Caretaker	The two words are 'care' and 'taker' because, together, they make the word 'caretaker'.
	P4	B, X	Soup	'So' and 'up' together make soup.
Using numbers	P5	C	5	$100 \div 5$ equals 20, so 4 must be multiplied by a number that will give the answer 20.
	P6	E	7	4 multiplied by 5 equals 20, so 5 is the answer. The sum on the left equals 12. So $30 \div 6 + [?]$ must equal 12. $30 \div 6$ equals 5 so the answer must be 7 because $5 + 7$ equals 12.
Finding words	P7	D	loud rumble	The hidden word is 'drum'. It is made from the last letter of the word 'loud' and the first three letters of the word 'rumble'.
	P8	E	came at	The hidden word is 'meat', which is made from the last two letters of the word 'came' and the whole of the word 'at'. Sometimes, instead of a word being made from the end of one word and the beginning of another, it can be made using the whole of a short word with part of another word.
Thinking logically	P9	C	6 hours	Daniel takes one hours to read 30 pages and Rebecca takes twice as long – two hours. In other words Rebecca reads 15 pages in one hour. We therefore know that James can read 20 pages in one hour because we are told that he reads 5 more pages per hour than Rebecca. Therefore James will take six hours to read 120 pages (which is six times 20).

Practice Test Answer Key

The answers for the practice test are below. Only these answers are allowed. One mark should be given for each correct answer – do not allow half marks or ‘the benefit of the doubt’. Do not deduct marks for wrong answers.

Remember to take into account the answers your child completed once the 50 minutes was up and the questions answered after that point.

The results may suggest that more practice is needed. Remember, always try to be positive and encouraging. Talk through the mistakes your child has made in a non-condemnatory way – work out together how to get the right answer.

Question number	Answer	Question number	Answer	Question number	Answer	Question number	Answer
1	t	21	C	41	get ripe	61	teams
2	l	22	D	42	is hotter	62	near
3	l	23	library, bank	43	hurt his	63	train
4	i	24	late, start	44	B	64	name
5	d	25	feet, hands	45	ALL	65	feel
6	a	26	is, see	46	PAL	66	path
7	r	27	camera, lamp	47	PIN	67	hilt
8	china, pottery	28	number, colour	48	TEE	68	48
9	handle, hand	29	hurricane, downpour	49	LIE	69	23
10	sweet, soft	30	lips, tick	50	MEN	70	32

11	pour,tip	31	rain, coat	51	OUR	71	17
12	arms, legs	32	had, dock	52	little, small	72	147
13	around, across	33	hope, less	53	error, mistake	73	25
14	fruit, green	34	temp, late	54	cot, cradle	74	65
15	B	35	reap, pear	55	quick, rapid	75	ODPE
16	E	36	do, nation	56	eat, feed	76	XKT
17	C	37	girl ate	57	above, over	77	PINK
18	E	38	are all	58	enemy, foe	78	HMQRDYNJ
19	C	39	bottles should	59	awake, alert	79	GRASS
20	D	40	children to	60	hear	80	WKRPNP

Some final reminders...

- Read the instructions on the front of the test booklet.
- Read the instructions for each question carefully.
- Listen carefully to invigilators and the instructions they give you. They are there to help you.
- Check that your name and date of birth are correctly shown on the answer sheet.
- There are some points in the test at which you will be asked to stop working and not turn the page.
- Be sure to keep your place on the answer sheet. Mark your answer in the box that has the same number as the test question.
- Make sure all your answers are recorded on the answer sheet before the end of the test.

Copyright © GL Assessment, 2015.

All rights reserved, including translation. This publication has been licensed to North Yorkshire County Council by GL Assessment allowing the Council to distribute this publication free of charge to Pupils intending to undertake admissions tests, or their Parents. This publication may not be sold or distributed as part of any product or service, including via private tuition. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, whether physical or electronic (other than by North Yorkshire County Council for the purpose indicated above) without permission in writing from the publishers, and may not be photocopied or otherwise reproduced within the terms of any licence granted by the Copyright Licensing Agency Ltd.

Published by GL Assessment, 9th Floor, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AJ.

Printed in Great Britain.



ExamNinja

Prepare for the 11+ with Exam Ninja!



GL 11+ Complete Pack

- All subjects covered
- Up to date 2025 pack
- Incl. Full Answers

only £39.95



11+ Practice Papers

- School-Targeted 11+ Papers
- Build Skills & Confidence
- All Subjects & Topics

from only £20 each



Online 11+ Tuition

- 1-to-1 tutoring for the 11+
- Tailored Learning
- Boost Confidence
- Get the Competitive Edge

