

11+ Entrance Examination

English Sample Paper

Reading Section

Name:

Time: **25 Minutes**

Instructions:

- You should spend about **25 minutes** on the Reading Section
- Try to spend **5 minutes** reading the passage and **20 minutes** answering the questions
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
 - *use these as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question*
- The accuracy of your spelling/punctuation/grammar will be assessed in the Writing Section.

Section A: Reading Section 20 marks

Section B: Writing Section 20 marks

Read the passage carefully, then answer all the questions in Section A

- 1 Fern loved to visit the barn every morning. It smelled of hay and sweet grain and the warm bodies of animals. Her favourite spot was an old wooden stool in the corner, where she could sit quietly and listen. The animals made a comforting sound - the gentle cluck of hens, the creak of the old barn beams, and the steady chewing of cows. But Fern came for one reason above all: to see Wilbur.
- 5 Wilbur was a spring pig, small and pink and full of energy. He had soft bristles, bright eyes, and a little snout that he pushed into everything - food, hay, and sometimes Fern's pockets. But on this particular morning, Wilbur was restless. The sky outside was a dull silver, and a thin layer of frost clung to the barn roof.
- Wilbur had already eaten his breakfast and was growing bored. No one was playing with him. Fern was busy reading a book, and the other animals seemed half-asleep.
- 10 "I'm lonely," Wilbur said aloud. No one answered. The sheep merely blinked at him and closed her eyes again.
- He began pacing up and down his pen. "There must be something more exciting than this," he muttered.
- Then, quite suddenly, he had an idea. The gate wasn't latched tightly. If he nudged it, just a little, maybe it would swing open.
- 15 Wilbur trotted to the gate, gave it a shove with his snout, and to his delight, the latch lifted with a click. The gate creaked open. Heart racing, Wilbur stepped outside.
- The air was cold on his nose, and the ground was crisp with frost. But to Wilbur, it smelled of adventure. He ran across the barnyard, hooves clicking, tail twitching.
- Fern looked up and gasped. "Wilbur! Come back!"
- 20 But Wilbur didn't stop. He dashed past the chicken coop, under the wagon, and toward the orchard. For the first time in his life, he was free - and it was wonderful.
- He sniffed the air, trotted in circles, and even tried a little jump. The trees looked strange in the morning mist, their bare branches stretching like arms. Somewhere nearby, a bird chirped.
- 25 But as Wilbur wandered farther from the barn, something began to change. The wind picked up, and the open space didn't feel so friendly anymore. There were no familiar smells, no friendly voices, and no warm corner filled with straw.
- Suddenly, Wilbur felt very small.
- "I don't like this," he whispered. "Not one bit."
- 30 He turned and began to run back toward the barn. But everything looked different now, and the path wasn't as clear as it had been.
- Just then, Fern appeared, calling his name. She ran toward him with her boots crunching through the frost. Wilbur squealed with relief. She knelt beside him, wrapped her arms around his middle, and smiled.

Section A: Reading - 20 marks

Please answer these questions. Look at the passage again if you need to. You *do not* need to write full sentences for the 1-mark questions.

1. Re-read lines 1-2. Where does Fern like to sit when she visits the barn?

[1 mark]

2. List three sounds or smells Fern notices in the barn.

[1 mark]

3. What does Wilbur do to escape from his pen?

[1 mark]

4. What does the word "*restless*" mean in the sentence: "*But on this particular morning, Wilbur was restless*" (lines 6-7)?

[1 mark]

5. "*The trees looked strange...their bare branches stretching like arms.*" (lines 22-23) What technique is this?

[1 mark]

6. "*The sheep merely blinked at him and closed her eyes again.*" (lines 10-11). How many verbs are in this sentence?

[1 mark]

7. What doesn't Wilbur like about the outside world? Give two examples to support your answer.

[2 marks]

8. Write down one thing that we learn about each of the following:

- a. The barn
- b. Fern
- c. Wilbur

Include **one short quotation** for each to support your point of view.

[6 marks]

The barn:

Fern:

Wilbur:

9. How does the writer use language to present Wilbur's personality? In your answer, you should try to consider the writer's use of:

- Vocabulary (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs...)
- Language features and techniques (alliteration, simile, repetition...)

Include **short quotations** to support your point of view.

[6 marks]
