English Reading

Reading answer booklet

The Great Plague

First name
Middle name
Last name
School
DfE number

For marker’s use only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td></td>
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<td>11</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total marks (50)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Instructions

Questions and Answers
You have now had 15 minutes to read *The Great Plague*. In this booklet, there are different types of question for you to answer in different ways. The space for your answer shows you what type of writing is needed.

- **short answers**
  Some questions are followed by a short line or box. This shows that you need only write a word or phrase in your answer.

- **several line answers**
  Some questions are followed by a few lines. This gives you space to write more words or a sentence or two.

- **longer answers**
  Some questions are followed by a large box. This shows that a longer, more detailed answer is needed to explain your opinion. You can write in full sentences if you want to.

- **other answers**
  For some questions you need do no writing at all. For example, you may need to tick, draw lines to, or put a ring around your answer. Read the instructions carefully so that you know how to answer the question.

Marks
The number under each box at the side of the page tells you the maximum number of marks for each question.

Please wait until you are told to start work on page 4. You should work through the booklet until you are asked to stop, referring to your reading booklet when you need to. When a question includes a page reference, you should refer to the text on that page to help you with your answer.

You will have 45 minutes to answer the questions in this booklet.
These questions are about *The Great Plague, 1664–1666* (pages 4–5).

1. Which was the worst year of the plague?

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: *The plague was terrifying because* …
   According to this paragraph, the plague caused which two of the following?
   Tick **two**.
   - itching
   - vomiting
   - swellings
   - fever
   - fainting

3. What were the **plague orders** and how did they help to prevent the spread of the disease?
4. Which of these do we **now** know caused the plague?

Tick one.

- farm animals
- poisonous air
- bacteria
- a heat wave

5. Look at the diagram on page 4. Why is this an effective way of explaining the spread of the plague?

6. What did the Mayor of London do **and** how did it make the situation worse?
7. Samuel Pepys wrote his diary at the time of the plague. Why do you think it is included in an information text?

8. Pepys wrote in the English of his time. Draw a line to show how the words from Pepys’ diary would be written today.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pepys’ diary</th>
<th>Today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>took away the apprehension</td>
<td>made me scared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>made me feel better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>made me cough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>made me feel worse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
These questions are about the story *At the Sign of the Sugared Plum* (pages 6–8).

Choose the best word or group of words to fit the passage and put a ring around your choice.

This story is about a girl called Hannah who has arrived in London from the country. At first, she wandered through the streets to a

9. market. farm. shop. fair.

There, Hannah saw people selling

10. firewood. fish. roots and herbs. flowers and plants.

She was fascinated by the

11. goods for sale. unusual street names. bad smells. back streets.

She watched for a while and moved on. Her walk then took her

12. through a park churchyard garden station

where she saw some children

13. singing. playing. hiding. arguing.

Finally, Hannah arrived at her sister’s shop. It was called the ‘Sugared Plum’ and it probably sold

14. sweets. meat. books. shoes.

When Hannah arrived, Sarah was

15. writing a letter. ironing her apron. spreading out straw. preparing food.

Total 9 marks
16. Look at page 6.
Why was Hannah in a hurry?
Give **two** reasons.

1. ____________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________

17. Look at the paragraph about the funeral game at the top of page 7.
Why are the words ‘dead’ and ‘body’ written in inverted commas?

18a. What did the author mean when she described Sarah as:

   *looking very cool*? (page 7)

18b. Explain how modern readers might misunderstand that description.
19. When Hannah arrived, there was a misunderstanding between her and Sarah.

Explain fully the different reasons why both Hannah and Sarah were upset.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

3 marks

20. When Sarah told Hannah that the plague had broken out in London (page 8), Hannah breathed a sigh of relief. Why?

__________________________________________________________________________

1 mark


How can you tell that Sarah was scared of the plague from how she spoke and what she did?

how she spoke __________________________________________________________________

what she did ___________________________________________________________________

1 mark

1 mark

Total 11 marks
22. The inside of Sarah’s shop was very different from the market described at the beginning of the story.

Explain fully the differences between the shop and the market.

Think about:
• what was happening in each place
• the atmosphere
• the words used by the writer.

23. The text ends with these two lines:

“Everything is going to be perfectly fine.”

Or so it seemed.

What does the last line suggest about what was going to happen?
These questions are about Plague Remedies (page 9).

24. Some of the remedies were thought to **cure** people of the plague, while others were thought to **prevent** people getting the plague.

Put ticks in the table below to show which remedies were thought to cure and which were thought to prevent the disease.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>cure</th>
<th>prevent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>flowers and herbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bathing in milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eating toads</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25. The text tells us:

   ... *even tobacco was highly valued as a medicine*.

Why is this surprising to us today?

Tick one.

- because tobacco is not smoked today
- it is a surprise because tobacco had not been discovered in 1665
- because we now know that tobacco is actually bad for health
- it is a surprise that tobacco cured everyone of the plague

please turn over
26. People who treated plague victims were sometimes feared. Why?
   Give **two** reasons.
   1. ____________________________________________
   2. ____________________________________________

   2 marks

27. Think about what we **now** know about how the plague spread.
   How did the long overcoat really give protection?

   ____________________________________________

   ____________________________________________

   1 mark
These questions are about *Ring-a-ring o’ roses* (page 10).

28. Each line in the rhyme was once thought to refer to a different aspect of the plague.

Draw lines to show what each word refers to.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>posies</th>
<th>death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fall down</td>
<td>spots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atish-oo</td>
<td>flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring</td>
<td>sneezing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29. Look at the text below the rhyme on page 10.

Why are certain words written in italics, for example:

*We all fall down?*

30. This is the first paragraph after the rhyme.

This rhyme is sometimes sung in the playground. It is a game where young children dance around in a ring, singing the rhyme and deliberately falling down on the ground at the last line. The rhyme is thought by some to be about the Great Plague.

**Underline** a phrase that shows that the link between the rhyme and the plague is uncertain.
31. Hannah thought London was a safe place to be. Her reasons are in the table below. Next to Hannah’s reasons, explain why she was wrong.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hannah thought London was safe because</th>
<th>Why Hannah was wrong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the plague was only in one house.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the best doctors were there.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

32. Look at these two quotations about the plague:

   *great and horrible brute* (page 8)

   *continued to stalk* (page 9)

What impression of the plague do you get from these quotations?

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________

32

2 marks
33. What did people use to get rid of smells (‘bad air’) in each of these texts?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text</th>
<th>mark</th>
<th>mark</th>
<th>mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Pepys' diary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plague Remedies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring-a-ring o' roses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

34. Put ticks to show which statements are true and which are false.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>true</th>
<th>false</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People who treated plague victims wore red glass eyepieces.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The plague caused people to sneeze.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Although the plague was a terrible illness, it didn't cause anyone to die.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mayor of London treated people who had the plague.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The plague took 350 years to spread.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 9 marks