



**BUSSATs**

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES & SECONDARY  
SCHOOLS ACHIEVEMENT TESTS



# **11+ SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

The Comprehension Test is designed to check your understanding of what is actually written in this passage **not** what you know from previous experience.

The Word Meaning Test is about finding two words which have the SAME meaning or a meaning that is as close as possible.

## 11+ ENGLISH COMPREHENSION

### Extract from 'The Hobbit' by J. R. Tolkein

"I beg your pardon, I haven't asked for anything!"

"Yes, you have! Twice now. My pardon. I give it you. In fact I will go so far as to send you on this adventure. Very amusing for me, very good for you and profitable too, very likely, if you ever get over it."

"Sorry! I don't want any adventures, thank you. Not today. Good morning! But please come to tea - any time you like! Why not tomorrow? Come tomorrow! Good-bye!"

With that the hobbit turned and scuttled inside his round green door, and shut it as quickly as he dared, not to seem rude. Wizards after all are wizards. "What on earth did I ask him to tea for!" he said to himself, as he went to the pantry. He had only just had breakfast, but he thought a cake or two and a drink of something would do him good after his fright.

Gandalf in the meantime was still standing outside the door, and laughing long but quietly. After a while he stepped up, and with the spike of his staff scratched a queer sign on the hobbit's beautiful green front-door. Then he strode away, just about the time when Bilbo was finishing his second cake and beginning to think that he had escaped adventures very well.

The next day he had almost forgotten about Gandalf. He did not remember things very well, unless he put them down on his Engagement Tablet like this: 'Gandalf Wednesday'. Yesterday he had been too flustered to do anything of the kind. Just before tea-time there came a tremendous ring on the front-door bell, and then he remembered! He rushed and put on the kettle, and put out another cup and saucer and an extra cake or two, and ran to the door.

"I am so sorry to keep you waiting!" he was going to say, when he saw that it was not Gandalf at all. It was a dwarf with a blue beard tucked into a golden belt, and very bright eyes under his dark-green hood. As soon as the door was opened, he pushed inside, just as if he had been expected. He hung his hooded cloak on the nearest peg, and "Dwalin at your service!" he said with a low bow.

"Bilbo Baggins at yours!" said the hobbit, too surprised to ask any questions for the moment.

When the silence that followed had become uncomfortable, he added: "I am just about to take tea; pray come and have some with me." A little stiff perhaps, but he meant it kindly. And what would you do, if an uninvited dwarf came and hung his things up in your hall without a word of explanation? They had not been at table long, in fact they had hardly reached the third cake, when there came another even louder ring at the bell. "Excuse me!" said the hobbit, and off he went to the door.

"So you have got here at last!" was what he was going to say to Gandalf this time.

But it was not Gandalf. Instead there was a very old-looking dwarf on the step with a white beard and a scarlet hood; and he too hopped inside as soon as the door was open, just as if he had been invited.

"I see they have begun to arrive already," he said when he caught sight of Dwalin's green hood hanging up. He hung his red one next to it, and "Balin at your service!" he said with his hand on his breast.

"Thank you!" said Bilbo with a gasp. It was not the correct thing to say, but that they had begun to arrive had flustered him badly. He liked visitors, but he liked to know them before they arrived, and he preferred to ask them himself. He had a horrible thought that the cakes might run short, and then he as the host- he knew his duty and stuck to it however painful-he might have to go without.

## ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Why did Dwalin think he had been invited to Bilbo Baggins for tea?

- a. Because he had received an invitation in the post
- b. Because he liked Bilbo Baggins
- c. Because Gandalf had left a sign
- d. Because he liked cake

2. Why had Bilbo been flustered the day before?

- a. He was frightened by wizards
- b. He didn't like adventures
- c. He was worried about making tea
- d. He thought he had been rude

3. Why was "Thank you" not the correct thing to say to Balin?

- a. Because Balin had just said "Hello"
- b. Because Bilbo had not received anything
- c. Because it was not necessary for hobbits to say "Thank you"
- d. Because Bilbo didn't know Balin

4. Why had Bilbo almost forgotten about Gandalf the next day?

- a. Bilbo was busy
- b. Bilbo didn't like thinking about wizards
- c. Bilbo was thinking about adventures
- d. Bilbo was forgetful

## PUNCTUATION

In the following sentences write the correct word in the box from the choice of words inside the brackets.

1. They decided they **[wouldn't/ would'nt]** go there this time.
2. Let us see what **[it's/its]** going to do now the cat is running.

## WORD MEANING

In each line below, circle one word from each set which is the closest in meaning.

### SET 1

### SET 2

1.	castle	house	aeroplane	lake	residence	caravan
2.	town	office	building	statue	column	workplace
3.	work	try	endeavour	attempt	run	write

## 11+ MATHS (Foundation)

Item 1	$12 \times 1000 =$	
S 1	$A: 1200$ $B: 12000$ $C: 120$ $D: 120000$	

Item 2	$564 - 439 =$	
S 2	$A: 135$ $B: 125$ $C: 136$ $D: 126$	

Item 3	A card is picked from a pack of ordinary 52 playing cards. What is the probability of getting a king, queen or jack?	
S 3	$A: \frac{3}{13}$ $B: \frac{3}{52}$ $C: \frac{12}{13}$ $D: \frac{13}{52}$	

Item 4	$96 \div 6 =$	
S 4	<p>A:17</p> <p>B:14</p> <p>C:15</p> <p>D:16</p>	

Item 5	$0.3 + 0.8 =$	
S 5	<p>A:0.11</p> <p>B:1.2</p> <p>C:0.38</p> <p>D:1.1</p>	

Item 6	Simplify the following: $\frac{3}{30}$	
S 6	<p>A: <math>\frac{1}{3}</math></p> <p>B: <math>\frac{1}{10}</math></p> <p>C: <math>\frac{1}{5}</math></p> <p>D: <math>\frac{1}{9}</math></p>	

Item 7	Simplify the following: $\frac{8}{32}$	
S 7	<p>A: <math>\frac{1}{8}</math></p> <p>B: <math>\frac{1}{4}</math></p> <p>C: <math>\frac{4}{16}</math></p> <p>D: <math>\frac{2}{8}</math></p>	

Item 8	Fill in the next two numbers in the following sequence: 5, 13, 21, 29, ....., .....	
S 8	<p>A: 38,47</p> <p>B: 37,45</p> <p>C: 37,46</p> <p>D: 38,46</p>	
8b	<p>Describe how you completed the problem:</p> <p>A: Multiply by 2 then add 2</p> <p>B: Plus 9</p> <p>C: Plus 8</p> <p>D: Multiply by 3 then subtract 1</p>	

Item 9	$7.62 - 2.34 =$	
S 9	<p>A: 5.28</p> <p>B: 5.32</p> <p>C: 5.31</p> <p>D: 5.29</p>	



## 11+ MATHS (Middle)

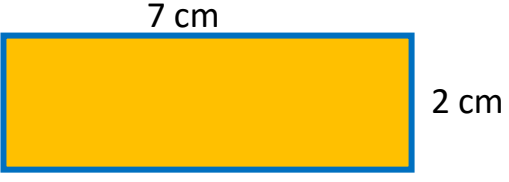
Item 1	$0.00712 \times 100 =$	
S 1	<p>A: 0.712 B: 7.12 C: 71.2 D: 712</p>	

Item 2	$410.3 \div 1000 =$	
S 2	<p>A: 41.03 B: 4.103 C: 0.4103 D: 0.04103</p>	

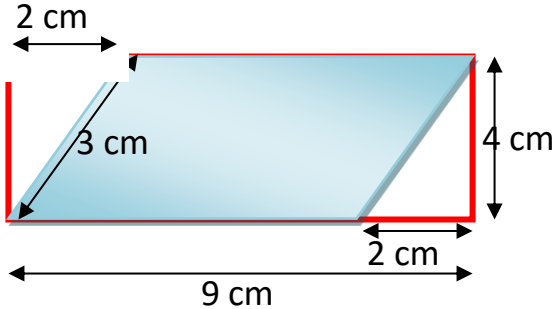
Item 3	Round the number below to one decimal place: 4.18	
S 3	<p>A: 4.20 B: 4.1 C: 4.2 D: 4.10</p>	

Item 4	Write the following fractions in order of size, from smallest to largest: $\frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{7}{12}$	3m
S 4	<p>A: <math>\frac{7}{12}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{5}{6}</math></p> <p>B: <math>\frac{7}{12}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{2}{3}</math></p> <p>C: <math>\frac{2}{3}, \frac{7}{12}, \frac{5}{6}</math></p> <p>D: <math>\frac{5}{6}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{7}{12}</math></p>	

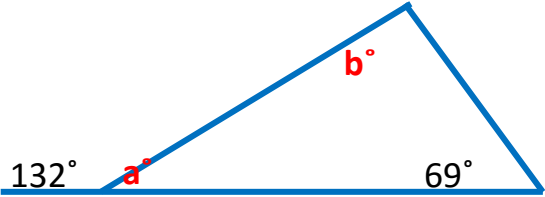
Item 5	$-9 + 7 =$	
S 5	<p>A: -16</p> <p>B: 2</p> <p>C: -2</p> <p>D: 16</p>	

Item 6	Work out the perimeter and area of the following shape: <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	4m
S 6	<p>A: <math>P = 9cm, A = 14cm^2</math></p> <p>B: <math>P = 14cm, A = 18cm^2</math></p> <p>C: <math>P = 18cm, A = 14cm^2</math></p> <p>D: <math>P = 18cm^2, A = 14cm</math></p>	

## 11+ MATHS (Advanced)

Item 1	<p>The diagram below shows a shaded parallelogram drawn inside a rectangle.</p> 	
S 1	<p>What is the area of the shaded parallelogram?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <i>A</i> : <math>21\text{cm}^2</math>  <i>B</i> : <math>28\text{cm}^2</math>  <i>C</i> : <math>32\text{cm}^2</math>  <i>D</i> : <math>36\text{cm}^2</math> </p>	

Item 2	<p>A can of lemonade from a vending machine costs 65p. The table below shows the coins that were collected from the machine in one day.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Coins</th> <th>Number of Coins</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>50p</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20p</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10p</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5p</td> <td>41</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Coins	Number of Coins	50p	22	20p	18	10p	33	5p	41	
Coins	Number of Coins											
50p	22											
20p	18											
10p	33											
5p	41											
S 2	<p>How many cans of lemonade were sold that day?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <i>A</i> : £20.85  <i>B</i> : £19.95  <i>C</i> : 31  <i>D</i> : 30         </p>											

Item 3	Find the missing angles $a^\circ$ and $b^\circ$ : <div style="text-align: center; margin: 20px 0;">  </div>	3m
S 3	<p><math>A: a = 48^\circ, b = 53^\circ</math></p> <p><math>B: a = 48^\circ, b = 63^\circ</math></p> <p><math>C: a = 58^\circ, b = 53^\circ</math></p> <p><math>D: a = 58^\circ, b = 63^\circ</math></p>	

Item 4	$3\frac{1}{3} + 1\frac{9}{20} =$	
S 4	<p><math>A: 4\frac{9}{60}</math></p> <p><math>B: 4\frac{49}{60}</math></p> <p><math>C: 4\frac{10}{23}</math></p> <p><math>D: 4\frac{47}{60}</math></p>	

## 11+ GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Answer the following questions:

1. Which logo identifies the ship's crew as pirates?

- a. Bull
- b. Lion
- c. Skull and cross bones
- d. Griffin

2. During which century did Queen Victoria reign?

- a. 17<sup>th</sup> century
- b. 18<sup>th</sup> century
- c. 19<sup>th</sup> century
- d. 20<sup>th</sup> century

3. How many grams in half a kilogram?

- a. 300
- b. 500
- c. 1000
- d. 5000

4. Who was the first man on the moon?

- a. Edwin Aldrin
- b. Michael Collins
- c. Neil Armstrong
- d. Yuri Gargarin

5. Which country's flag consists of a red circle on a white background?

- a. Vietnam
- b. China
- c. Japan
- d. Sumatra

6. How many squares on a chess board?

- a. 36
- b. 64
- c. 32
- d. 49

7. Which planet is nearest the Sun?

- a. Saturn
- b. Venus
- c. Mercury
- d. Earth

8. What do the dots on a pair of dice add up to?

- a. 40
- b. 42
- c. 38
- d. 44

9. Which is the largest species of Tiger?

- a. Bengal
- b. Bali
- c. Siberian
- d. Malayan

10. Supply the missing date: the second world war ended in ...

- a. 1949
- b. 1945
- c. 1939
- d. 1940



## 11+ Exam Examples - Solutions

### Maths

#### Foundation

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. D
5. D
6. B
7. B
8. B/C

#### Middle

1. A
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. C

#### Advanced

1. B
2. D
3. B
4. D

### English

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. D

#### Punctuation

wouldn't

it's

#### Word Meaning

house/residence

office/workplace

try/attempt

#### General Knowledge

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. B



