FREE SAMPLE

Birmingham and West Midlands (GL style): Set 2 (Tests 5 to 8)

Four more full mock tests in the same format as Set 1, with new questions throughout, answer sheets, answers and the parent guide.

In this sample

- The first 5 pages of Test 5 (Question Paper)
- The first 2 pages of the Test 5 answers

In the full set2

- Four complete mock tests (Tests 5 to 8)
- Answer sheets (where the test uses them), answers and explanations or mark schemes
- A parent guide to the format, timings and how to use the tests

Original practice material, written for NITU. Not an official paper and not produced by any school, council, consortium or test provider. Where the real test's details are not published, the papers say so and label our choice as an assumption. Practice cannot predict a result and does not guarantee a place.

You may print this sample for use in your own household.

NITU · Next Intake Test Uplift · Digichange Publication

NITU · NEXT INTAKE TEST UPLIFT · WEST MIDLANDS GRAMMAR SCHOOLS TEST STYLE · ORIGINAL PRACTICE MATERIAL

Birmingham and West Midlands-style Entrance Mock Test 5

Two papers · for entry to Year 7 in September 2028

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

How to use this test

1. Do **Paper 1** and **Paper 2** on the same day with a break between them, as in the real test, or on separate days if your child tires easily.
2. Use a clock or timer. Allow about **50 minutes** of working time for each paper (assumed), inside a session of about 60 minutes as reported. No calculator.
3. Answer on the **separate answer sheet**. Draw a single line through the box beside the answer you choose, as on a machine-read answer sheet. For the one question that says “Mark TWO boxes”, mark both.
4. There is no penalty for a wrong answer, so answer every question. Move on if stuck.

Structure of this test

Paper	Section	Questions	Share of score (reported)
1	English: comprehension, cloze, technical English	25	50%
	Verbal reasoning	30	
2	Maths	25	25%
	Non-verbal reasoning	20	25%

What this paper is based on. The structure follows the published format of the test arranged by the King Edward VI Foundation for the Birmingham grammar schools and used by other West Midlands grammar schools, as publicly reported for 2027 entry: two multiple-choice papers of about 60 minutes each, sat on one day with a break, individually timed sections in English comprehension, verbal reasoning, maths and non-verbal reasoning, a separate answer sheet, English and verbal reasoning together making half of the score, and maths and non-verbal reasoning a quarter each. The test was produced by GL Assessment for 2027 entry; the provider for 2028 entry has not been confirmed. **Our assumptions:** which sections go in which paper, the number of questions, the section timings and the number of answer options (five here), because they are not published. All questions are original. Content is Key Stage 2. Raw scores cannot be turned into an official standardised score or compared with any school’s pass mark.

Original mock test, not an official paper and not produced by the King Edward VI Foundation, GL Assessment or any school.

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Paper 1 · English

Questions 1–25

Part A: Comprehension (questions 1–10)

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

Friends by Moonlight

In the second half of the eighteenth century, a group of friends began meeting for dinner in and around Birmingham. Most of them were manufacturers, doctors and scientists, and what they shared was curiosity: they wanted to know how the world worked, and how that knowledge could be put to use.

The friends met once a month, on the Monday nearest the full moon. There were no street lights in the countryside and the roads were rough, so the members needed moonlight to ride home safely after a long evening of talk. They called their club the Lunar Society, and they jokingly called themselves the “Lunarticks”, a play on the word “lunatics”.

One of the most important members was Matthew Boulton, who owned a huge factory at Soho, just outside Birmingham. It made buttons, buckles and other small metal goods. Working with the Scottish engineer James Watt, Boulton produced steam engines that were far more efficient than earlier ones. Other members included the doctor Erasmus Darwin, grandfather of the naturalist Charles Darwin, the potter Josiah Wedgwood and the chemist Joseph Priestley, who experimented with gases.

At their dinners, nothing was too small or too strange to discuss: canals, electricity, plants, rocks and the weather all had their turn. The society slowly faded in the early 1800s as its members grew old, but Boulton’s home, Soho House, still stands. It is now a museum, where visitors can see the room in which the friends once dined.

1. When did the Lunar Society meet?

A On the first day of every month
B On the Monday nearest the full moon
C Every Sunday morning
D Only in the summer
E On the night of the new moon

2. Why did the members choose that time to meet?

A So they could study the Moon together
B Because they thought the full moon was lucky
C Because the factories were closed
D So there was moonlight to ride home by
E So they could watch the stars after dinner

3. Why was “Lunarticks” a joke?

A It sounded like the word “lunatics”
B It was the name of a famous inventor
C It was a word for a type of steam engine
D It meant “people who eat dinner”
E It was spelt backwards

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4. In paragraph 1, “curiosity” most nearly means

A a fear of new ideas
B a love of good food
C a wish to find things out
D a talent for making money
E a kind of friendship

5. What did Boulton’s factory at Soho make?

A Pottery and plates
B Pens and ink
C Clocks and watches
D Bricks and tiles
E Buttons, buckles and other small metal goods

6. Who did Boulton work with to produce steam engines?

A Erasmus Darwin
B James Watt
C Josiah Wedgwood
D Joseph Priestley
E Charles Darwin

7. Which statement about Erasmus Darwin is supported by the passage?

A He was a potter
B He owned the factory at Soho
C He built the first steam engine
D He was a doctor and the grandfather of Charles Darwin
E He was a Scottish engineer

8. Which subject is NOT mentioned as being discussed at the dinners?

A Music
B Canals
C Electricity
D Plants
E The weather

9. “Nothing was too small or too strange to discuss” suggests that the friends

A only talked about tiny things
B found most ideas silly
C were interested in a very wide range of subjects
D argued about everything
E refused to discuss new ideas

10. Why did the Lunar Society fade?

A Soho House was knocked down
B Street lights were invented
C The members fell out
D The factory closed
E Its members grew old

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Part B: Cloze (questions 11–15)

Read the paragraph. For each numbered gap, choose the word that fits best.

> The lifeboat crew (1) the alarm just after midnight. Within minutes they had pulled on their jackets and (2) down to the harbour. The sea was (3) than any of them had seen it for years. Waves crashed (4) against the harbour wall, but the crew did not (5) for a second.

11. Gap 1: choose the word that fits.

A hear
B heard
C hearing
D hears
E heared

12. Gap 2: choose the word that fits.

A race
B racing
C races
D raced
E racer

13. Gap 3: choose the word that fits.

A rougher
B rough
C roughest
D roughly
E roughness

14. Gap 4: choose the word that fits.

A violent
B violence
C violently
D violented
E violentness

15. Gap 5: choose the word that fits.

A hesitated
B hesitating
C hesitates
D hesitation
E hesitate

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Part C: Technical English (questions 16–25)

16. Choose the word that is spelt correctly.

A accomodate
B accommodate
C acommodate
D accommadate
E acomodate

17. Which sentence correctly shows that the coats belong to several girls?

A The girl’s coats were in the hall.
B The girls coats’ were in the hall.
C The girls’s coats were in the hall.
D The girls’ coats were in the hall.
E The girl’s’ coats were in the hall.

18. Choose the word that completes the sentence. We walked ___ the park to the shops.

A through
B threw
C thorough
D though
E thru

19. Which word is closest in meaning to ASSIST?

A hinder
B ask
C help
D insist
E watch

20. Which word is opposite in meaning to SCARCE?

A rare
B few
C small
D hidden
E plentiful

21. Which word is an adjective? The tiny kitten slept on the rug.

A kitten
B tiny
C slept
D rug
E on

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Birmingham and West Midlands-style Entrance Mock Test 5

Answers and explanations

Every question was written for this product. Maths, verbal reasoning and non-verbal answers were checked by script (arithmetic, letter patterns, hidden words, anagrams and every figure) before printing; English answers were checked against the passage and the grammar rules. If you spot a mistake, tell us and we will correct it. Answer positions are balanced across A–E in each section. Reported weighting: English and verbal reasoning 50%, maths 25%, non-verbal 25%; your raw scores cannot be converted to an official standardised score.

English

Q	Ans	Skill	Why
1	**B**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 2 says they met on the Monday nearest the full moon.
2	**D**	Comprehension: retrieval	There were no street lights, so they needed moonlight to ride home safely.
3	**A**	Language: word play	The passage calls it a play on the word “lunatics”.
4	**C**	Vocabulary in context	They wanted to know how the world worked.
5	**E**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 3 lists buttons, buckles and other small metal goods.
6	**B**	Comprehension: retrieval	Boulton worked with the Scottish engineer James Watt.
7	**D**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 3 calls him a doctor and the grandfather of Charles Darwin.
8	**A**	Comprehension: retrieval	Music is not mentioned in paragraph 4.
9	**C**	Comprehension: inference	Any subject, however small or strange, could be talked about.
10	**E**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 4 says it faded as its members grew old.
11	**B**	Cloze: tense	Past tense is needed: the crew heard the alarm.
12	**D**	Cloze: tense	“Had pulled … and raced” needs the past participle.
13	**A**	Cloze: word forms	“Than” needs the comparative form.
14	**C**	Cloze: word forms	An adverb describes how the waves crashed.
15	**E**	Cloze: tense	After “did not” we use the base form of the verb.
16	**B**	Spelling	accommodate has double c and double m.
17	**D**	Punctuation: apostrophes	For a plural ending in s, the apostrophe goes after the s.
18	**A**	Grammar: homophones	“Through” means from one side to the other; “threw” is the past of throw.
19	**C**	Vocabulary: synonyms	To assist someone is to help them.
20	**E**	Vocabulary: antonyms	Scarce means in short supply; plentiful means there is lots.
21	**B**	Grammar: word classes	“Tiny” describes the kitten.

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22	**D**	Grammar: tense	“Was reading” shows an action that was going on in the past.
23	**A**	Spelling: plurals	potato adds -es to make potatoes.
24	**C**	Vocabulary: prefixes	disappear
25	**E**	Punctuation: semi-colons	The semi-colon joins two related main clauses.

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