FREE SAMPLE

Grammar schools with their own test (GL style): four-test pack

Four mock tests as separate English, verbal reasoning, maths and non-verbal booklets, for grammar schools that set their own multiple-choice test (for example Kendrick, Bishop Wordsworth's, South Wilts, QE Barnet, Newstead Wood, Upton Hall, Ripon, Lancaster Royal). The parent guide shows which booklets match each school.

In this sample

- The first 5 pages of Test 1 (1 English)
- The first 2 pages of the Test 1 answers

In the full pack

- Four complete mock tests (Tests 1 to 4)
- 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 · GRAMMAR SCHOOLS WITH THEIR OWN TEST · ORIGINAL PRACTICE MATERIAL

Grammar School Mock Test 1 (GL style)

English booklet

25 questions · about 30 minutes (assumed) · for entry to Year 7 in September 2028 · use the booklets your school's test covers

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Instructions

1. Answer on the **English** answer sheet, not in this booklet. Draw **one horizontal line** through the box beside the answer you choose. Do not tick, shade or cross.
2. To change an answer, rub it out completely and mark the new box. Check that the question number on the sheet matches the question you are answering.
3. Choose one answer for each question unless the question tells you to mark two.
4. No calculator. You may write in the margins of this booklet. There is no penalty for a wrong answer.
5. Check the parent guide for which booklets match your school's test, and how long to allow.

What this paper is based on. Several grammar schools set their own entrance test instead of an area-wide one. Most are reported to use multiple-choice papers in the GL Assessment style, each with its own mix of English, verbal reasoning, maths and non-verbal reasoning, and its own timings. This booklet practises one of those subjects. **Our assumptions:** the number of questions, the time allowed and five answer options, because these are not published for each school. All questions are original. Raw scores cannot be converted to the standardised scores schools use.

Original practice material, not an official paper and not produced by GL Assessment or any school.

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English · Part A: Comprehension

Questions 1–10

Read the passage, then answer the questions.

The Scarecrow Contest

Every September, the village of Little Hatherley held a scarecrow contest, and every September Grandad Tom's scarecrow came last. "It's not about winning," he would say, stuffing straw into an old pair of trousers. "It's about the crows." Mira, who was staying with him for the holidays, privately thought it was about winning a little bit.

This year she was determined to help. She sketched designs at the kitchen table: a scarecrow knight with a saucepan helmet, a scarecrow astronaut wrapped in kitchen foil, a scarecrow pirate with a cardboard parrot. Grandad looked at each one carefully and nodded, then went back to his newspaper. "Too fancy?" asked Mira. "Not at all," said Grandad, "but crows are hard to impress."

In the end they built the pirate. It took three days, a roll of tape and most of Grandad's patience. Grandad even found an old three-cornered hat in the loft. When they carried it down to the allotment and tied it to its post, Mira stepped back and grinned. It was magnificent. Its eye patch glittered and its coat flapped in the breeze like a sail.

On the morning of the judging, the whole village gathered along the allotment path. There was a scarecrow dressed as a ballerina, one shaped like a dragon and one that looked suspiciously like the head teacher. Children ran from one to the next, pointing and laughing, while the grown-ups pretended not to be competitive. The judges wrote things on clipboards and whispered.

Mira didn't hear the results at first, because she was staring at Grandad's cabbages. They had been nibbled down to the stalks. Perched on the pirate's shoulder, right beside the cardboard parrot, sat a large and very contented crow.

"Second place!" called a voice, and people clapped. Grandad laughed so hard that he had to sit down on an upturned bucket. "Well," he said, wiping his eyes, "at least somebody likes him."

1. What usually happened to Grandad Tom's scarecrow in the contest?

A It came first
B It came last
C It came second
D It was never finished
E It was blown away

2. What does Grandad mean when he says "It's about the crows"?

A He wants to win a prize for the crows
B He likes feeding the crows
C The judges are all crows
D A scarecrow's real job is to keep birds off the crops
E The contest is only for crows

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3. The words “privately thought” suggest that Mira

A kept her opinion to herself
B argued loudly with Grandad
C wrote her thoughts in a diary
D did not care about the contest
E agreed completely with Grandad

4. Which design did Mira and Grandad choose to build?

A The knight
B The astronaut
C The pirate
D The ballerina
E The dragon

5. What does “most of Grandad’s patience” suggest about building the scarecrow?

A Grandad built it all by himself
B It was finished very quickly
C Grandad did not help at all
D It cost a lot of money
E It was slow and frustrating work for Grandad

6. In paragraph 3, “magnificent” most nearly means

A ugly
B splendid
C unfinished
D tiny
E frightening

7. The phrase “its coat flapped in the breeze like a sail” is an example of

A a metaphor
B onomatopoeia
C alliteration
D a simile
E a rhetorical question

8. Why is one scarecrow described as looking “suspiciously like the head teacher”?

A Someone seems to have made it look like the head teacher as a joke
B The head teacher was standing in the field
C It was the head teacher’s own scarecrow
D It was dressed as a ballerina
E The judges did not like it

9. Why did Mira not hear the results at first?

A She was talking to the judges
B She had gone home
C She was staring at Grandad’s nibbled cabbages
D The voice was too quiet
E She was mending the scarecrow

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10. Why is Grandad’s final remark funny?

A The scarecrow won first prize
B The judges disliked every scarecrow
C Mira did not like the scarecrow
D The parrot was real
E The only one who seems to like the scarecrow is a crow

Part B: Vocabulary in context (questions 11–15)

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

> Learning to juggle was harder than Priya had (1). For the first week, the balls rolled under the sofa, (2) the cat and once landed in the goldfish bowl. Her brother laughed, (3) she refused to give up. She practised every evening (4) her arms ached. By the end of the month she could keep three balls in the air at once, and her brother was (5) her to teach him.

11. Gap 1: choose the word that fits.

A expect
B expected
C expecting
D expectation
E expects

12. Gap 2: choose the word that fits.

A startle
B startling
C startles
D startled
E startlingly

13. Gap 3: choose the word that fits.

A but
B or
C unless
D until
E therefore

14. Gap 4: choose the word that fits.

A during
B despite
C until
D whether
E among

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15. Gap 5: choose the word that fits.

A beg
B begged
C begs
D beggar
E begging

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Grammar School Mock Test 1 (GL style)

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 booklet. Schools see age-standardised scores; these raw scores cannot be converted to them. Use them to find question types to practise.

English

Q	Ans	Skill	Why
1	**B**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 1 says that every September his scarecrow came last.
2	**D**	Comprehension: inference	A scarecrow is meant to scare crows away, not to win prizes.
3	**A**	Comprehension: inference	Privately means without telling anyone else.
4	**C**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 3 says, “In the end they built the pirate.”
5	**E**	Comprehension: inference	Using up patience means the job tested him.
6	**B**	Vocabulary in context	Mira grins because the scarecrow looks splendid.
7	**D**	Language: simile	It compares the coat to a sail using “like”.
8	**A**	Comprehension: inference	“Suspiciously” hints that the likeness was deliberate and funny.
9	**C**	Comprehension: retrieval	Paragraph 5 says she was staring at the cabbages.
10	**E**	Language: humour	The scarecrow failed at its real job: a crow sat happily on it.
11	**B**	Cloze: verb forms	“Had expected” uses the past participle.
12	**D**	Cloze: tense	The past tense matches “rolled” and “landed”.
13	**A**	Cloze: conjunctions	“But” shows the contrast between laughing and not giving up.
14	**C**	Cloze: conjunctions	She practised up to the point when her arms ached.
15	**E**	Cloze: verb forms	“Was begging” is the past progressive.
16	**B**	Spelling	necessary: one c, double s.
17	**D**	Punctuation: speech	The exclamation mark goes inside; “called” is lower case.
18	**A**	Punctuation: apostrophes	The cabbages belong to Grandad: Grandad’s. “Cabbages” is a simple plural.
19	**C**	Vocabulary: synonyms	Contented means happy and satisfied.
20	**E**	Vocabulary: antonyms	Magnificent means splendid; shabby means worn and poor-looking.
21	**B**	Grammar: word classes	“Behind” shows where something is.
22	**D**	Grammar: conjunctions	“Although” introduces a contrast.
23	**A**	Grammar: verb forms	The past tense of sit is sat.
24	**C**	Spelling: plurals	Many words ending in -f change to -ves.

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25	**E**	Grammar: sentence types	A command tells someone to do something.

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