



7 + Entrance Examination

Paper 5

English - Comprehension and Composition

Total marks: 46

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Full name

Comprehension (21 marks)

Read this passage very carefully. Then answer the questions that follow.
Remember to answer in full sentences.

There was a loud crash as Matilda nervously squinted through a tiny gap in the heavy curtains. Her heart thumped in her tight chest, and her beady eyes filled with fear. She should have known. She should have smelt it on the crisp, autumn breeze. She should have noticed the minute
5 hairs on her arms stand up like sharp nails. But she didn't. Now it was too late. The storm was already here.

Sammy, of course, would have known. He would have prepared Matilda and Benji and huddled with them under a comforting sheet with a glowing lamp . But there was no time to think about Sammy. He could no
10 longer protect them from the intense daggers of lightning, the pounding rain or the threatening skies . He wasn't even able to sing cheerful songs to mask the sound of the wind, a howling wolf, rattling at the windows and begging to get in.

Matilda knew she had to try and fight her fears and forget about her
15 longing for her older brother. She whispered words of encouragement to herself as she grabbed her lucky jumper, slipped her icy toes into her slippers and headed for the hallway, closing her bedroom door just as another angry boom shook the house. The corridor was dark and gloomy like a dungeon, too dark for Matilda to see to the other end. Flashes of
20 lightning momentarily darted through the windows. But all Matilda

could see in those seconds were stern eyes glaring down at her from tall paintings on the stone walls. She felt like she was being watched.

Finally, Matilda arrived at her younger brother's bedroom door. It was slightly ajar. Benji always slept with it firmly shut, so it made Matilda feel
25 uneasy. "Benji?" questioned Matilda in a panicked voice, "Are you there?". When she didn't hear a response, Matilda shouted her younger brother's name a second and third time, hoping that he simply couldn't hear her over the storm. Still, however, there was silence. Benji must have gone...

1. What is Matilda frightened of at the beginning of the story? (1 mark)

2. Who is Sammy? (1 mark)

3. Do you think Sammy still lives in the same house as Matilda? Explain your answer? (2 marks)

4. Can you write down two similes from this passage? (2 marks)

5. Can you spot a metaphor in this passage and write it down? (1 mark)

6. In lines 20 - 22, why did Matilda feel like she was being watched? (1 mark)

7. In lines 20-22, do you think that she is actually being watched? (1 mark)

8. In line 21, what do you think the word **stern** means? (1 mark)

9. In line 24 what do you think the word **ajar** means? (1 mark)

10. What season does the story take place in and how do you know? (2 marks)

11. Why is Matilda panicked at the end of this story? (3 marks)

12. Write about a time when you have been caught in a storm. (5 marks)

Story writing (25 marks)

Write at least a side on one of the following tasks. Remember to use punctuation and interesting adjectives and vocabulary. Write in paragraphs and make your story as exciting as you can!

Either

1. Continue writing the story about Matilda and Benji.

Before you start writing, think about:

- Where Benji might have gone.
- What Matilda does to try and find him.
- What happens to the storm.

or

2. Write about a time when you have been frightened.

- Remember to describe the event in detail and use lots of description.
- Think about where you were and what you did.
- How did the situation make you feel?

7 + Entrance Examination - English Paper 5 - English Mark Scheme

Comprehension (21 marks)

1. Matilda is frightened of the approaching storm. (1 mark)
2. Sammy is Matilda's older brother. (1 mark)
3. No I do not think that he still lives in the same house as Sammy because the author writes that he is no longer there to protect them (1 mark) or sing cheerful songs (1 mark).
4. The minute hairs on her arms stand up like sharp nails (1 mark) and the corridor was dark and gloomy like a dungeon (1 mark).
5. A wolf is used as a metaphor for the wind: The wind, a howling wolf, rattling at the windows and begging to get in (1 mark).
6. Matilda feels like she is being watched because she can feel the eyes in the paintings on the walls looking down on her (1 mark).
7. No, she is not actually being watched because the eyes are just painted and not real (1 mark).
8. The word **stern** means serious, unfriendly, intimidating etc. (1 mark).
9. The word **ajar** means open (1 mark).
10. The story is taking place in autumn (1 mark) because Matilda talks about smelling the storm on the autumn breeze (1 mark).
11. Matilda is panicked at the end of the story because her brother's door is open (1 mark). He is not replying to her (1 mark) and he, therefore, must have gone (1 mark).
12. 5 marks awarded as follows:
 - Use of descriptive language in explaining the storm (2 marks)
 - Interesting vocabulary (1 mark)
 - Punctuation (1 mark)
 - Spelling (1 mark)

Story Writing (25 marks)

The story writing mark scheme has been broken into specific sections that we feel are likely to be assessed in an exam. This is not an exhaustive list, but should provide some guidance as to where and why marks are given in a creative writing text.

Structure (4 marks)	√
Is there a clear beginning, middle and end?	
Has an attempt been made to add a problem or dilemma into the story?	
Has an attempt been made to resolve the problem at the end of the story?	
Has clear paragraphing been used?	
Vocabulary (4 marks)	
Have a variety of adjectives and/or adverbs been used to add detail?	
Have a variety of sentence openers been used? ("First", "then", "next", "finally", "eventually", "suddenly" etc.)	
Have a variety of connectors been used to link ideas? ("So", "because", "and", "even", "though", "although", "besides" etc.)	
Does the story include evidence of alliteration, similes or metaphors?	
Content (6 marks)	
Is the content relevant to the topic?	
Is the plot coherent, with ideas clearly explained?	
Have characters been described through dialogue, narration and action?	
Has the setting been described in detail, perhaps by using senses? (what the scene looks like, sounds like etc.)	
Is the content interesting to read?	
Is the content imaginative and creative?	
Punctuation (4 marks)	

Are full stops in the correct places?	
Are capital letters in the correct places? (Including proper nouns)	
Has an attempt been made to add speech marks?	
Have exclamation marks, commas or questions marks been included?	
Grammar (2 marks)	
Has a consistent tense been used throughout the text?	
Does the choice of words make sense and are sentences written in the correct order?	
Spelling (2 marks)	
Are the majority of common words spelled correctly?	
Has an attempt been made to spell tricky words phonetically?	
Presentation (3 marks)	
Is writing legible and neat?	
Are letters formed correctly?	
Has an attempt been made at joined up writing?	