



8 + Entrance Examination

Paper 6

English - Comprehension and Composition

Total marks: 44

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Full name

Comprehension (20 marks)

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

The Quest for the Magic Emerald

The twins ran as fast as they could into the tunnel entrance. They had to get to the magic emerald before it was too late! Josh could feel his legs burning and hear Sophie panting beside him. After a few minutes their pace slowed. The tunnel was starting to narrow. Walking now, the children continued
5 forwards until they came to an abrupt halt.

Ahead of them was a sharp bend in the tunnel. A flickering light shone from around the bend, casting moving shadows on the earthy tunnel wall.

“Sophie,” Josh whispered. Sophie looked at her brother. His eyes were wide and his lip trembled. “Can you hear that?”

10 From beyond the bend the children could hear a low, rumbling sound. It came in waves, growing louder and then softer again.

“What are we going to do?” asked Josh, his voice squeaking in terror.

“We have to go on,” replied Sophie. “We have to get that emerald.”

15 “I don’t know. I think we should just go back.” Josh swallowed, fighting hard to hold back his tears. “What do you think’s round there?”

“I don’t know but we’re about to find out.”

Josh turned to head back out of the tunnel but Sophie grabbed his hand and tugged him forwards. Cautiously, the twins crept towards the bend. What they saw made their mouths drop open.

20 Slumped on the floor was a vast beast. Its sleeping body filled every inch of the space inside the tunnel. Large folds of wrinkled skin hung over its torn and tattered clothes. The creature's clawed hands were as large as shovels and covered in tangled hair. Large droplets of green drool dripped from its mouth, creating a slimy pool on the floor below. With every rumbling snore
25 the creature let out a breath of air which smelt so foul and rotten it made the children's stomachs churn.

Sophie and Josh turned to look at each other. What on earth were they going to do now?

Written by Rosie Summers

1. What relation are Sophie and Josh?

(1 mark)

2. Find and copy one sentence from the text which shows that the children were tired from running.

(1 mark)

3. On lines 4-5, the author writes '*walking now, the children continued forwards until they came to an abrupt halt.*' Why do the children come to an abrupt halt?

(1 mark)

4. Make sure you have read the whole passage. The author writes '*From beyond the bend the children could hear a low, rumbling sound. It came in waves, growing louder and then softer again*' (lines 10-11). What do you think the sound is that the children can hear? Explain why you think this.

(2 marks)

5. From what you have read, how would you compare Josh and Sophie's personalities? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

(5 marks)

6. Give **three** words or phrases from the text that tell us the beast is very large.

(3 marks)

7. Why are the children trying to get through the tunnel?

(1 mark)

8. What advice would you give to Josh and Sophie now that they have discovered this creature? Should they try and continue or turn back? Explain your answer.

(2 marks)

9. What do these words or phrases mean?

whispered	
flickered	
slumped	
foul	

(4 marks)

Composition (24 marks)

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

Either

1. Continue writing the story 'The Quest for the Magic Emerald.'

Before you start writing, think about:

- What Josh and Sophie will do next
- What might happen to the creature
- How you will describe the scenes in your story using lots of description

or

2. Write a new story about your own mythical creature.

Before you start writing:

- Think about where your story will be set. Remember to describe your setting using lots of description.
- Who your characters will be
- What will happen in your story

8 + Entrance Examination - English Paper 6 - English Mark Scheme

Comprehension (20 marks)

In all answers, deduct half a mark for answers that aren't written in full or punctuated sentences.

1. Sophie and Josh are brother and sister/twins. (1 mark)
2. "Josh could feel his legs burning and hear Sophie panting beside him." (1 mark)
3. The children came to an abrupt halt because there was a sharp bend ahead/ there was a light flickering ahead/ they could hear a sound. (1 mark)
4. I think the sound is the giant snoring (1 mark) because the text says the giant is asleep/ the text says the giant is snoring/ the sound came in waves like snoring (or any similar answer). (1 mark)
5. Any reference to Josh being a scared/ cowardly character and Sophie being a brave/ bossy character (2 mark). Possible evidence from text (award up to 3 marks):
 - His eyes were wide and his lip trembled.
 - "What are we going to do?" asked Josh, his voice squeaking in terror.
 - "I don't know. I think we should just go back." Josh swallowed, fighting hard to hold back his tears.
 - Josh turned to head back out of the tunnel but Sophie grabbed his hand and tugged him forwards.
 - Any reference to Sophie wanting to continue down the tunnel and Josh wanting to turn back.
6.
 - "Vast beast" (1 mark)
 - "Its sleeping body filled every inch of the space inside the tunnel." (1 mark)
 - "The creature's clawed hands were as large as shovels and covered in tangled hair" (1 mark)
7. The children are trying to get through the tunnel to get to the magic emerald. (1 mark)
8. Award 2 marks for sensible answer with explanation. Examples:
 - I would tell Josh and Sophie that they should turn around and go back out of the tunnel because the creature is blocking the tunnel/ the creature might be dangerous.
 - I would tell Josh and Sophie that they should try and continue because they need to get the emerald.
9. What do these words or phrases mean?

whispered	Talked very quietly (1 mark)
flickered	Went on and off quickly (1 mark)
slumped	Sat down/ lying down/ collapsed/ leaning (or similar answer) (1 mark)
foul	disgusting/ dirty/ bad (or similar answer) (1 mark)

Composition (24 marks)

Structure (4 marks)	
Is there a clear beginning, middle and end? (Note: task 1 should include just a 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 conjunctions been used to link ideas? ("So", "because", "and", "even" though", "although", "besides" etc.)	
Does the story include evidence of alliteration, similes or metaphors?	
Content (5 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 imaginative and creative?	
Punctuation (4 marks)	
Are full stops and capital letters (including proper nouns) used consistently and correctly?	
Has speech been punctuated correctly?	
Have apostrophes been used consistently and correctly?	
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 common words spelled correctly?	
Has an attempt been made to spell tricky words phonetically?	
Presentation (3 marks)	
Is writing legible and neat?	
Is writing consistently joined correctly?	