



7 + Entrance Examination

Paper 3

English - Comprehension and Composition

Total marks: 47

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Full name

Comprehension (22 marks)

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

Jack and Sophie climbed into Dad's blue car as the hot midday sun shone down. They couldn't wait to cool off in the sea. They hurried to put their seatbelts on excitedly, and the car pulled out of the driveway and onto the road.

"I hope we haven't forgotten anything," said Mum. "Sophie, did you remember your swimming costume? Jack, if you've forgotten your beach ball, we're not turning back." The children rolled their eyes as Mum continued to fret during the whole journey.

It felt like they'd been driving for hours, and the children were getting bored. Just then, the road bent round, and at last, they could see the sea! It sparkled in the sun like diamonds and went on as far as the eye could see. Little boats bobbed about in the waves as their sails flapped in the wind.

As soon as the car came to a standstill, the children jumped out like excitable puppies and bounded towards the water's edge. Jack had to stop to pull his shoes and socks off - they had filled up with sand and it felt horrible!

"Kids," shouted Dad, "wait for us and don't even think about going into the water on your own!". The beach was packed, and hundreds of people were paddling in the waves to cool off. Dad started to feel anxious. He was especially worried about Sophie, as she couldn't swim without arm bands yet, and this beach was known for having strong currents.

Mum had unpacked all the buckets, spades and beach towels and was getting stuck into her book.

“Let’s build a MASSIVE sand castle,” said Jack to Sophie, and the two children started to fill buckets with sand and turn them upside down. Adding turrets, a gatehouse and a huge surrounding wall, the building grew and grew. Sophie ran around collecting shells and little bits of wood to use as windows and doors, and soon the sandcastle looked magnificent.

“This looks great,” said Mum, “but it’s missing one important thing....a moat!” Carefully, Sophie and Jack dug a channel all around the edge of the sandcastle’s wall, patting the sand to keep it from caving in. “This is the best sandcastle we’ve ever made!” screamed Sophie.

Suddenly, a wave crashed loudly, and the family looked up. Mum had been distracted by her book and hadn’t realised that the tide had been coming in the whole time. The waves were just inches from the children’s sandcastle...

1. Why do the children roll their eyes at mum?

(2 marks)

2. What was sparkling like diamonds? Rewrite the sentence using a different simile.

(2 marks)

3.

a) Write the sentence from the passage that describes the boats.

(1 mark)

b) What word could you write that means the same as **'bobbled'**?

(1 mark)

4. What words does the author use to describe the children's feelings when they arrive at the beach? Why do you think they felt like this?

(3 marks)

5. Using your own words describe how Jack might feel when he takes his shoes and socks off.

(2 marks)

6. From the passage which word means the same as:

Rushed _____

Eagerly _____

Nervous _____

(3 marks)

7. What two things were worrying dad about Sophie getting into the water?

(2 marks)

8. Which 3 things did mum unpack when they arrived on the beach?

(3 marks)

9. What did Sophie find on the beach to use as windows and doors for the sandcastle?

(2 marks)

10. How did Sophie describe the sandcastle when it was finished?

(1 mark)

Name_____

Composition (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! You have **25 minutes** to complete this task.

Either

1. Continue the story and write about what happens next.

Before you start writing, think about:

- How you are going to make your story exciting and interesting.
- Were the children safe?
- What did Mum do next?

or

2. Write a story entitled 'The fun day out!'

- Who are the main characters in your story?
- When and where does the day out take place?
- How are you going to make your story exciting and interesting?

7 + Entrance Examination - English Paper 3 - English Mark Scheme

Comprehension (22 marks)

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

1. The children roll their eyes because Mum was fussing/worrying for the whole journey (1 mark) and they thought she was being silly/too worried (1 mark).
2. The sea (1 mark). Accept any complete sentence containing a relevant simile (1 mark), for example: "The sea was glittering like gold." or "The sea was shining like stars."
3. 2 marks awarded as follows:
 - a. "Little boats bobbed about in the waves as their sails flapped in the wind." (1 mark)
 - b. Any one of the following, but not limited to: moved, floated, jumped, danced, wobbled, jerked (1 mark).
4. Up to 3 marks awarded as follows:
 - The writer describes them as "excitable puppies" (1 mark).
 - Any two valid reasons why (2 marks), for example they are really happy to arrive at the beach, and they are looking forward to going into the sea.
5. 2 marks awarded as follows:
 - Any two valid ideas (2 marks), for example Jack might feel glad to take his shoes off because his shoes felt horrible. Jack might enjoy feeling the sand between his toes.
6. 1 mark for each correct synonym: hurried or bounded or ran (rushed); excitedly (eagerly), anxious or worried (nervous).
7. She couldn't swim without armbands yet (1 mark) and the beach was known for having strong currents (1 mark).

8. Mum unpacked buckets (1 mark), spades (1 mark) and beach towels (1 mark) when they arrived at the beach.
9. Sophie found shells (1 mark) and little bits of wood (1 mark) to use as windows and doors.
10. Sophie described the sandcastle as 'the best sandcastle we've ever made'. (1 mark).

Composition (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?	

We hope you found this exam paper useful. All papers are developed and written by our experienced qualified teachers. If you need further support please reach out to enquiries@owltutors.co.uk and we will be happy to help.