7 + Entrance Examination

Paper 9

English - Comprehension and Composition

Total marks: 32

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Full name .....

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Comprehension (20 marks)

Read the following extract from “Just William” by Richmal Crompton , and answer the questions that follow.

Glossary (words you need to know):

Shillings, sixpences – old forms of money (pennies were called ‘d’ instead of ‘p’)

Pictures – the cinema

Gooseberry Eyes and Marble Balls – old-fashioned sweets, which were weighed on a scale and sold by weight

Grocer – a shop which sold fruit and vegetables

It all began with William’s aunt, who was in a good temper that morning, and gave him a shilling for posting a letter for her and carrying her parcels from the grocer’s.

“Buy some sweets or go to the Pictures,” she said carelessly, as she gave it to him.

William walked slowly down the road, gazing thoughtfully at the coin. After deep calculations, based on the fact that a shilling is the equivalent of two sixpences, he came to the conclusion that both luxuries could be indulged in.

In the matter of sweets, William frankly upheld the superiority of quantity over quality. Moreover, he knew every sweet shop within a two miles radius of his home whose proprietor added an extra sweet after the scale had descended, and he patronised these shops exclusively. With solemn face and eager eye, he always watched the process of weighing, and “stingy” shops were known and banned by him.

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He wandered now to his favourite confectioner and stood outside the window for five minutes, torn between the rival attractions of Gooseberry Eyes and Marble Balls. Both were sold at 4 ounces for 2d. William never purchased more expensive luxuries. At last his frowning brow relaxed and he entered the shop.

"Sixpennoth of Gooseberry Eyes," he said, with a slightly self-conscious air. The extent of his purchases rarely exceeded a penny.

"Hello!" said the shopkeeper, in amused surprise.

"Gotter bit of money this mornin'," explained William carelessly, with the air of a Rothschild.

He watched the weighing of the emerald green dainties with silent intensity, saw with satisfaction the extra one added after the scale had fallen, received the precious paper bag, and, putting two sweets into his mouth, walked out of the shop.

Sucking slowly, he walked down the road towards the Picture Palace. William was not in the habit of frequenting Picture Palaces. He had only been there once before in his life.

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1. Who gave William the money?

_____

(1 mark)

2. How much money did she give William?

_____

(1 mark)

3. What did she ask William to do for her?

_____

_____

(2 marks)

4. What two things did William decide to do with the money?

_____

_____

(2 marks)

5. *'He always watched the process of weighing'*. Why did William watch when his sweets were weighed out?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

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6. Which two kinds of sweets does William decide between?

_____

_____

(2 marks)

7. Which sweets does he choose?

_____

(1 mark)

8. How can you tell that William does not normally have that much money?

_____

_____

(1 mark)

9. Copy down the metaphor which is used to describe the sweets and explain why it is used.

_____

_____

(2 marks)

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10. Does William go to the cinema often? Copy down the sentence which shows how often he goes

_____

_____

(2 marks)

11. What kind of boy is William? Give a reason for your answer.

_____

_____

(2 marks)

12. Do you think you would like to be friends with William? Give a reason for your answer. try to write two sentences.

_____

_____

_____

(3 marks)

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Story writing (12 marks)

Write about a time when you went somewhere with a friend or sibling. This might be to the cinema, like William, or to another place like a swimming pool or a park. Write two paragraphs.

Try to include:

- Exciting vocabulary (for example, adjectives and adverbs)
- A simile, metaphor or personification
- Full stops and capital letters
- Commas and an exclamation mark
- Some dialogue (speaking)

Think about your spelling, grammar and punctuation. Check your work carefully when you have finished.

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7 + Entrance Examination - English Paper 1 - 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. William's aunt gave him money.
2. She gave him one shilling.
3. She asked William to post a letter and carry/ collect her parcels from the grocer.
4. He decided to buy sweets and go to the cinema.
5. He wanted to check he got the right number/ amount.
6. He decides between Gooseberry Eyes and Marble Balls.
7. He chooses Gooseberry Eyes.
8. The shopkeeper is surprised when he orders so many sweets/ he normally only orders a few.
9. 'Emerald green dainties' – emeralds are green like the sweets.

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10. He does not go often. ‘He had only been there once before in his life.’
11. He is kind (helping his aunt); he likes sweets (buys sweets); he is careful/ cautious (only goes to shops which weigh the sweets properly) (any one of these with an explanation)
12. Yes/ no with a valid reason. Must have two sentences for three marks.

Story Writing (12 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.

Vocabulary (2 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 (3 marks)	
Is the content relevant to the topic?	

Is the plot coherent, with ideas clearly explained?	
Is the content interesting to read?	
Is the content imaginative and creative?	
Punctuation (2 marks)	
Are full stops in the correct places?	

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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 mark)	
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 (1 mark)	
Are the majority of common words spelled correctly?	
Has an attempt been made to spell tricky words phonetically?	
Presentation (2 mark)	
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.

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