



8 + Entrance Examination

Paper 4

English - Comprehension and Composition

Total marks: 46

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Full name

Comprehension (22 marks)

The following extract is from *The Wizard of Oz* by Frank Baum. Read the passage very carefully and then answer the questions that follow. Remember to answer in full sentences.

Dorothy is a young girl who got carried away by the strong winds from a cyclone and landed in a strange new land...

While she stood looking eagerly at the strange and beautiful sights, she noticed coming toward her a group of the strangest people she had ever seen. They were not as big as the grown folk she had always been used to; but neither were they very small. In fact, they seemed about as tall as
5 Dorothy, who was a well-grown child for her age, although they were, so far as looks go, many years older.

Three were men and one a woman, and all were oddly dressed. They wore round hats that rose to a small point a foot above their heads, with little bells around the brims that tinkled sweetly as they moved. The hats of the men
10 were blue; the little woman's hat was white, and she wore a white gown that hung in pleats from her shoulders. Over it were sprinkled little stars that glistened in the sun like diamonds. The men were dressed in blue, of the same shade as their hats, and wore well-polished boots with a deep roll of blue at the tops. The men, Dorothy thought, were about as old as Uncle
15 Henry, for two of them had beards. But the little woman was doubtless much older. Her face was covered with wrinkles, her hair was nearly white, and she walked rather stiffly.

When these people drew near the house where Dorothy was standing in the

doorway, they paused and whispered among themselves, as if afraid to come
20 farther. But the little old woman walked up to Dorothy, made a low bow and
said, in a sweet voice:

"You are welcome, most noble Sorceress, to the land of the Munchkins. We
are so grateful to you for having killed the Wicked Witch of the East, and for
setting our people free."

25 Dorothy listened to this speech with wonder. What could the little woman
possibly mean by calling her a sorceress, and saying she had killed the Wicked
Witch of the East? Dorothy was an innocent, harmless little girl, who had
been carried by a cyclone many miles from home; and she had never killed
anything in all her life.

1. How many people were in the group that came over to Dorothy?

(1 mark)

2. How does the author describe the stars that are sprinkled on the woman's gown?

(1 mark)

3. What does the word 'sprinkled' (line 11) tell you about how the stars were placed on her gown?

(1 mark)

4. Write down three **differences** between the appearance of the men and the appearance of the woman.

(3 marks)

5. Why does Dorothy think the woman is much older than the men?

(3 marks)

6. Why are the people Dorothy has met thankful to her?

(2 marks)

7. Find and copy a simile the author uses in the passage.

(1 mark)

8. According to the old lady, where is Dorothy?

(1 mark)

9. Read lines 25 - 29 again. Why is Dorothy feeling confused at this part in the story?

(2 marks)

10. What is a 'cyclone' (line 28)?

(1 mark)

11. Decide if these sentences are **True (T)**, **False (F)** or if it **Does not say in the story (D)**. Put T, F or D by the side of each sentence.

The land of the Munchkins was bare and ugly. _____

The people in the group were smaller than Dorothy. _____

Only the men in the group were wearing hats. _____

The men in the group were 30 years old. _____

Dorothy did not think she had killed anyone. _____

(5 marks)

12. On line 27, the text says, '*Dorothy was an innocent, harmless little girl*'. In your own words, explain what this means.

(1 mark)

Composition (24 marks)

Write a story entitled 'The Huts on the Hill'.

- Use the picture below to help you.
- Use your five senses: what do you see, smell, touch, hear and taste?
- Write in paragraphs.
- Write in full sentences, using capital letters, commas, apostrophes, exclamation marks, question marks and full stops.
- Don't write a long story; write an interesting one, thinking carefully about the words you choose.



8 + Entrance Examination - English Paper 4 - 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. Four people came over to Dorothy. (1 mark)
2. The author says the little stars glistened in the sun like diamonds. (1 mark)
3. Any reference to the stars being dotted around/spread out/like spots on the gown. (1 mark)
4. Any three of the following: (3 marks)
 - The men had blue hats, the woman had a white hat
 - The woman wore a white gown and the men wore blue
 - The man wore polished boots
 - Two of the men had beards and the woman didn't
 - The men looked younger than the woman
5. Dorothy thinks the woman is much older than the men because her face was covered in wrinkles (1 mark), her hair was nearly white (1 mark), she was walking stiffly (1 mark).
6. The people Dorothy has met are thankful to her because they think she has killed the Wicked Witch of the East (1 mark) and set their people free. (1 mark)
7. The simile is in line 12, glistened in the sun like diamonds. Also, accept 'as tall as Dorothy.' (line 4) (1 mark)
8. According to the old lady, Dorothy is in the land of the Munchkins. (1 mark)
9. Dorothy is confused at this part of the story because (any 2 of the following):
 - The woman is calling her Sorceress.
 - The woman is saying she has killed the witch.
 - She has been carried many miles from home by a cyclone.
10. A cyclone is a hurricane, tornado, tropical storm, whirlwind. (1 mark)
11.
 - a) The land of the Munchkins was bare and ugly = F (1 mark)
 - b) The people in the group were smaller than Dorothy = F (1 mark)
 - c) Only the men in the group were wearing hats = F (1 mark)
 - d) The men in the group were 30 years old = D (1 mark)
 - e) Dorothy did not think she had killed anyone = T (1 mark)
12. This means that Dorothy hasn't done anything wrong/ hadn't caused any harm (or any similar answer) (1 mark)

Composition (24 marks)

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 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?	

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