



7 Plus examination

Paper 9

English

Total marks: [30]

Time allowed: [45]

Instructions

- You have 45 minutes
- Dictionaries are not allowed
- There are 30 marks available. If you get stuck, go onto the next question and come back at the end
- Use either pen or pencil and write your answers on lined paper
- You should write in full sentences.

Full name _____

Section A: 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.

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.

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)
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)
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)

Section B: Non-Fiction Writing (10 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.

ANSWERS

Section A

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.
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.

Section B: Mark Scheme

This section has ten marks to be awarded as suggested below. Choose a band first (e.g. 7-8) and then decide whether the writing is at the top or bottom of that band.

Marks	Explanation
9-10	A very exciting description which has all the bullet points included and is written in paragraphs. There may be small errors but these do not impede communication.
7-8	A good description which uses three or four of the bullet points and is mostly accurate in terms of SPaG.
5-6	You can understand what's happening in the description but it only includes one or two bullet points from the list. SPaG sometimes impedes communication.
3-4	One paragraph but no features of the bullet point list. SPaG is largely inaccurate.
1-2	One or two sentences with no punctuation; difficult to work out what's happening from reading the description.
0	Nothing written