



English and Verbal Reasoning Syllabus for 13+ Entry

English Examination

Candidates for 13+ entry will be expected to sit a 1 ½ hour English paper, which is exactly the same for scholarship and non-scholarship candidates.

The first two sections will be based on a passage taken from a novel, short story or a factual media text. The third section will ask candidates to write an essay. There will be no multiple choice style questions.

The format will allow candidates to show their ability to read with understanding and to express themselves with clarity.

Section 1: Comprehension (30 minutes approximately)

The questions in this section will ask candidates to identify facts, comment on language and make inferences about meaning.

Section 2: Extended comprehension (30 minutes)

The single question in this section will ask for a piece of reconstructive writing. That is, it will ask for a continuation of the passage or an imagined conversation between two of the characters. Candidates will be marked for the plausibility of their response, the degree to which they can write in the style of the passage and their accuracy of expression.

Section 3: Essay (30 minutes approximately)

There will be a choice of titles from which candidates are invited to choose ONE. Tasks may include an article, a discussion essay or a piece of description.

Accuracy, appropriate modes of expression and good ideas will be taken into account in the marking.

In all sections candidates will be expected to show:

- a) Understanding of the passage
- b) correct use of basic punctuation and paragraphing
- c) originality and appropriate use of language
- d) accurate spelling

- e) neat and legible handwriting

Verbal Reasoning Examination

All candidates will also sit a verbal reasoning paper that is pitched at students aged from 12 to 14 years. Verbal reasoning is related to the kind of intelligent behaviour that is required in verbally based course of secondary education. Reasoning tests look at how quickly and efficiently children solve problems of increasing difficulty. These include questions using words, patterns and sequences.

Candidates are not required to sit a non-verbal reasoning examination.

If you have any questions about the syllabus, please contact Mrs Debbie Sainsbury, the Registrar, Kent College Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4AX.

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