

Parent Guide



@twinklparents

We're excited to share this activity with you. If you are interested in finding more engaging, fun and interesting activities for you and your children, then check out these links to different areas of the [Twinkl Parents](#) website.

games



crafts



puzzles



experiments



word searches



What is this resource and how do I use it?

This assessment pack features a quick guide to the 11+ English tests as well as an introduction to the grammar and punctuation questions your child might encounter. Then, there are four sets of questions for your child to have a go at. We have included an answer guide too so that you can help your child to build their knowledge.

What skills does this practise?

11+

English Skills

Grammar

Punctuation

Further Activity Ideas and Suggestions

For more 11+ practice, check out this [11+ Verbal Reasoning Practice Paper: 3 Letter Words 2 Assessment Pack](#) and this [11+ Week of Workouts - Verbal Reasoning](#). You can encourage your child to get in some bite-size practice of all the 11+ skills with this set of [11+ Activity Mats](#).

Parents Blog



Twinkl Kids' TV



Homework Help



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Parents Hub

The English test can vary considerably depending on where you live, therefore it is important to check the prospective school's website or speak to them beforehand to find out what type of English test they do. An English test could include any number of the following:

- a writing task
- a reading comprehension test
- a multiple-choice English grammar and punctuation test

The writing test usually lasts anywhere from 20 to 50 minutes, with the reading test varying from 30 minutes to an hour.

The English test is used to assess your child's knowledge of grammar, punctuation, spelling, comprehension and, sometimes, their writing ability too. It aims to test children on the skills they have learnt during primary school.

In addition to a sound knowledge of grammar, punctuation and spelling, they'll need a wide and varied vocabulary, which can also help with the verbal reasoning tests. Their comprehension skills should be strong – especially their ability to make inferences based on clues and information given in the text. However, it is also important that they have experience of reading questions carefully and accurately, working to a time limit and remaining calm.

To help support your child for the English test, encourage them to read, read and read some more! A great variety of fiction and non-fiction across a range of genres will help your child to develop their vocabulary and knowledge. Most children read independently once they reach this age, but it would be a good idea to have a look at the book they are reading, select some words that you may think are tricky for your child and test them on the meaning of the words. If they are not sure, discuss the meaning of each word with your child and practise using it in context. You might also read a book together and discuss their understanding of the character's actions and motives, the plot and what they think the author is trying to achieve. Discussing reading is a great way of developing depth of thinking.

You can also encourage your child to write in a range of styles. Try to contextualise this and link it to something that they enjoy. For example, if you've been on a day trip to the zoo, you could encourage them to write a recount of the visit, an information text about their favourite animal, a persuasive booklet advertising the zoo or even simply a fictional story set there.

For a thorough guide to all aspects of the 11+ test, try our **Survival Guide for Parents/Carers.**



English Grammar and Punctuation



There is a wide range of questions that your child might encounter on the English grammar and punctuation test.

Your child might be asked to:

- identify word and sentence types
- identify adverbial phrases
- select the correct article or determiner
- identify correct uses of punctuation
- select appropriate punctuation to complete a sentence
- select appropriate words or phrases to complete a sentence
- identify contractions
- identify tenses



Usually, the questions on this test are in a multiple-choice format.

For example:



Which of the following phrases is written in the present progressive tense?

Tick one.

- was running
- is running
- has run
- will run



For example:



Tick the boxes to show where commas should be placed.



Drake bought bread milk eggs and sandwiches at the shop.



11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 1

1. In the sentence below, which words are adjectives? Tick one answer.

The beautiful, red roses were in bloom during the warm weather.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> beautiful, red, bloom | <input type="checkbox"/> beautiful, were, warm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> red, during warm, weather | <input type="checkbox"/> beautiful, red, warm |

2. Name the sentence type below. Tick one answer.

What's your favourite food?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> statement | <input type="checkbox"/> command |
| <input type="checkbox"/> question | <input type="checkbox"/> exclamation |

3. Place a tick by the complex sentence below.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John yawned. He was feeling very tired. | <input type="checkbox"/> John yawned because he was feeling tired. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John yawned and stretched his arms. | <input type="checkbox"/> John was feeling tired. |

4. Which word or words in the sentence below make an adverbial phrase? Tick one.

The old man with a hat on his head walked through the park.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the old man | <input type="checkbox"/> walked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a hat on his head | <input type="checkbox"/> through the park |



5. Which word is a preposition in the sentence below? Tick one.

The small, old building sat between the forest of skyscrapers that filled the city.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sat | <input type="checkbox"/> filled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> between | <input type="checkbox"/> the |

6. Select the articles which would best fit the paragraph below (in order). Tick one.

___ rain was very heavy. Mr Chong needed ___ umbrella but all he had was ___ hat.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a, the, an | <input type="checkbox"/> the, an, a |
| <input type="checkbox"/> an, the, a | <input type="checkbox"/> the, a, an |

7. Which is the modal verb in the sentence below? Tick one.

Jemima and Outi wondered if they should eat the chocolate cake.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> wondered | <input type="checkbox"/> they |
| <input type="checkbox"/> if | <input type="checkbox"/> should |

8. Which is the auxiliary verb in the sentence below? Tick one

I have finished my homework so can I go out to play?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> have | <input type="checkbox"/> go |
| <input type="checkbox"/> finished | <input type="checkbox"/> play |



11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 1

Answers

1. In the sentence below, which words are adjectives? Tick one answer.

The beautiful, red roses were in bloom during the warm weather.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> beautiful, red, bloom | <input type="checkbox"/> beautiful, were, warm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> red, during warm, weather | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> beautiful, red, warm |

Beautiful, red and **warm** are all adjectives.

2. Name the sentence type below. Tick one answer.

What's your favourite food?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> statement | <input type="checkbox"/> command |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> question | <input type="checkbox"/> exclamation |

We know that the sentence is a **question** because it ends in a question mark.

3. Place a tick by the complex sentence below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John yawned. He was feeling very tired. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John yawned because he was feeling tired. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John yawned and stretched his arms. | <input type="checkbox"/> John was feeling tired. |

This is a complex sentence because it includes a main clause (**John yawned**) and a subordinate clause (**he was feeling tired**) separated by a subordinating conjunction (**because**).

4. Which words in the sentence below make an adverbial phrase? Tick one.

After walking through the park, the old man had a rest.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the old man | <input type="checkbox"/> walked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a hat on his head | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> through the park |

The phrase **through the park** is an adverbial phrase, because it modifies the verb 'walked'.

5. Which word is a preposition in the sentence below? Tick one.

The small, old building sat between the forest of skyscrapers that filled the city.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sat | <input type="checkbox"/> filled |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> between | <input type="checkbox"/> the |

The word **between** is a preposition because it tells us **where** something is.

6. Select the articles which would best fit the paragraph below (in order). Tick one.

___ rain was very heavy. Mr Chong needed ___ umbrella but all he had was ___ hat.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a, the, an | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the, an, a |
| <input type="checkbox"/> an, the, a | <input type="checkbox"/> the, a, an |

We need to look at the words **after** the missing articles to work out which articles fit in. **The** rain, **an** umbrella, **a** hat.

7. Which is the modal verb in the sentence below? Tick one.

Jemima and Outi wondered if they should eat the chocolate cake.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> wondered | <input type="checkbox"/> they |
| <input type="checkbox"/> if | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> should |

The modal verb is **should**. Modal verbs show possibility, ability or necessity.

8. Which is the auxiliary verb in the sentence below? Tick one

I **have** finished my homework so can I go out to play?

have

go

finished

play

The auxiliary verb is **have**. Auxiliary verbs are used to form tenses or turn statements into questions.

11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 2

1. Which sentence correctly uses commas to show that Mike, Pedro and Sian all went to the park together.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike, Pedro and Sian went to the park. | <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike and Pedro, Sian went to the park. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting, Mike, Pedro and Sian went to the park. | <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike, Pedro, Sian went to the park. |

2. Which is the relative pronoun in the sentence below? Tick one.

I go swimming at 7 a.m. which means I don't have breakfast until 8.30 a.m.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I | <input type="checkbox"/> which |
| <input type="checkbox"/> at | <input type="checkbox"/> have |

3. Which sentence is correctly punctuated? Tick one

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> "I'll take two please", she said to the shopkeeper. | <input type="checkbox"/> "i'll take two please," she said to the shopkeeper. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "I'll take two please," she said to the shopkeeper. | <input type="checkbox"/> I'll take two please, "she said to the shopkeeper." |

4. Choose a suitable adverb to finish this sentence. Tick one.

Donald ate his food _____.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> beautifully | <input type="checkbox"/> inquisitively |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tomorrow | <input type="checkbox"/> quickly |



5. Which of the sentences below is a compound sentence? Tick one.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below the crashing waves, a shoal of silvery fish swam. | <input type="checkbox"/> The shoal of silvery fish swam nervously away from the approaching dolphins. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The seagulls flew close to the shimmering surface but they couldn't catch the darting fish. | <input type="checkbox"/> Late one evening, by a sunken ship, a shoal of silvery fish swam. |

6. Which pair of words can be contracted in the following sentence? Tick one.

Frankie was worried because she would not be able to finish in time.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frankie was | <input type="checkbox"/> not be |
| <input type="checkbox"/> would not | <input type="checkbox"/> in time |

7. Which sentence below uses the past progressive? Tick one.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The lion walked. | <input type="checkbox"/> The lion is walking. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The lion was walking. | <input type="checkbox"/> The lion had walked. |

8. Which word is a verb in the following sentence? Tick one.

The colourful birds flew through the canopy of the rainforest.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> colourful | <input type="checkbox"/> through |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flew | <input type="checkbox"/> of |



11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 2

Answers

1. Which sentence correctly uses commas to show that Mike, Pedro and Sian all went to the park together.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike, Pedro and Sian went to the park. | <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike and Pedro, Sian went to the park. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After meeting, Mike, Pedro and Sian went to the park. | <input type="checkbox"/> After meeting Mike, Pedro, Sian went to the park. |

The adverbial **after meeting**, shows that they all met at the same time.

2. Which is the relative pronoun in the sentence below? Tick one.

I go swimming at 7 a.m. which means I don't have breakfast until 8.30 a.m.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> which |
| <input type="checkbox"/> at | <input type="checkbox"/> have |

Which is the relative pronoun. Relative pronouns include that, which, whose, whom, where, when and who.

3. Which sentence is correctly punctuated? Tick one

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> "I'll take two please", she said to the shopkeeper. | <input type="checkbox"/> "i'll take two please," she said to the shopkeeper. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> "I'll take two please," she said to the shopkeeper. | <input type="checkbox"/> I'll take two please, "she said to the shopkeeper." |

The **comma** needs to go before the closing inverted commas.

4. Choose a suitable adverb to finish this sentence. Tick one.

Donald ate his food _____.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> beautifully | <input type="checkbox"/> inquisitively |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tomorrow | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> quickly |

The adverb **quickly** is the most appropriate in this case, as it describes how he ate the food. **Beautifully** would not usually be used to describe how someone eats, **tomorrow** does not fit with the tense and **inquisitively** would only be appropriate if he was very curious about the food.

5. Which of the sentences below is a compound sentence? Tick one.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below the crashing waves, a shoal of silvery fish swam. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The shoal of silvery fish swam nervously away from the approaching dolphins. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The seagulls flew close to the shimmering surface but they couldn't catch the darting fish. | <input type="checkbox"/> Late one evening, by a sunken ship, a shoal of silvery fish swam. |

Option 3 is a **compound sentence** because it includes two main clauses separated by a co-ordinating conjunction.

6. Which pair of words can be contracted in the following sentence? Tick one.

Frankie was worried because she would not be able to finish in time.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frankie was | <input type="checkbox"/> not be |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> would not | <input type="checkbox"/> in time |

The words **would** and **not** can be contracted to form **wouldn't**.

7. Which sentence below uses the past progressive? Tick one.

The lion walked.

The lion is walking.

The lion was walking.

The lion had walked.

The **past progressive** is used to describe an action that was ongoing in the past but has ended now.

8. Which word is a verb in the following sentence? Tick one.

The colourful birds flew through the canopy of the rainforest.

colourful

through

flew

of

The verb is flew because it expresses an action.

11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 3

1. Which word should be used to complete the sentence below? Tick one
Chris and Kendra received the keys to _____ new home.

there

they're

their

theyre

2. Tick the statements which are true about the sentence below.

Later that day, Ben picked up his pen and finished writing his story for school.

The sentence contains four nouns

The sentence contains one proper noun

The sentence contains a collective noun

The sentence contains at least one concrete noun

3. Which word is the pronoun in the following sentence? Tick one.

Some people don't like mince pies because they contain dried fruit.

some

because

people

they

4. Underline the determiners in the following sentence.

The teacher didn't know whose coat it was.



5. Which words make an expanded noun phrase in the following sentence? Tick one.

The ferocious dragon sat in his cave waiting for the knight to approach.

The ferocious dragon

waiting for the knight

in his cave

to approach

6. Which conjunction could be added to the sentence below so that it makes sense?

Tick one.

_____ it was getting late, Jake couldn't put down his book and go to sleep.

because

when

although

whether

7. Underline the subordinate clause in each of the sentences below.

John and his sister entered the tunnel even though they knew it could be dangerous.

Place the cakes in the oven until they turn golden-brown.

When he was hungry, Ewan ate a banana.

Whilst the teacher was talking, Imran played with his fidget spinner.

8. Which of the following is a simple sentence? Tick one.

The sleek, black jaguar had a refreshing drink of cool water.

The jaguar drank water whilst the birds twittered above.

After hunting, the jaguar had a drink of water.

The jaguar walked to the river and had a drink of water.



11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 3

Answers

1. Which word should be used to complete the sentence below? Tick one
Chris and Kendra received the keys to _____ new home.

there

they're

their

theyre

The correct word is **their** because it shows possession.

2. Tick the statements which are true about the sentence below.

Later that day, Ben picked up his pen and finished writing his story for school.

The sentence contains four nouns

The sentence contains one proper noun

The sentence contains a collective noun

The sentence contains at least one concrete noun

The statement contains one proper noun (**Ben**) and three concrete nouns (**Ben, pen** and **school**).

3. Which word is the pronoun in the following sentence? Tick one.

Some people don't like mince pies because they contain dried fruit.

some

because

people

they

The pronoun in the sentence is **they** which is being used to refer to **some people**.

4. Underline the determiners in the following sentence.

The teacher didn't know whose coat it was.

The determiners in the sentence are **the** and **whose**.

5. Which words make an expanded noun phrase in the following sentence? Tick one.

The ferocious dragon sat in his cave waiting for the knight to approach.

The ferocious dragon

waiting for the knight

in his cave

to approach

The expanded noun phrase is the **ferocious dragon** because the simple noun phrase **the dragon** has been expanded using the adjective **ferocious**.

6. Which conjunction could be added to the sentence below so that it makes sense?

Tick one.

_____ it was getting late, Jake couldn't put down his book and go to sleep.

because

when

although

whether

The word **although** is the most appropriate conjunction.

7. Underline the subordinate clause in each of the sentences below.

John and his sister entered the tunnel even though they knew it could be dangerous.

Place the cakes in the oven until they turn a golden-brown.

When he was hungry, Ewan ate a banana.

Whilst the teacher was talking, Imran played with his fidget spinner.

A **subordinate clause** is a clause that can not be used as a sentence on its own.

1. Which of the following is a simple sentence? Tick one.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The sleek, black jaguar had a refreshing drink of cool water. | <input type="checkbox"/> The jaguar drank water whilst the birds twittered above. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After hunting, the jaguar had a drink of water. | <input type="checkbox"/> The jaguar walked to the river and had a drink of water. |

Although it contains some expanded noun phrases, the first sentence is a **simple sentence** because it is only made up of a **single clause**.

11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 4

1. What type of sentence is the following? Tick one.

Early one morning, Natasha went for a jog by the beach.

- Simple Complex
 Compound

2. What is the relative clause in the sentence below? Tick one.

The fastest man alive, Usain Bolt, who is a professional runner, has won eight gold medals at the Olympics.

- The fastest man alive has won eight gold medals
 who is a professional runner at the Olympics

3. Tick the sentences that contain a modal verb.

- I like cake because it tastes nice. You must finish your work before you go out to play.
 We might go on holiday to Spain during half term. The plane to Alicante will take off at 8.30 pm.

4. Which of the following phrases is written in the present progressive? Tick one.

- was eating has eaten
 is eating will eat



5. Write the contracted form of the words in brackets in the paragraph below.

Jamie (was not) _____ feeling very well. He (could not) _____ go to school so (he would) _____ have to say at home. His mum said, "(I will) _____ ring school to let them know."

6. Tick the exclamation sentences below.

How did it get so cold What a lovely idea

How cold it is What was the idea

7. Place a semi-colon in the correct place in the sentence below.

The tiger was feeling hungry it was time to go hunting

8. Tick the boxes that show where the inverted commas should be placed.



The witch looked at her sisters and said, When shall we three meet again?



11+ English Practice Paper

Grammar and Punctuation: Test 4

Answers

1. What type of sentence is the following? Tick one.

Early one morning, Natasha went for a jog by the beach.

- Simple Complex
- Compound

A **simple sentence** contains only one clause. As **Early one morning** is an adverbial phrase, this sentence is a simple sentence.

2. What is the relative clause in the sentence below? Tick one.

The fastest man alive, Usain Bolt, who is a professional runner, has won eight gold medals at the Olympics.

- The fastest man alive has won eight gold medals
- who is a professional runner at the Olympics

A **relative clause** begins with **who, which, whose, whom, when, where** or **that**.

3. Tick the sentences that contain a modal verb.

- I like cake because it tastes nice. You must finish your work before you go out to play.
- We might go on holiday to Spain during half term. The plane to Alicante will take off at 8.30 pm.

The **modal verbs** in these sentences are **might, must** and **will**.

4. Which of the following phrases is written in the present progressive? Tick one.

was eating

has eaten

is eating

will eat

The **present progressive** describes an action that is currently happening.

5. Write the contracted form of the words in brackets in the paragraph below.

Jamie (was not) wasn't feeling very well. He (could not) couldn't go to school so (he would) he'd have to say at home. His mum said, "(I will) I'll ring school to let them know."

Contracted forms of words include an apostrophe and one or more missing letters.

6. Tick the exclamation sentences below.

How did it get so cold

What a lovely idea

How cold it is

What was the idea

These sentences are **exclamation sentences** rather than questions as they are showing surprise.

7. Place a semi-colon in the correct place in the sentence below.

The tiger was feeling hungry; it was time to go hunting

The **semicolon** separates the two clauses.

8. Tick the boxes that show where the inverted commas should be placed.



The witch looked at her sisters and said, When shall we three meet again?

The **speech marks** need to go around the speech.

Disclaimers: We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. As far as possible, the contents of this resource are reflective of current professional research. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. The information given here is intended for general guidance purposes only and may not apply to your specific situation.