



KINGSTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FOUNDED 1561

GUIDE TO 11+ ASSESSMENTS

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GUIDE TO 11+ ASSESSMENTS

Our aim is to make this experience as stress free as possible. We want to find out what our candidates can do, rather than what they cannot do, and our judgement about future potential and ‘teachability’ is just as important as current performance.

WHAT DOES THE 11+ EXAM INVOLVE?

English (50 minutes)

Candidates are assessed in these three National Curriculum areas:

- Speaking and Listening (informally at the interview stage)
- Reading
- Writing

These abilities will be tested by asking the candidate to complete a three-part examination paper which will be based around a given passage. Section A will consist of multiple choice questions, Section B will be a single question requiring a detailed analytical response whilst Section C will ask candidates to write a short composition. Candidates should answer questions based on any of the Attainment Targets up to and including Level 5, though the focus of the paper requires a thorough understanding of work up to and including Level 4. Spelling, grammar and punctuation will not be assessed separately.

Mathematics (50 minutes)

Candidates are tested on the material covered by the ‘Key Stage 2 Mathematics Test Framework’. Subject areas include:

- Numbers and Algebra
- Geometry and Measure
- Statistics

The paper will test key skills, mathematical reasoning and problem solving. The 10+ is based on similar content, but would be based on the material that a pupil in Year 5 at a state primary school would be expected to have covered.

The content of the test is based on the material a pupil at a state primary school would be expected to have covered.

Verbal Reasoning (50 minutes)

Marks are standardised by birth month. The questions set are similar to those shown in the various practice papers available commercially.

“On the exam day my daughter was comfortable and at ease thanks to the staff at hand. It was by far one of the best experiences we have had during the entire 11 + process. Thank you, KGS”

Feedback, 2019



SPECIMEN ENGLISH QUESTIONS

11+ ENTRY

50 MINUTES

Read the following passage carefully and then answer all the questions on the paper.

Gerald Durrell, an author and animal lover, spent part of his childhood in the 1930s on the Greek island of Corfu. In this passage he describes the Belgian consul in Corfu, who was one of his private tutors.

A New Tutor

- The consul's home was situated in the maze of narrow, smelly alleyways that made up the old quarter of the town. It was a fascinating area, the cobbled streets crammed with stalls that were piled high with gaily-coloured bales of cloth, mountains of shining sweetmeats, ornaments of beaten silver, fruit and vegetables. The streets were so narrow that you had to stand back against the wall to allow the donkeys to stagger past with their loads of merchandise. It was a rich and colourful part of the town, full of noise and bustle, the screeches of people bargaining, the cluck of hens, the barking of dogs, and the wailing cry of the men carrying great trays of fresh hot loaves on their heads. Right in the very centre, in the top flat of a tall, rickety building that leant tiredly over a tiny square, lived the Belgian consul. He was a sweet little man, whose most striking attribute was a magnificent beard and carefully waxed moustache.
- 5
- 10 The first morning I arrived he welcomed me into a living-room whose walls were decorated with a mass of heavily-framed photographs of himself. In order to test the extent of my knowledge of French the consul sat me down at the table, produced a fat and battered French dictionary, and placed it in front of me, open at page one.
- 'You will please to read this,' he said, his gold teeth glittering amicably through his beard.
- 15 He twisted the points of his moustache, pursed his lips, clasped his hands behind his back, and paced slowly across to the window, while I started down the list of words beginning with 'A'. I had hardly stumbled through the first three when the consul stiffened and uttered a suppressed exclamation. I thought at first he was shocked by my accent, but it was apparently nothing to do with me. He rushed across the room, muttering to himself, tore open a cupboard, and pulled out a powerful-looking air rifle, while I watched him with a certain alarm for my own safety. He loaded the weapon, dropping pellets all over the carpet in his frantic haste. Then he crouched and crept back to the window, where, half concealed by the curtain, he peered out intently. Then he raised the gun, took careful aim at something, and fired. When he turned round, slowly and sadly shaking his head, and laid the gun aside, I was surprised to see tears in his eyes. He drew a great length of silk handkerchief out of his breast pocket and blew his nose violently.
- 20
- 25 'Ah, ah, ah,' he intoned, shaking his head sadly, 'the poor little fellow. But we must work ... please to continue with your reading, mon ami.'



30 For the rest of the morning I toyed with the exciting idea that the consul had committed a murder before my very eyes, or, at least, that he was carrying out a blood feud with some neighbouring householder. But when, after the fourth morning, the consul was still firing periodically out of his window, I decided that my explanation could not be the right one. It was a week before I found out the reason for the consul's incessant fusillade, and the reason was cats. In this part of town, the cats were allowed to breed unchecked. There were literally hundreds of them. They belonged to no one and were uncared for, so that most of them were in a frightful state, covered with sores and all of them so thin that it was a wonder they were alive at all. The consul was a great cat-lover, and he possessed three large and well-fed ones to prove it. But the sight of all these starving, sore-ridden animals stalking about on the rooftops opposite his window was too much for his sensitive nature.

35 'I cannot feed them all,' he explained to me, 'so I like to make them happy by shooting them. They are better so, but it makes me feel so sad.'

40 He was, in fact, performing a very necessary and humane service, as anyone who had seen the cats would agree. So my lessons in French were being continuously interrupted while the consul leapt to the window to send yet another cat to a happier hunting ground. After the report of the gun there would be a moment's silence in respect for the dead, and then the consul would blow his nose violently, sigh tragically, and we would plunge once more into the tangled labyrinth of French verbs.

Section A

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.) You should choose the best answer and write its letter on your examination paper. You should spend about 20 minutes on this section.

QUESTIONS

1 Where did the consul live?

- A. In the old quarter of town.
- B. In a small village.
- C. Outside town.
- D. At the seaside.
- E. At the edge of town.

2 Why was Gerry told to visit the consul?

- A. To improve his manners.
- B. To improve his French.
- C. To meet new people.
- D. To explore new areas of the town.
- E. To gain a sense of independence.

3 How might the atmosphere of the area in which the consul lives be best described?

- A. Quiet and peaceful.
- B. Dangerous and violent.
- C. Lively and energetic.
- D. Sophisticated and elegant.
- E. Dark and threatening.



- 4 Where might the consul buy most of the items he needs for his household?
- The supermarket.
 - The next town.
 - Door-to-door salesmen.
 - The market stalls.
 - Online.
- 5 Which one of these statements about the consul is true?
- He takes pride in his appearance.
 - He is shy.
 - He is strict.
 - He doesn't encourage visitors.
 - He is an experienced and gifted teacher.
- 6 What is the purpose of the first test the consul gives Gerry?
- To see if he can memorise vocabulary.
 - To test his ability to read the dictionary aloud.
 - To see if he can translate French to English.
 - To test his familiarity with French words.
 - To see if he can copy French spellings.
- 7 Why did the consul interrupt Gerry's reading so suddenly?
- He realised that Gerry's French wasn't very good.
 - He was offended by Gerry's poor pronunciation.
 - He only wanted Gerry to read through words beginning with the letter 'A'.
 - He wanted to groom his moustache.
 - He had seen something out of the window.
- 8 Which of these two things did the Consul not do when he was preparing to shoot?
- Clean his rifle.
 - Mutter to himself.
 - Take aim.
 - Explain what he was about to do.
 - Hide.
- 1 and 3 only.
 - 2 and 4 only.
 - 3 and 5 only.
 - 1 and 4 only.
 - 2 and 5 only.
- 9 How many cats does the consul own?
- A One. B Two. C Three. D Four. E Five.
- 10 Why does the consul look sad when he puts his gun down?
- He is disappointed at his own marksmanship.
 - He is disappointed that he has had to interrupt Gerry's lesson.
 - He is upset that he has had to kill a cat.
 - He is upset that he wasn't able to kill more cats.
 - He is annoyed that he dropped pellets all over the carpet.



- 11 How long is it before Gerry discovers why the consul fires his gun out of the window?
- A. Four days.
 - B. Seven days.
 - C. That morning.
 - D. A fortnight.
 - E. Never.
- 12 Why does the consul shoot the cats?
- A. Because they are a nuisance.
 - B. Because they prowl on the roof-top opposite and put him off his teaching.
 - C. Because they are unpleasant to look at.
 - D. Because they attack his cats.
 - E. Because they are suffering.
- 13 What can we deduce about the townspeople's attitude to the stray cats?
- A. They were a necessary nuisance.
 - B. They were a helpful means of controlling unwanted rodents.
 - C. The more cats the better!
 - D. They weren't worth bothering with.
 - E. They were cared for and encouraged to breed.
- 14 After the consul has held a moment's silence for the cats why does he blow his nose?
- A. To hide the fact that he feels like crying.
 - B. To show that he is ready to re-start the lesson.
 - C. Because he is about to sneeze.
 - D. To distract Gerry from what has just happened.
 - E. Because he is allergic to cats.
- 15 Based on the evidence in the passage, what is Gerry's attitude to the consul?
- A. He thinks the consul is a dangerous lunatic.
 - B. He admires the consul's skill as a marksman.
 - C. He applauds the consul's humane approach.
 - D. He thinks the consul is selfish and only wants to look after his own cats.
 - E. He thinks the consul is making a fuss about nothing.

Now answer these questions about the meaning of words as they are used in the passage.

- 16 "Amicably" (line 15) implies:
- A. In a friendly way
 - B. Menacingly
 - C. In a sinister way
 - D. Brightly
 - E. Clearly
- 17 Which of these is closest in meaning to "supressed exclamation" (line 19)?
- A. A curse.
 - B. A scream of dismay.
 - C. A swearword.
 - D. A loud outburst.
 - E. A quiet expression of surprise.



- 18 What is meant by the expression, ‘blood feud’ (line 32)?
- A. A long-running dispute.
 - B. A dare encouraged by his relatives.
 - C. An assassination attempt.
 - D. A secret mission.
 - E. Target practice.
- 19 Which of these is closest in meaning to “incessant fusillade” (line 34)?
- A. Occasional fidgeting.
 - B. Constant firing.
 - C. Sporadic shouting.
 - D. Intermittent nagging.
 - E. Continuous disappointment.
- 20 What is meant by the expression “the tangled labyrinth of French verbs” (line 48)?
- A. The difficulty of the verbs gave Gerry nightmares.
 - B. The verbs were jumbled up.
 - C. The verbs were frightening.
 - D. The verbs weren’t written in straight lines on the page.
 - E. The verbs were confusing and seemed endless in number.

Section B

Now consider the following question, which requires you to think about this passage as a whole. Please support your answer with quotations from the text. You should spend about 10 minutes on this section. This question is worth 10 marks.

Based on the information in this passage, explain what sort of man you consider the Belgian consul to be. You might consider:

- What we learn from the description of his appearance.
- His surroundings.
- His explanation of his actions.

Section C

Imagine you are Gerald’s mother, concerned about his education. Write a letter to a friend in which you describe Gerald’s latest private tutor and his attempts to teach Gerald French. Your opinion of his methods and the regular interruptions should be included.

You should base your ideas on what you have read in the passage, but do not copy from it. You should write between $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 side, allowing for the size of your handwriting. Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 5 marks for the accuracy of spellings, punctuation and grammar. You should spend about 20 minutes on this section.



SPECIMEN MATHS QUESTIONS

11+ ENTRY

$983 + 503 + 76$

4108×8

$9012 - 5127$

Divide 85715 by 7

If a girl cycles 23 miles each day, how many miles would she cycle in two weeks?

A cake is going to take 1 hour 25 minutes to cook. If I want it to be ready at 7.15pm, at what time should I start cooking it?

Estimate, in metres, the height and width of a double-decker bus.

4 identical compact discs and 3 identical tapes cost £83. If each tape costs £9, find the cost of each compact disc.

Find two numbers which have a difference of 9 and give an answer of 52 when multiplied together.

Paul receives £4.50 pocket money. He spends three-fifths on Lego and one-third on sweets. How much pocket money has Paul spent altogether on these items? What fraction of his pocket money is left?

What is the smallest number into which 4, 6 and 7 all divide exactly?
What is one tenth of 1.4?

If a hovercraft travels at 56 km per hour, how far will it travel in 1 hour and 45 minutes?

Fill in the boxes with +, -, ×, ÷ and use brackets if necessary to make these calculations

a) $240 \square 3 \square 20 = 60$

b) $47 \square 5 \square 2 = 141$

This magic square only uses all whole numbers from 7 to 15 inclusive. Each of the rows, columns and the two main diagonals ADD UP TO 33. Fill in the rest of the numbers.

		7
		14



EXAM TIPS

As we all know, sitting exams can be stressful. Your child's wellbeing is of the utmost importance to us and, with this in mind, our Head of Wellbeing, Nick Forsyth, has outlined a few tips to help you support your child and make the day go as smoothly as possible.

1. Plan your route to school to ensure plenty of time for arrival. Think about how long it will take you and where you can park. *There is no parking on the school premises*: we recommend using Cattle Market Car Park, three minutes' walk away.
2. Talk to your child about the way they might feel when they enter the examination room and see the real papers for the first time: their hearts may beat a little faster and their palms may feel slightly sweaty. These are all natural responses and are nothing to worry about - everyone will be feeling the same way.
3. Don't allow your child to cram the night before - it's counterproductive.
4. If possible, a bit of fun and exercise the day before will help lower stress levels and help achieve a good night's sleep.
5. Make sure they have a nutritious and healthy breakfast.
6. Help them get organised by sorting out their clothes and stationery. Don't forget inhalers or reading glasses if needed.
7. If your child wears a digital watch, make sure they turn off any alarms before they go in to the test.
8. Be calm. Any tension in you will be picked up by your child. Make the environment as relaxed as possible.
9. Afterwards, don't go through the questions in fine detail: this only risks creating more stress. Instead, congratulate them on completing the exam.

"The entire experience from both pupil and parent perspective was handled with care and kindness"

Feedback, 2019

Good luck from everyone at KGS!

Bene agere ac laetari

#workwellandbehappy



KINGSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL
70 LONDON ROAD
KINGSTON UPON THAMES
SURREY
KT2 6PY

T: 020 8546 5875
E: REGISTRAR@KGS.ORG.UK
W: WWW.KGS.ORG.UK