

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Test 1

Synonyms p.7

1	eager & enthusiastic	both words mean 'keen'
2	nervous & jittery	both words mean 'uneasy or apprehensive'
3	knotted & entangled	both words mean 'fastened together'
4	understanding & comprehension	both words mean 'understanding'
5	strenuous & laborious	both words mean 'hard work'
6	view & aspect	both words mean 'appearance to the eye'
7	last & endure	both words mean 'to continue to exist'
8	dormant & latent	both words mean 'lying as if asleep'
9	resemblance & likeness	both words mean 'a similarity'
10	limited & restricted	both words mean 'confined'
11	repulsive & loathsome	both words mean 'revolting'
12	yearning & longing	both words mean 'a desire for something'
13	terrible & atrocious	both words mean 'awful'
14	dedicated & devoted	both words mean 'loyal'
15	injure & maim	both words mean 'to hurt someone'
16	marshy & swampy	both words mean 'soft and wet, boggy'
17	meddlesome & interfering	both words mean 'intrusive'
18	humility & modesty	both words mean 'a humble estimate of one's own merits'
19	spirit & morale	both words mean 'emotional condition'
20	mutiny & uprising	both words mean 'a revolt or rebellion'
21	neutral & unbiased	both words mean 'showing no prejudice'
22	annoy & niggle	both words mean 'to displease'
23	notify & inform	both words mean 'to make known'
24	observant & watchful	both words mean 'alert'
25	occasional & infrequent	both words mean 'not very often'
26	reason & motive	both words mean 'something that causes a person to act in a certain way'
27	omit & exclude	both words mean 'to leave out'
28	perhaps & maybe	both words mean 'possibly'
29	fear & phobia	both words mean 'a fear of something'
30	picture & illustration	both words mean 'drawing or artwork'
31	calm & placid	both words mean 'tranquil or quiet'
32	feather & plume	both words mean 'feather'
33	prefer & favour	both words mean 'to indicate a preference for'
34	force & pressure	both words mean 'strength'
35	previous & former	both words mean 'happening before'

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Synonyms p.8

36	prickly & thorny	both words mean 'spikey'
37	dignity & pride	both words mean 'self-respect'
38	promise & pledge	both words mean 'a declaration that something will be done'
39	amount & quantity	both words mean 'how many'
40	query & enquiry	both words mean 'a question'
41	raging & infuriated	both words mean 'extremely angry'
42	empathy & affinity	both words mean 'the identification of other people's feelings'
43	refund & rebate	both words mean 'to give back'
44	linked & associated	both words mean 'connected to'
45	resolve & settle	both words mean 'to sort something out'

Shuffled sentences p.9

1	G	artist	he squeezed out a blob of paint
2	E	were	everyone was moved by the emotional tribute
3	H	both	she kicked a football over the fence
4	D	ask	he had to rehearse for his speech
5	D	too	nobody was hurt in the car crash
6	E	sharply	he crumpled the paper in his hand
7	B	extra	a huge crowd gathered in the stadium
8	C	and	the drawer contents were in complete disarray
9	G	cup	she drank hot chocolate with extra cream
10	E	present	Riya was thrilled to win an award
11	H	borrow	the librarian helped her locate a book
12	B	be	people regarded him as a little eccentric
13	F	prior	he cycles to work instead of driving
14	A	in	daffodils appear at the beginning of spring
15	C	owned	the family packed their possessions into boxes
16	D	should	the children made their beds every morning
17	C	merely	she escaped at the crack of dawn

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Multiple meanings p.11

1	'gag' means a joke or jest and to also silence or muffle
2	'hitch' means a snag or setback and also to fasten or attach
3	'impress' means affect or inspire and also to emphasize or stress
4	'just' means fair or unbiased and also fitting or deserved
5	'kind' means type or category and also helpful or generous
6	'last' means to endure or continue and also final or concluding
7	'might' means power or strength and also maybe or possibly
8	'post' means a pole or a stake and also mail or letters
9	'reflect' means to mirror or echo and also to consider or ponder
10	'regular' means routine or customary and also rhythmic or constant
11	'immerse' means to immerse or dunk and also to engross or engage
12	'group' means a team or crew and also to sort or order
13	'long' means lengthy or extensive and also to yearn or crave
14	'notice' means to discern or observe and also a sign or poster
15	'lies' means falsehoods or untruths and also rests and reclines
16	'noted' means prominent or eminent and also recorded or commented
17	'ultimate' means final or closing and also the best or greatest
18	'crook' means a criminal or thief and also to bend or twist
19	'box' means to fight or box and also a container or carton
20	'admit' means to confess or concede and also to receive or welcome
21	'beat' means to pulse or throb and also to conquer or overcome
22	'bright' means brilliant or luminous and also clever or intelligent
23	'place' means site or location and also to position or install

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Test 2

Synonyms and antonyms: the odd one out p.13

1	B	bright and dismal are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
2	C	affluent and poor are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
3	A	charming and pleasant are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
4	A	friendly and aloof are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
5	B	overt and blatant are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
6	A	deviate and drift are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
7	D	help and hindrance are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
8	C	tire and flag are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
9	A	create and dismantle are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
10	D	rough and coarse are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
11	D	confident and assertive are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
12	B	good and detrimental are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
13	C	care and neglect are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
14	B	hobby and pastime are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
15	D	partial and complete are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
16	A	shabby and unkempt are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
17	C	quiet and talkative are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
18	B	phrase and expression are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
19	A	resist and accept are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms

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Synonyms: missing letters p.15

1 w r a t h f u l

2 d i s b e l i e v e

3 i n j u r e d

4 w o e f u l

5 e x c l u d e

6 d i s l o d g e

7 h u n g e r

8 p e r s u a d e

9 c u r i o u s

10 u n s p a r i n g

11 d e d i c a t e

12 c o n s e n t

13 t o l e r a n c e

14 c a p t i v a t e d

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15 r e s i d e n c e

16 m i s l e a d i n g

17 n o n s e n s e

18 c o n v e r s e

19 s i g n a t u r e

20 c o n f i r m

21 c o m m a n d

22 e x h i b i t

23 c l e a r

24 s t a r t l e

25 g e s t u r e

26 r a d i a n t

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Making words p.17

1	C	mess and aged	The new word is 'messed'.
2	D	not and ice	The new word is 'noticed'.
3	B	origin and ate	The new word is 'originate'.
4	C	land and slide	The new word is 'landslide'.
5	A	coward and ice	The new word is 'cowardice'.
6	B	ramp and age	The new word is 'rampage'.
7	D	met and hod	The new word is 'method'.
8	B	since and rely	The new word is 'sincerely'.
9	D	err and ant	The new word is 'errant'.
10	C	cap and able	The new word is 'capable'.
11	A	defend and ant	The new word is 'defendant'.
12	D	plea and sure	The new word is 'pleasure'.
13	B	mini and mum	The new word is 'minimum'.
14	C	over and use	The new word is 'overuse'.
15	D	rest and rain	The new word is 'restrain'.
16	A	lands and cape	The new word is 'landscape'.
17	C	short and age	The new word is 'shortage'.

Antonyms p.19

1	transmit & receive	transmit means to 'send' and has the opposite meaning of 'receive'
2	blunt & tactful	blunt means 'not tactful'
3	conceal & disclose	conceal means 'to hide'; disclose means 'to reveal'
4	unknown & eminent	eminent means 'well known'
5	real & faux	faux means 'fake'
6	soaring & swooping	soaring means 'flying high'; swooping means 'to suddenly fly downwards'
7	avoid & encounter	encounter means 'meet' and has the opposite meaning of 'avoid'
8	resolute & wavering	resolute means 'certain or sure'; wavering means 'unsure'
9	permit & prohibit	permit means 'to allow'; prohibit means 'not to allow'
10	establish & eliminate	establish means 'to create'; eliminate means 'to destroy'
11	omission & inclusion	omission means 'exclusion' and has the opposite meaning of 'inclusion'
12	lacking & sufficient	lacking means 'not sufficient'
13	shallow & bottomless	shallow means 'not very deep'; bottomless means 'deep'
14	promising & hopeless	promising means 'hopeful'
15	uninteresting & absorbing	absorbing means 'interesting'
16	admirable & detestable	admirable means 'likeable'; detestable means 'not likeable'

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17	clean & squalid	squalid means 'dirty' and has the opposite meaning to 'clean'
18	untrustworthy & reliable	untrustworthy means 'unreliable' and has the opposite meaning to 'reliable'
19	advantageous & harmful	advantageous means 'beneficial'; harmful means 'not beneficial'
20	uncovered & disguised	uncovered means 'not covered'
21	commence & conclude	commence means 'to start'; conclude means 'to finish'
22	cheer & dishearten	cheer means 'to hearten'
23	brisk & sluggish	brisk means 'fast'; sluggish means 'slow'
24	pessimist & optimist	pessimist means 'a person who expects the worst'; optimist means 'a person who expects the best'
25	certainty & doubt	doubt means 'uncertainty'
26	pleasure & torture	torture means 'something that is not pleasurable'
27	dismal & cheerful	dismal means 'not cheerful'
28	absence & existence	absence means 'non-existent'
29	exhausted & energetic	exhausted means 'not energetic'
30	release & withhold	withhold means 'to not release'
31	concern & disinterest	disinterested means 'not concerned'
32	enemy & admirer	an enemy is someone who does not admire you
33	useless & beneficial	useless means 'not beneficial'
34	frail & invincible	frail means 'vincible' or 'easily conquered'
35	cramped & spacious	cramped means 'not spacious'
36	silent & clamorous	clamorous means 'noisy'
37	ecstatic & down	ecstatic means 'very happy'; down means 'not happy'
38	occasional & habitual	occasional means 'not in the habit'
39	finishing & introductory	finishing means 'last'; introductory means 'first'
40	recommended & inadvisable	recommended means 'advisable'
41	regular & erratic	erratic means 'not regular'
42	elegant & ungainly	elegant means 'graceful'; ungainly means 'not graceful'
43	restrain & encourage	restrain means to 'discourage'
44	continue & adjourn	continue means 'to carry on'; adjourn means 'to pause'
45	temporary & lasting	temporary means 'not lasting'

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Test 3

Synonyms p.21

1	rotten & decaying	both words mean 'having become decomposed'
2	rubble & debris	both words mean 'the remains of something'
3	scorch & singe	both words mean 'to burn'
4	shake & quiver	both words mean 'to vibrate'
5	brief & short	both words mean 'of short duration'
6	wither & shrivel	both words mean 'to fade away'
7	scribble & scrawl	both words mean 'to write carelessly'
8	bashfulness & shyness	both words mean 'timid or shy'
9	comfort & solace	both words mean 'relief of distress'
10	increase & swell	both words mean 'to grow larger'
11	attach & append	both words mean 'to join'
12	hesitant & unsure	both words mean 'uncertain'
13	shimmer & glisten	both words mean 'to shine'
14	uplifting & inspiring	both words mean 'offering hope'
15	leave & vacate	both words mean 'to withdraw'
16	spoken & verbal	both words mean 'of or relating to words'
17	snappy & offhand	both words mean 'impatient or irritable'
18	caution & wariness	both words mean 'taking care'
19	impermeable & waterproof	both words mean 'resistant to water'
20	wavering & undecided	both words mean 'not certain'
21	hoist & winch	both words mean 'to lift'
22	appealing & charming	both words mean 'attracting interest'
23	withdraw & extract	both words mean 'to take out'
24	accomplish & achieve	both words mean 'to reach a goal'
25	skilful & adept	both words mean 'proficient'
26	decorate & adorn	both words mean 'to make more pleasing'
27	urgent & pressing	both words mean 'in need of immediate attention'
28	position & align	both words mean 'to put in place'
29	amendment & revision	both words mean 'change'
30	banish & expel	both words mean 'to drive out'
31	thrashed & battered	both words mean 'to beat soundly'

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32	fake & bogus	both words mean 'not real'
33	resist & withstand	both words mean 'to be able to oppose'
34	irritated & vexed	both words mean 'angered'
35	sight & vision	both words mean 'the power of sensing with the eyes'
36	weave & entwine	both words mean 'to put together'
37	revolve & whirl	both words mean 'to turn'
38	bonus & advantage	both words mean 'benefit'
39	breakable & delicate	both words mean 'fragile'
40	complaint & grievance	both words mean 'an expression of discontent'
41	hidden & concealed	both words mean 'hidden'
42	appropriate & suitable	both words mean 'fitting'

Cloze passages p.23

Passage 1 p.23

The Eiffel Tower is one of the most iconic structures in the world and is situated on the Champ de Mars in Paris, France. Originally, the tower was to be constructed in the Spanish city of Barcelona but the idea met with huge resistance from local residents. After its construction was complete in 1889, the tower was the tallest man-made structure in the world. As one of Paris's most significant landmarks, the Eiffel Tower attracts millions of tourists from around the world every year, with approximately 25,000 people ascending the 1665 steps of the tower daily. Although designed to be resistant to the wind, the tower does sway slightly. When the sun heats the iron it can expand and contract, and can alter the height of the Eiffel Tower by as much as 15 centimetres.

Passage 2 p.24

The Eiffel Tower is named after Gustave Eiffel, a French civil engineer and architect, whose engineering company oversaw the project. It cost £35m to build and consists of three floors. Eiffel had his own private apartment built inside the tower where prominent scientists would visit him. There was also a meteorology lab where he studied physics and aerodynamics and where other scientists could work on experiments. It is believed that this laboratory is where cosmic rays were first discovered. Constructed as the centrepiece for the World's Fair, the tower was built to memorialise the centenary of the French Revolution.

The French also wanted to demonstrate their expertise in modern mechanics on a global level. An underground bunker was also constructed.

Passage 3 p.24

The bunker under the south leg of the Eiffel Tower was home to an underground wireless station used for transmitting crucial signals to troops on the front line during World War I. It is also believed that signals sent from the bunker were integral to the successful blocking of German radio waves. The Eiffel Tower was considered to have contributed hugely to victory in the 1914 Battle of the Marne.

In 1953 the tower was used to transmit coverage of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II throughout Europe.

Although it was only intended that the tower stand for 20 years before being relocated, its radio antenna and wireless telegraph transmitter gave the Eiffel Tower an extremely worthwhile purpose and, as a result, the French government decided that it should remain in place.

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Shuffled sentences p.25

1	H	needle	she spent several months knitting a jumper
2	B	were	her favourite meal was fish and chips
3	F	most	Callum was delighted with his new toys
4	D	zest	he squeezed lemon juice over the salad
5	E	once	they danced all night at the party
6	C	wants	Sami helped her mother carry the bag
7	G	summit	they climbed the mountain in four hours
8	A	eyes	his glasses made it easier to see
9	H	memory	she sent a postcard while on holiday
10	D	sugar	Ajay drank a cup of hot coffee/Ajay drank a hot cup of coffee
11	C	while	they fell asleep during the long flight
12	F	to	he baked a cake for his birthday
13	E	wallpaper	she painted the room a bright colour
14	B	made	the teacher told them to be quiet
15	D	bought	she lost her ring underneath the sofa/she lost the ring underneath her sofa
16	C	they	the scary movie made them all scream
17	G	journey	there was no room on the coach

Synonyms: the odd one out p.27

1	inquisitive means 'curious'; the other words all mean 'watchful'
2	deduct means 'to take away'; the other words all mean 'to free from pain'
3	objectify means 'to present as an object'; the other words all mean 'to look up to'
4	unsure means 'not certain'; the other words all mean 'fair'
5	courageous means 'brave'; the other words all mean 'polite'
6	dense means 'thick'; the other words all mean 'wild with excitement'
7	spicy means 'seasoned with spice'; the other words all mean 'having a nice smell'
8	urban means 'relating to a town or city'; the other words all mean 'relating to the countryside'
9	confused means 'not understanding'; the other words all mean 'decorated'
10	excitement means 'thrill'; the other words all mean 'annoyance'
11	allowance means 'share'; the other words all mean 'loyalty'
12	defined means 'clearly explained'; the other words all mean 'uncertain'
13	gradual means 'slowly'; the other words all mean 'quickly'
14	friendliness means 'companionability'; the other words all mean 'aggression'
15	distress means 'anxiety'; the other words all mean 'a good feeling'

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16	energy means 'the capacity for power'; the other words all mean 'able to change'
17	obvious means 'clear'; the other words all mean 'not clear'
18	driven means 'ambitious'; the other words all mean 'lazy'
19	preference means 'favourite choice'; the other words all mean 'particular skill'
20	wither means 'to shrivel'; the other words all mean 'to thrive'
21	promising means 'hopeful'; the other words all mean 'possible'
22	dulcet means 'pleasant to listen to'; the other words all mean 'not nice to listen to'
23	definite means 'certain'; the other words all mean 'subject to certain conditions'
24	glance means 'a quick peep'; the other words all mean 'a longer look'
25	income means 'earnings'; the other words all mean 'a return of produce'
26	ungainly means 'awkward or clumsy'; the other words all mean 'poised'
27	economical means 'saving money or resources'; the other words all mean 'expensive'
28	frailty means 'weakness'; the other words all mean 'strength'
29	importance means 'significance'; the other words all mean 'honesty'
30	scant means 'a small amount'; the other words all mean 'plenty'
31	allowance means 'share'; the other words all mean 'a right do something'
32	confession means 'an admission of guilt'; the other words all mean 'talk about others'
33	refreshed means 'energised'; the other words all mean 'tired'
34	pleasant means 'nice'; the other words all mean 'dreadful'
35	army means 'a military force'; the other words all mean 'family history'
36	discouraged means 'deterred'; the other words all mean 'motivated'
37	atypical means 'unusual'; the other words all mean 'typically'
38	tropical means 'warm'; the other words all mean 'cold'
39	unfeeling means 'callous'; the other words all mean 'touching'
40	establishment means 'institution'; the other words all mean 'outlining a plan'
41	rare means 'uncommon'; the other words all mean 'common'
42	tentative means 'undecided'; the other words all mean 'forceful'
43	confuse means 'bewilder'; the other words all mean 'to make clear'
44	malicious means 'hateful'; the other words all mean 'companionable'
45	corroborate means 'to back up information'; the other words all mean 'to communicate'
46	pacify means 'to make peaceful'; the other words all mean 'to frighten'
47	brash means 'bold'; the other words all mean 'bashful'

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Test 4

Antonyms p.29

1	receive & export	export means 'to send'
2	immune & vulnerable	immune means 'not vulnerable'
3	perfect & defective	perfect means 'having no defects'
4	doubtful & probable	doubtful means 'not very probable'
5	efficient & disorganised	efficient means 'organised'
6	smooth & craggy	craggy means 'not smooth'
7	legitimate & illegal	legitimate means 'legal'
8	animated & lifeless	animated means 'full of life'
9	tight & slack	slack means 'not tight'
10	waste & conserve	conserve means 'not to waste'
11	similar & opposing	opposing means 'dissimilar'
12	creative & unimaginative	creative means 'imaginative'
13	modern & antiquated	antiquated means 'very old'
14	admiration & contempt	contempt is 'a feeling of having no admiration'
15	decent & improper	decent means 'proper'
16	deplorable & admirable	deplorable means 'not admirable'
17	ease & aggravate	ease means 'to make something better'; aggravate means 'to make a situation worse'
18	dislike & relish	relish means 'to like'
19	oppose & advocate	advocate means 'to support'; oppose means 'to be against'
20	create & abolish	abolish means 'to destroy'
21	steep & gradual	'steep means 'many degrees'; 'gradual' means 'small degrees' (as in a slope)
22	cruel & humane	cruel means 'inhumane'
23	local & global	local means 'pertaining to a specific small area'; global means 'worldwide'
24	help & impede	impede means 'to obstruct'
25	deny & acknowledge	acknowledge means 'to admit'
26	easy & gruelling	gruelling means 'not easy'
27	quiet & hectic	hectic means 'not calm or quiet'
28	dejected & upbeat	dejected means 'downbeat'
29	demolish & generate	demolish means 'to destroy'; 'generate' means 'to create'
30	hire & dismiss	hire means 'to employ'; 'dismiss' means 'to sack, or fire'
31	abstract & concrete	abstract means 'something that can't be touched'

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32	honourable & unworthy	honourable means 'worthy'
33	abundantly & meagrely	meagrely means 'not abundantly'
34	advantage & drawback	drawback means 'disadvantage'
35	generally & specifically	generally means 'non-specific'
36	disorderly & methodical	disorderly means 'without method'
37	momentous & insignificant	momentous means 'significant'
38	ashamed & unrepentant	ashamed means 'repentant'
39	cheerful & forlorn	forlorn means 'not cheerful'
40	frosty & friendly	frosty means 'unfriendly'
41	actual & imaginary	actual means 'real'; imaginary means 'not real'
42	flexible & adamant	adamant means 'not flexible'

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Antonyms: missing letters p.31

1 d i s s u a d e

2 d a y b r e a k

3 d o w n c a s t

4 p a r t i n g

5 u n a w a r e

6 i m p r o b a b l e

7 p r e c i s e

8 l a b o u r

9 r e m a i n

10 i r r e l e v a n t

11 a g r e e a b l e

12 p r a i s e

13 a b a n d o n

14 s e c r e c y

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15 s e d e n t a r y

16 t r i v i a l

17 s i n f u l

18 s l a c k e n

19 s o l i t u d e

20 c l e a n s e

21 s p e c k l e d

22 l e n i e n t

23 g e n u i n e

24 f o n d n e s s

25 m e a n n e s s

26 h o l l o w

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Shuffled sentences p.35

1	B	pull	he woke up and opened the curtains
2	D	front	she came third in the running race
3	H	bunch	Mia often received flowers from her husband
4	E	of	they worked hard on the important project
5	A	for	she spent all morning cleaning the house
6	D	water	he organised the laundry into neat piles
7	F	only	she took great care of her plants
8	G	there	the rabbits were sleeping in their warren
9	B	beak	his parrot always repeated everything he said
10	C	send	the letter from her mother never arrived
11	A	am	he liked writing stories about his pets
12	F	wood	they lit a fire to keep warm
13	G	could	Joe decided to drive to the beach
14	H	right	there was a package at the door
15	E	words	she sang along to her favourite songs
16	C	close	her yellow jumper had a loose thread/her jumper had a loose yellow thread
17	D	maybe	he was worried that it might rain

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Test 5

Synonyms: the odd one out p.37

1	desire means 'to want something'; the other words all mean 'to hold in high esteem'
2	sadden means 'to cause sorrow'; the other words all mean 'to destroy'
3	a bill is 'a statement of money owed'; the other words all mean 'a sudden rush'
4	aggressive means 'violent and forceful'; the other words all mean 'out of the ordinary'
5	dramatised means 'made suitable for the stage'; the other words all mean 'no sunshine'
6	shallow means 'not deep'; the other words all mean 'sad'
7	operation means 'a process'; the other words all mean 'a social gathering'
8	adverse means 'unfavourable'; the other words all mean 'helpful'
9	pursuit means 'a chase'; the other words all mean 'to break down'
10	egotistical means 'vain'; the other words all mean 'clever'
11	admirer means 'a person who approves of another'; the other words all mean 'a master'
12	frivolous means 'unimportant'; the other words all mean 'important'
13	aversion means 'a strong feeling of dislike'; the other words all mean 'having a longing'
14	socialite means 'a friendly person'; the other words all mean 'people who prefer to be alone'
15	resilient means 'strong'; the other words all mean 'defenceless'
16	apathetic means 'disinterested'; the other words all mean 'testy'
17	silence means 'no sound'; the other words all mean 'peace'
18	lash means 'to strike with a whip'; the other words all mean 'to be angry'
19	obstructive means 'blocking'; the other words all mean 'helpful'
20	exemplary means 'excellent'; the other words all mean 'particularly bad'
21	stingy means 'mean or not generous'; the other words all mean 'unselfish and sharing'
22	ignorant means 'uneducated'; the other words all mean 'not polite'
23	application means 'a request for employment'; the other words all mean 'to ask'
24	fight means 'to battle'; the other words all mean 'to put an end to'
25	essential means 'absolutely necessary'; the other words all mean 'not needed'
26	waste means 'to fail to use'; the other words all mean 'to say no'
27	solemn means 'dignified and serious'; the other words all mean 'occasional'
28	suppress means 'to withhold'; the other words all mean 'to draw forth'
29	overwhelm means 'to overcome completely'; the other words all mean 'to go beyond'
30	punctual means 'exactly on time'; the other words all mean 'not at the correct time'
31	insurmountable means 'hopeless'; the other words all mean 'able to be achieved'
32	forgive means 'to pardon or excuse'; the other words all mean 'to turn your back on'
33	disturbance means 'disorder'; the other words all mean 'having attention drawn away'
34	disobedient means 'naughty'; the other words all mean 'obedient'

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

35	deterrent means 'an obstacle'; the other words all mean 'a reason for doing something'
36	confronting means 'facing up to'; the other words all mean 'staying away from'
37	bargain means 'something obtained at a discount'; the other words all mean 'an idea'
38	humiliate means 'to embarrass'; the other words all mean 'to help'
39	flustered means 'upset'; the other words all mean 'calm and collected'
40	unresponsive means 'passive'; the other words all mean 'unhappy'
41	analyse means 'to scrutinise'; the other words all mean 'to make clear'
42	manufacture means 'to make'; the other words all mean 'a product'
43	honest means 'moral'; the other words all mean 'artful'

Making words p.39

1	C	mist and rust	The new word is 'mistrust'.
2	C	out and break	The new word is 'outbreak'.
3	A	pea and king	The new word is 'peaking'.
4	D	stands and till	The new word is 'standstill'.
5	A	ant and hem	The new word is 'anthem'.
6	C	con and sent	The new word is 'consent'.
7	D	at and tic	The new word is 'attic'.
8	B	gene and rally	The new word is 'generally'.
9	C	out and rage	The new word is 'outrage'.
10	D	dumb and founded	The new word is 'dumbfounded'.
11	B	err and and	The new word is 'errand'.
12	C	proof and read	The new word is 'proofread'.
13	B	con and tour	The new word is 'contour'.
14	A	out and pour	The new word is 'outpour'.
15	D	fear and some	The new word is 'fearsome'.
16	C	fin and ally	The new word is 'finally'.
17	B	down and fall	The new word is 'downfall'.

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Cloze passages p.41

Passage 1 p.41

Thunderstorms are electric storms that occur in cumulonimbus clouds and they consist of lightning and thunder. Thunder is the acoustic effect that lightning has on the Earth's atmosphere. Lightning is the electric charge that forms within a thundercloud. Air rises to the top of the clouds carrying a positive charge of electricity and the rain falls to the bottom of the cloud, forming a negative charge, colliding as they go. These collisions result in an electric charge. When lightning strikes, the heat of the flash reaches temperatures of almost 20,000 degrees Celsius. This causes the air to rapidly expand and contract, creating the sound of thunder. This can either be a loud, cracking sound or a slow, noisy rumble.

Passage 2 p.42

It is possible to calculate how far away a storm is by counting the seconds between the strike of lightning and the crack of thunder. With every five seconds that you count, this means that there is one mile between your location and the thunderstorm. Thunderstorms can occur at any time of year but they are most common in Britain during the spring and summer months. The most aggressive thunderstorms tend to occur in tropical countries and during the wet seasons. Tororo in Uganda is considered to be the area where thunderstorms occur most frequently: 251 days a year on average.

Thunderstorms are not restricted to Earth; they have struck planets such as Neptune, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.

Passage 3 p.42

The power of a thunderstorm should not be underestimated as they can be very dangerous. A heavy thunderstorm can cause torrential rain, tornadoes and fatal lightning. The energy released from an average thunderstorm exceeds that released by the atomic bomb that was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima in 1945.

People are warned to be cautious during thunderstorms and avoid being struck by lightning. Victims of lightning strikes are left with red marks that branch out in the shape of trees called Lichtenberg figures. This is caused by the high voltage of electricity passing along the skin. It can be fatal if you are struck by lightning, but the chances of getting struck are extremely slim.

However, Roy Cleveland Sullivan, an American park ranger, was hit by lightning on seven separate occasions and, remarkably, he survived all of them.

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Synonyms: missing letters p.43

1 c o n c e a l e d

2 s i l e n c e

3 d u p l i c a t e

4 c u s t o m a r y

5 e m b e l l i s h

6 m a j e s t i c

7 s u p e r i o r

8 a b s u r d

9 l a b y r i n t h

10 l a y o u t

11 l e g e n d a r y

12 f r e e d o m

13 e s c a l a t e

14 l i m i t i n g

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

15 p r o f i t a b l e

16 i n f u r i a t e

17 m a i n t a i n

18 c o u r t e o u s

19 m e d i o c r e

20 m i s j u d g e

21 m o d i f y

22 a g i l i t y

23 h a p p e n i n g

24 d a u n t e d

25 s k e t c h

26 h i g h e s t

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Test 6

Multiple meanings p.45

1	'conclude' means deduce or decide and also end or finish
2	'dash' means to rush or hurry and also to disappoint or crush
3	'gather' means convene or assemble and also assume or understand
4	'funny' means amusing or comical and also strange or peculiar
5	'correct' means precise or accurate and also to remedy or rectify
6	'discount' means reduction or rebate and also disregard or ignore
7	'lean' means slender or thin and also an inline or slope
8	'fire' means a blaze or inferno and also to dismiss or sack
9	'break' means to fracture or snap and also a holiday or vacation
10	'overlook' means forgive or excuse and also ignore or neglect
11	'permit' means to allow or to consent and also a licence or warrant
12	'present' means attending or there and also current or contemporary
13	'bitter' means sharp or sour and also unhappy or painful
14	'proceeds' means revenue or takings and also advances or continues
15	'entrance' means an opening or gateway and also to charm or captivate
16	'play' means a drama or performance and also amusement or fun
17	'project' means a scheme or plan and also to protrude or bulge
18	'about' means concerning or regarding and also approximately or roughly
19	'free' means gratis or complimentary and also liberated or loose
20	'reservation' means scepticism or doubt and also a booking or appointment
21	'answer' means reply or respond and also a solution or key
22	'dear' means beloved or adored and also expensive or pricey

Antonyms p.47

1	wicked & angelic	wicked means 'nasty'; angelic means 'very nice' (of a person)
2	adhere & disregard	adhere means 'to stick to'; disregard means 'to take no notice' (of rules or advice)
3	console & distress	console means 'to comfort'; distress means 'to upset'
4	superior & substandard	superior means 'better'; substandard means 'not adequate'
5	beautiful & grotesque	grotesque means 'ugly'
6	awful & sublime	sublime means 'supreme'; awful means 'horrible'
7	dishearten & reassure	reassure means 'to hearten or cheer up'
8	affluent & penniless	affluent means 'rich'
9	abolish & establish	abolish means 'to destroy'; establish means 'to create'

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

10	deteriorate & recover	deteriorate means 'to become worse'; recover means 'to get better'
11	construct & disassemble	construct means 'to assemble'
12	ignorance & expertise	ignorance means 'lack of knowledge'; expertise means 'extensive knowledge'
13	irrelevant & pertinent	pertinent means 'relevant'
14	appetising & inedible	appetising means 'tasty'; inedible means 'unfit to be eaten'
15	chic & shabby	chic means 'stylish'; shabby means 'tired and worn out'
16	active & sedentary	sedentary means 'inactive'
17	gregarious & withdrawn	gregarious means 'outgoing'; withdrawn means 'shy'
18	exciting & mundane	mundane means 'unexciting'
19	stable & volatile	volatile means 'unstable'
20	frugal & extravagant	frugal means 'not extravagant'
21	promising & ominous	promising means 'likely to turn out well; ominous means 'likely to turn out badly'
22	thinly & densely	densely means 'thickly'
23	ignore & intervene	ignore means 'to take no notice'; intervene means 'to become involved'
24	collectively & individually	collectively means 'as a group'; individually means 'personally'
25	support & heckle	heckle means 'to harass or pester'
26	deluded & realistic	deluded means 'out of touch with reality'
27	discourage & motivate	motivate means 'to encourage'
28	abhor & relish	abhor means 'to hate'; relish means 'to love'
29	succumb & resist	succumb means 'not to resist'
30	consistent & fluctuating	consistent means 'not fluctuating'
31	plummet & escalate	plummet means to 'slip down'; escalate means to 'move up'
32	appreciation & criticism	to criticise is to 'not express appreciation'
33	admit & banish	to admit is 'to let something in'; to banish is 'to send away'
34	failing & booming	failing means 'not booming or going well'
35	abbreviate & extend	abbreviate means 'make shorter'; extend means 'to make longer'
36	continue & cease	continue means 'to carry on'; cease means 'to stop'
37	admire & despise	admire means 'to respect'; despise means 'to loathe or hate'
38	discreet & tactless	discreet means 'tactful'
39	enthraling & tedious	enthraling means 'exciting'; tedious means 'boring'
40	fatigue & vigour	fatigue means 'tiredness'; vigour means 'energy'
41	pleasing & gruesome	gruesome means 'horrible'
42	cheerful & gloomy	gloomy means 'not cheerful'
43	prosperous & destitute	prosperous means 'rich'; destitute means 'poor'
44	flexible & obstinate	obstinate means 'inflexible'
45	perish & flourish	perish means 'to die'; flourish means 'to grow'

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Cloze passages p.49

Passage 1 p.49

The Wimbledon championship is the world's oldest tennis tournament. The championship dates back to 1877 with the inaugural Men's Singles contest in which a mere 22 players took part. Seven years later, Ladies' Singles and Men's Doubles matches were introduced.

Nowadays, Wimbledon is one of the biggest and most prestigious tennis events in the world, taking place in London every summer. The tournament lasts for two weeks, and attracts 128 players with the highest international rankings. Tennis players travel from many different countries to participate. The final matches usually take place in mid-July and are televised globally. Annually, over half a million spectators attend Wimbledon to enjoy both the tennis and the atmosphere.

Passage 2 p.50

Wimbledon is the only Grand Slam event played on outdoor grass courts. The grass is carefully prepared for the competition and is mowed to be exactly 8mm tall. A strict dress code is in place at the tournament and all players must be dressed predominately in white. Players that fail to adhere to this protocol are politely instructed to change their clothing.

During each tournament over 50,000 tennis balls are used. These balls are stored in refrigerators and regularly replaced after every seven games to ensure that they are in perfect condition at all times. After use, the balls are sold to spectators and the proceeds donated to a charity. Originally, white tennis balls were used at the tournament, but they were changed to yellow in 1986 in order to make them more visible to the television cameras.

Passage 3 p.50

The winners of each category are awarded with a substantial cash prize in addition to a trophy. The ladies' tournament winner receives a round platter called a salver and the victor of the men's tournament is awarded a golden cup. The actual trophies are the property of the All England Lawn Tennis Club, and they are placed on display in their museum. Winners take home a three-quarter size replica of their trophies upon which their name is engraved along with all past champions.

The longest tennis match ever played at Wimbledon took place in 2010 between American John Isner and Frenchman Nicolas Mahut. It was played over three days and lasted 11 hours and 5 minutes. The tournament has taken place annually since 1877, but was cancelled during both world wars and in 2020, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Test 7

Antonyms: missing letters p.53

1 h i d e o u s

2 f r i e n d s h i p

3 j a u n t y

4 w o r t h l e s s

5 h a s t i l y

6 a g i t a t e d

7 a n o n y m o u s

8 q u i b b l e

9 b e t r a y

10 b l a m e l e s s

11 d e t a c h

12 t r a g e d y

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

13 c o m m o n l y

14 p r e v e n t

15 c o n c l u d e

16 r e b e l

17 k n o t t e d

18 w i t h e r i n g

19 t r a u m a

20 s t e a d y

21 c o m b i n e

22 r e t u r n

23 c o m p e l

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Synonyms and antonyms: the odd one out p.55

1	D	secluded and isolated are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
2	C	fruitless and worthwhile are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
3	C	imaginative and creative are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
4	B	selfish and generous are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
5	C	haphazard and random are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
6	D	rigid and flexible are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
7	A	solution and key are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
8	B	adept and clumsy are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
9	D	passive and active are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
10	C	particle and speck are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
11	A	peculiar and bizarre are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
12	D	coax and dissuade are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
13	C	perceptive and shrewd are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
14	C	pollute and purify are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
15	A	permission and consent are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
16	B	praise and condemn are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
17	D	eternal and transient are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms
18	A	picturesque and scenic are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
19	B	impish and playful are synonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are antonyms
20	D	rickety and solid are antonyms of each other; the other pairs of words are synonyms

Synonyms p.57

1	talk & converse	both words mean 'to communicate by speaking'
2	convincing & persuasive	both words mean 'worthy of belief'
3	detest & abhor	both words mean 'to strongly dislike'
4	dilemma & quandary	both words mean 'a situation requiring choice'
5	easily & effortlessly	both words mean 'without too much effort'
6	support & endorse	both words mean 'to approve'
7	shambles & fiasco	both words mean 'a failure'
8	recognise & identify	both words mean 'to perceive'
9	strange & uncanny	both words mean 'mysterious'
10	choice & selection	both words mean 'option'
11	clutch & clasp	both words mean 'to hang onto'
12	podium & platform	both words mean 'a structure on which to stand'
13	rubbish & debris	both words mean 'the remains of something'

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

14	peep & glimpse	both words mean 'a quick look'
15	kindness & goodwill	both words mean 'the state of being generous'
16	privilege & honour	both words mean 'special rights'
17	vague & imprecise	both words mean 'not completely accurate'
18	inflated & aerated	both words mean 'blown up'
19	uncover & expose	both words mean 'to reveal'
20	costly & expensive	both words mean 'not cheap'
21	believable & credible	both words mean 'accepted as being true'
22	complete & intact	both words mean 'whole'
23	impact & collision	both words mean 'the striking of an object with another'
24	danger & jeopardy	both words mean 'exposure to harm'
25	gloomy & joyless	both words mean 'without happiness'
26	comical & amusing	both words mean 'funny'
27	labour & toil	both words mean 'work'
28	invent & devise	both words mean 'to create'
29	fascinating & intriguing	both words mean 'really interesting'
30	challenging & testing	both words mean 'not easy'
31	worn & threadbare	both words mean 'having endured excess use'
32	tidy & immaculate	both words mean 'orderly'
33	tie & tether	both words mean 'fastened to something'
34	argument & tiff	both words mean 'a disagreement'
35	torture & mistreat	both words mean 'to inflict pain'
36	strengthen & reinforce	both words mean 'to increase power'
37	translate & interpret	both words mean 'to change from one language to another'
38	reliable & trusty	both words mean 'dependable'
39	plump & stout	both words mean 'fat'
40	uproar & commotion	both words mean 'a noisy disturbance'
41	secret & ulterior	both words mean 'hidden'
42	unafraid & fearless	both words mean 'not frightened'
43	swollen & bloated	both words mean 'puffed up'
44	design & blueprint	both words mean 'a detailed plan'
45	strategy & tactic	both words mean 'a plan'

Extended answers for 11+ Verbal Reasoning Test Papers

Cloze passages p.59

Passage 1 p.59

Manatees are docile, slow-moving marine mammals and are also known as sea cows. They are found in the Amazon, West Africa, the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. Manatees prefer water with a temperature of over 20°C and they tend to live in saltwater bays, shallow rivers, canals and areas of marshland. They never leave the water but also cannot breathe underwater. Instead, they have the capability to hold their breath for up to 20 minutes.

They bear similarities to elephants, their distant relatives, such as a trunk, tough skin and bristle-like hair on their body. On each side of its body, a manatee has two paddle-like flippers. The flippers help with steering while they swim but are also important for eating. To swim, their big, flat tails rhythmically move up and down.

Passage 2 p.60

Despite their small eyes, manatees have good eyesight. However, to see what is occurring behind them they must completely turn around as they are unable to move their neck. Manatees spend much of their time travelling or eating. They are herbivores and, as a result, eat mainly seagrass, found on the ocean floor, plants and algae. Their vegetarian diet is a major reason why the health of an ecosystem can be determined by the manatees that live there. If the manatee population is strong and healthy, this means that their habitat is strong and healthy too. Manatees typically spend a lot of time alone but have been known to play and interact with other individuals. To communicate they make chirping, whistling and squeaking sounds.

Passage 3 p.60

A manatee can grow up to 4 metres long and their average life span ranges from 40 to 60 years. The manatee's only known predators are humans and, in the past, they have been prized for their skin and oils. It is now illegal to hunt them as they are a protected species. Nowadays, manatees are most vulnerable to being injured or even killed by colliding with propeller-driven vessels.

It is also thought that manatees could have inspired many mermaid legends; on one of Christopher Columbus's voyages he recounts his own experience of spotting a mermaid, but this was later considered to be the first recorded sighting of manatees in North America.