

Non-Verbal Reasoning & Mathematics Parent's Guide

Familiarisation

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Non-Verbal Reasoning

Non-Verbal Reasoning (NVR) mainly involves reasoning with abstract figures. For some questions you might look at relationships between shapes and sequences of shapes, by identifying common features from a set of figures and applying them to a new figure. Some NVR question types involve codes, in which features of a shape have to be matched with letters.

Mathematics

The real 11+ mathematics test assesses mathematics in line with the current mathematics National Curriculum and covers a variety of curriculum areas. The test encompasses a wide range of ability, and the language has been simplified, as much as possible, to ensure it is mathematical skill rather than reading ability that is being tested. The items have been arranged in order of increasing difficulty.

About the Familiarisation Test

The Non-Verbal Reasoning and Mathematics Familiarisation Test is designed to familiarise your child with the types of questions in the real 11+ test. The test is presented in a very similar way to many of the test papers used for selection at 11+. It will provide practice in answering different types of questions used in real 11+ tests (although these may not necessarily be exactly the same question types that will come up in the real test your child will sit) and practice in recording answers on the separate answer sheet. The papers may not be exactly the same difficulty level as the real tests, as the difficulty level varies between schools.

Resources

Your child will need the following materials:

- **a Non-Verbal Reasoning and Mathematics Familiarisation booklet**
- **a Non-Verbal Reasoning and Mathematics Familiarisation answer sheet**
- **a pencil**: the answer sheet will need to be completed in pencil (not ink, felt-tip etc.)
- **an eraser** to change answers. Crossing out or placing an X next to the unintended answer on the answer sheet cannot be computer-marked.
- **a spare sheet of paper** for rough working (or this can be done on the test booklet if preferred).

Working through the Test

For the real 11+ test, your child will need to: read the instructions on the front of the test booklet; listen carefully to the instructions read out by the invigilator; observe the instructions at the bottom of each page telling them to go on to the next page or to stop; and check/fill in the details at the top of the answer sheet.

Give your child the test at an appropriate time, when they are both physically and mentally alert. Choose a suitable area for them to work in – make sure they can work comfortably and free from any distractions.

Before your child takes the familiarisation test, discuss with them the reasons why they are doing the test. Also, explain that they might find some of the questions difficult. If they get stuck on a question, they should not waste time on it, but move on to the next one. At the beginning of each section, the solutions to the example and practice questions have been provided, so that you may work through the questions with your child and so that they understand how to answer the particular question type and mark their answer on the answer sheet.

Your child should mark their answers on the separate answer sheet provided. The real 11+ test will be marked by computer, but it is important for your child to learn how to use the answer sheet properly, in preparation for the real test. They should mark their answer in the appropriate box by drawing a clear line through it with a pencil, like this . Mistakes should be rubbed out completely, **not** crossed out, since in the real test this would not be recorded correctly by the computer. You can ignore the boxes at the top of the answer sheet marked CANDIDATE NUMBER, SCHOOL NUMBER, DATE OF BIRTH and DATE OF TEST. Your child will be required to fill in or check these details in the real test, but it is not necessary for familiarisation purposes.

Timing the Test

The familiarisation test should take around an hour to complete. In the real 11+ test, the instructions at the beginning of each section (including the answers to the examples and practice questions) will be read out by the invigilator. The instruction pages are not timed; only the numbered questions are timed in the real 11+ test. You may wish to read these instructions out to your child, or ask them to read them themselves. It is important, however, that you work through the solutions to the examples and practice questions in each section with your child prior to them completing the numbered questions within a section. The time taken will be dependent on your child. Should you wish to time your child in completing the Non-Verbal Reasoning questions, allow approximately 10 minutes for each section and approximately 30 minutes for the Maths.

Marking and Feedback

The correct answers to the Non-Verbal Reasoning and Mathematics Familiarisation Test are provided on the following page. Only these answers are allowed. One mark should be given for each correct answer – half-marks should not be given. When you mark the test, you will be able to see how many questions your child got right in each section and overall. This will give you a good indication of their strengths and weaknesses. You may wish to go back over any questions your child got wrong and work through them together.

Answer Key

Non-Verbal Reasoning

Section 1

1. E
2. E
3. C
4. E
5. D
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. E
10. E
11. A
12. B
13. C
14. B
15. B
16. C
17. E
18. A
19. B
20. E

Section 2

21. C
22. E
23. B
24. E
25. B
26. D
27. E
28. A
29. C
30. E
31. C
32. A
33. A
34. C
35. A
36. D
37. B
38. C
39. E
40. A

Mathematics

41. 6
42. 7 thousands
43. 1.45 m
44. 0.3 litres
45. 7.5 hours
46. 18
47. 19:15
48. £46.50
49. A
50. 16 minutes
51. 10%
52. Angle x is between 90 and 180 degrees.
53. 5
54. 5
55. 1875
56. They are all square numbers.
57. 40.5 °C
58. 4 kg
59. 9
60. MLXVI
61. 75 cm
62. 27
63. $\frac{1}{2}$
64. 1.8 kg
65. 4 litres

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