PrimaryTools 7+ Short Papers

English Paper 1

Warm-up level · 16 questions · 20 minutes

Plus an optional 15-minute writing task · Year 2 (7+ entry)

FREE SAMPLE PAPER

Name _____

Date _____

Score

/ 16

Instructions

- Read the story carefully. You can look back at it as often as you like.
- Each question has four answers: A, B, C and D. Only one is right. Draw a circle around the letter of your answer.
- The questions are in six short sections. In each section they start easier and get harder.
- If you get stuck, move on and come back at the end.
- When you have finished, you can try the writing task (15 minutes).

For parents

Your child reads a story, then answers 10 reading questions and 6 spelling, punctuation and grammar questions in 20 minutes. Many schools read the text aloud to children, so you can read it together first if you like. The 15-minute writing task is optional and marked separately, out of 6. Copy the six section scores into the PrimaryTools 7+ English tracker.

This is the free sample paper. Papers 2–14, building from warm-up to elite level, are available at primarytools.co.uk/7-plus-practice-papers.

Primary Tools

Read the story You can look back at it while you answer

The Snow Day

When Zac woke up, his bedroom was full of a strange, bright light. He pulled back the curtain and gasped. Everything was white. The cars, the hedges and the garden shed were all covered in a thick, soft blanket of snow.

“Mum!” he shouted, running downstairs. “It snowed!”

Mum was holding the phone. “I know,” she said with a smile. “And school is closed.”

Zac pulled on his wellies, his woolly hat and his thickest gloves. His little sister, Lily, wanted to come too, so he helped her with her zip, which always got stuck.

Outside, the snow crunched under their boots. The air was so cold it made Zac’s nose tingle. They rolled a small ball of snow along the path. It grew bigger and bigger until it was as tall as Lily.

“Let’s make a snowman!” said Lily.

They rolled a smaller ball for the head and lifted it on top. Zac found two pebbles for eyes and Lily gave him a carrot from the kitchen for a nose. Last of all, Zac took off his own scarf and wrapped it round the snowman’s neck.

“Now he won’t be cold,” said Lily.

Zac’s neck felt chilly without his scarf, but when he saw Lily’s happy face, he didn’t mind at all.

Story © PrimaryTools.co.uk

Finding information

Questions 1–3

1 What did Zac see when he pulled back the curtain?

- **A** His sister was building a snowman.
- **B** Rain was pouring down.
- **C** The sun was shining brightly.
- **D** Everything was white with snow.

2 Who wanted to come outside with Zac?

- **A** His friend from school
- **B** His mum
- **C** His little sister, Lily
- **D** His grandad

3 What did they use for the snowman’s nose?

- **A** A carrot
- **B** A stick
- **C** A scarf
- **D** A pebble

Words in context

Questions 4–5

4 The snow was ‘a thick, soft blanket’. What does this tell us about the snow?

- **A** It was very thin.
- **B** It was warm, like a blanket.
- **C** It covered everything, like a blanket on a bed.
- **D** It was made of wool.

5 The snow ‘crunched’ under their boots. ‘Crunched’ tells us about…

- **A** how fast they walked.
- **B** the sound the snow made.
- **C** how cold the snow was.
- **D** the colour of the snow.

Inference

Questions 6–8

6 Why was Mum smiling when she said, “And school is closed”?

- **A** She wanted Zac to go back to bed.
- **B** She knew Zac would be pleased.
- **C** She didn’t like school.
- **D** She was cross about the snow.

7 How do you know the air outside was very cold?

- **A** The snow was white.
- **B** Lily’s zip got stuck.
- **C** Zac wore his wellies.
- **D** It made Zac’s nose tingle.

8 Why did Zac give the snowman his own scarf?

- **A** Because Mum told him to
- **B** Because his scarf was old
- **C** Because he was too hot
- **D** To make Lily happy

The whole text

Questions 9–10

9 Which word best describes Zac in this story?

- **A** Lazy
- **B** Kind
- **C** Grumpy
- **D** Selfish

10 What is the best title for the last paragraph?

- **A** A happy ending
- **B** Getting dressed
- **C** School is closed
- **D** A scary moment

Spelling

Questions 11–13

11 Which word is spelt correctly to finish the sentence?
My _____ came to play after school.

- **A** freind
- **B** frend
- **C** frende
- **D** friend

12 Which word is spelt correctly to finish the sentence?
We went to the park _____ it was sunny.

- **A** because
- **B** becos
- **C** becaus
- **D** becuase

13 Which word is spelt correctly to finish the sentence?
Mum _____ it was time for bed.

- **A** said
- **B** sed
- **C** siad
- **D** sayed

Punctuation and grammar

Questions 14–16

14 Which sentence is written correctly?

- **A** The cat sat on the mat
- **B** the cat sat on the mat.
- **C** The cat sat on the mat.
- **D** The Cat sat on the mat.

15 Which sentence needs a question mark at the end?

- **A** Put on your coat
- **B** My coat is red
- **C** Where is my coat
- **D** I like my coat

16 Which word best finishes the sentence? ‘I wanted to play outside ___ it was raining.’

- **A** because
- **B** but
- **C** so
- **D** and

End of the questions. Check your answers, then try the writing task.

For grown-ups: scores

Mark with the PrimaryTools answer guide for English Paper 1.

Finding information	Questions 1–3	/ 3
Words in context	Questions 4–5	/ 2
Inference	Questions 6–8	/ 3
The whole text	Questions 9–10	/ 2
Spelling	Questions 11–13	/ 3
Punctuation and grammar	Questions 14–16	/ 3
Total		**/ 16**

Optional writing task

15 minutes · marked out of 6

Write about a time you played in the snow, or imagine a snowy day. Write four or five sentences.

- ☐ Use capital letters and full stops.
- ☐ Use ‘and’, ‘but’ or ‘because’ to join ideas.
- ☐ Use one describing word for the snow.

Plan here – jot down words and ideas

Writing mark: / 6

Ideas /2 · Sentences and punctuation /2 · Word choice /1 · Spelling and handwriting /1