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Year 4

11+ practice and preparation guides

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Year 4

Non verbal reasoning worksheet

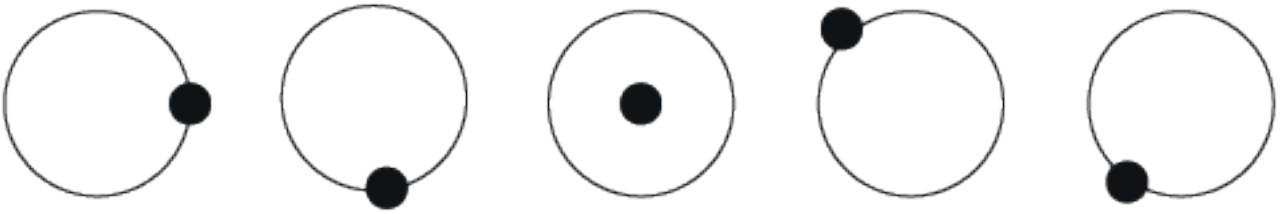
Identify the odd one out using counting methods

Welcome shape sorter.

We've got a bit of a problem we hoped you could help us with.

Our shape sorting robot seems to have malfunctioned and not sorted the shapes correctly. Could you help us solve this issue?

Which of the shapes below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) b) c) d) e)

First, we need to look for something that four of the shapes have in common.

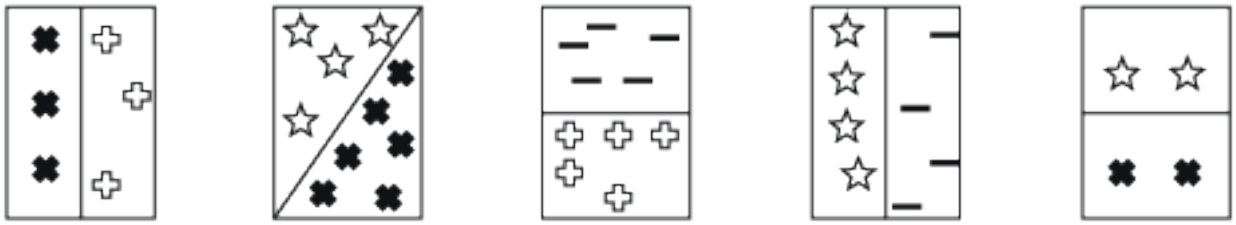
All of the images are made up of one large white circle and one small black circle.

It is always a useful idea to look at the position of shapes.

In shapes a, b, d and e, the black circle is on the edge of the white circle.

Shape c is therefore the odd one out as it has a black circle in the middle and not on the edge like the others.

Let's try another one together:
Which shape below is the odd one out?



a) b) c) d) e)

First, we need to look for something that four of the shapes have in common.

All of the images are rectangles split into two equal pieces with smaller shapes in each half.

In questions like this, counting is really important. What could we count?

Shape a has 3 shapes on each side of the halfway line.

Shape b has 4 shapes on one side and 6 on the other.

Shape c has 5 shapes on each side of the line.

Shape d has 4 shapes on either side.

Shape e has 2 shapes on either side.

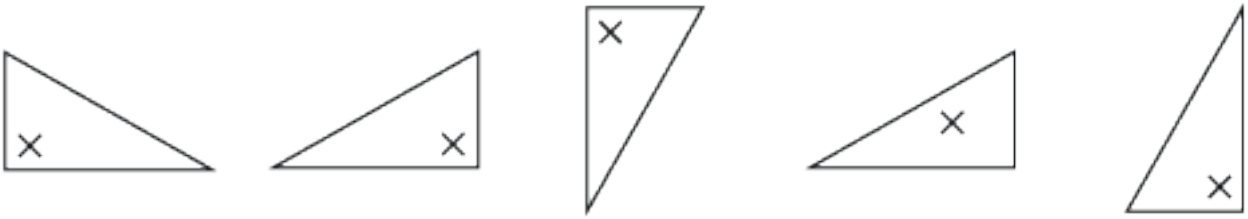
This means that image b is the odd one out as it has a different number of shapes in each section, unlike the other options.

It's now your turn to identify the odd shape.
Remember to look at the position of shapes within the image and always see if there is something you can count.

Good luck shape sorter!

Question 1:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 2:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?

a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

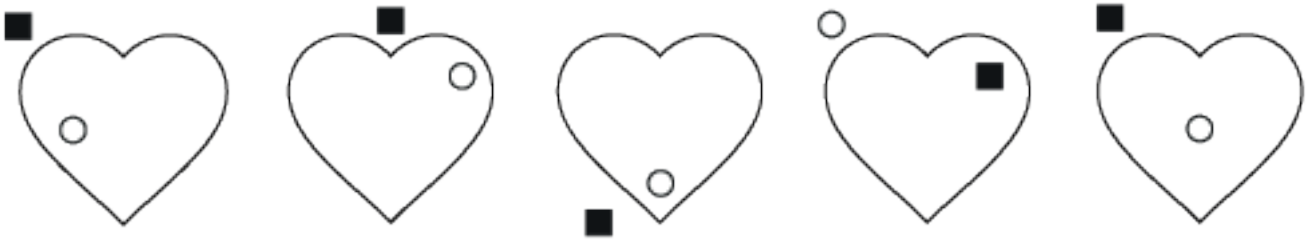
Question 3:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?

a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 4:

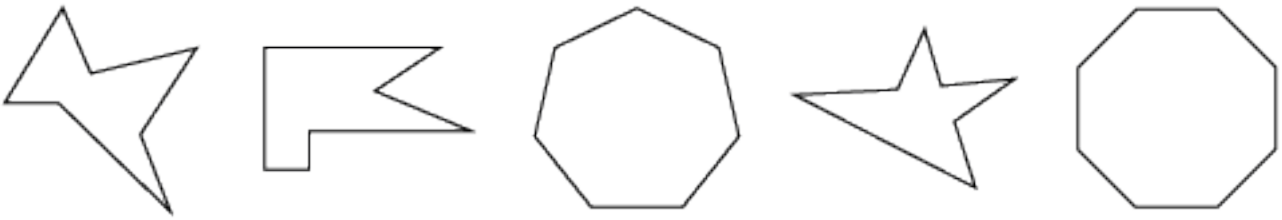
Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 5:

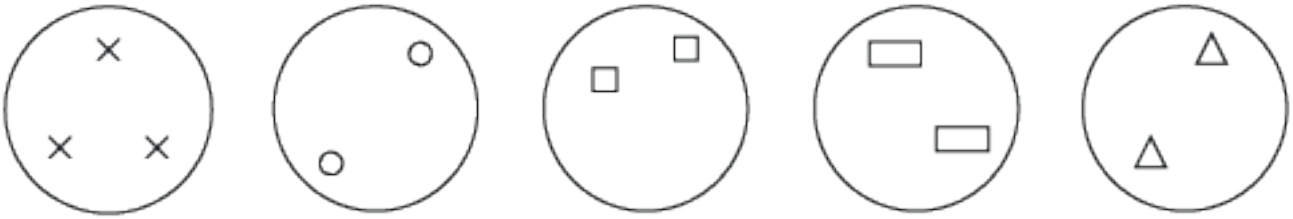
Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 6:

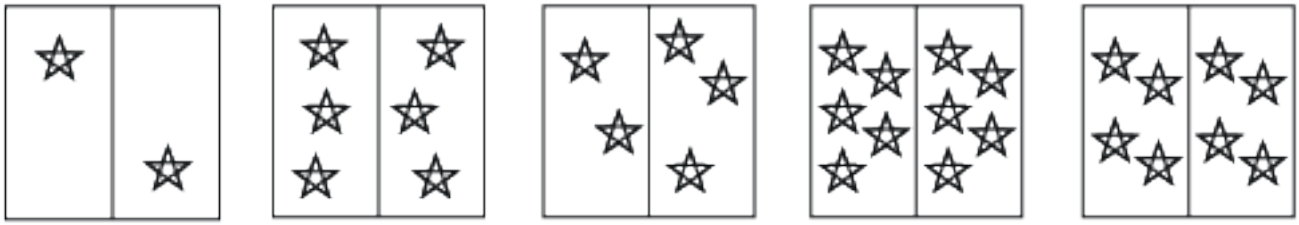
Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 7:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

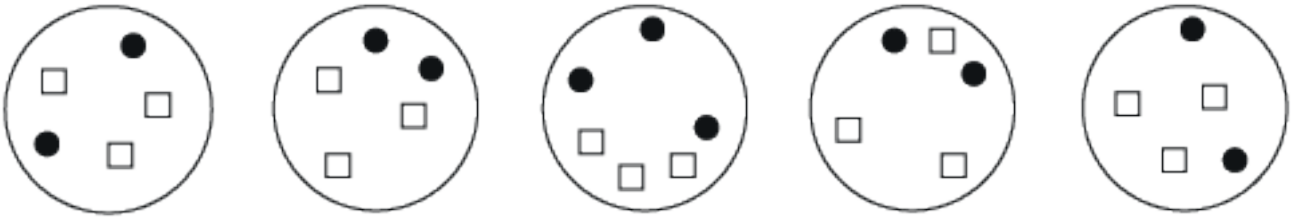
Question 8:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?

a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 9:

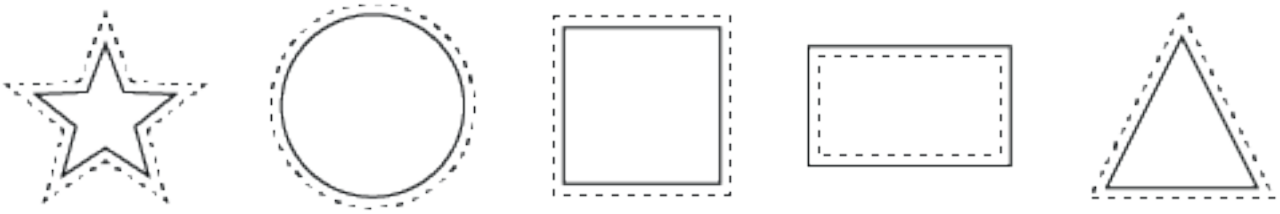
Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Question 10:

Which of the images below is the odd one out and doesn't fit well with the others?



a) ☐ b) ☐ c) ☐ d) ☐ e) ☐

Verbal Reasoning worksheet

Hi there code cracker!

Today we are going to learn about a new type of code.

When you turn a word into code, each letter can be represented by a number.

Let's look at a question together:

If **FLOWER** is **785901**, then **WOLF** is _ _ _ _

You may have noticed that the word **WOLF** contains the same letters as the word **FLOWER**.

So the answer can be worked out by using the code introduced by the example word.

The W in FLOWER is 9 (W=9).
The O in FLOWER is 5 (O=5).
The L in FLOWER is 8 (L=8).
The F in FLOWER is 7 (F=7).

So **WOLF** is **9587** in code.

Let's try another:

If the code for **DINOSAUR** is **51372894**, then **AROUND** is _ _ _ _

The word **DINOSAUR** contains the same letters as **AROUND**, so we can use this to work out the new code.

So the code for **AROUND** is **847935**.

In this activity, you will be a code cracker and change words into number codes. Make a note of the number that matches each letter; you may want to create your own grid to help with this.

Pssstt!! Here's a handy hint to help you reach superstar status:
It can be really helpful to write the word out and then write the corresponding numbers above each letter. Give it a go!

Let's get started!

Question 1:

Welcome back, code cracker! Another day, another number code cracking worksheet - you are making brilliant progress, well done! In this worksheet, I am going to ask you to change words into codes, as well as changing codes back into words.

I know you are up to the challenge, Super Code Cracker!

Now, let's get back to business...
Imagine you are at this beautiful spot:

Isn't it peaceful?

If the code for PEACEFUL is 97137824,

what is the code for PALE?

Question 2:

Let's have another go, code cracker. I hope the explanation for the first question helped you to work out exactly how to tackle these questions.

Remember your handy hint to reach superstar status: write the words out and then write the corresponding numbers above each letter. This will definitely help you with accuracy.

So, now we are going to try turning another word into a code.

If the code for the word GRATEFUL is 43617290, then what is the code for TURF?

Question 3:

Right then, code cracker, let's have another go!

So, now we are going to try turning another word into a code.

If the code for the word ESPECIALLY is 6216349880,
then what is the code for LACES?

Question 4:

I feel like you are starting to get the hang of this, code cracker! Don't worry if it takes a bit of time - the Level 2 worksheets are a bit trickier than the Level 1 worksheets. You'll get there!

Remember: I'm always here to help.

So, can you work out the code for BEGGING if the code for BELONGING is 723160860?

Remember: use the handy hint to help you!

Question 5:

You are halfway, code cracker. Fantastic work!

So, I think you are ready to try and turn a code into a word. Don't panic - you are definitely ready for it!

So, if the code for AWARE is 62614, what word is represented by the code 261? You can do it!

Awe | Raw | War

Question 6:

Let's practise that skill again to try and master it, code cracker.

Remember: practice doesn't always make perfect, but it definitely means that you make progress and that is the most important thing!

If the code for FEARFUL is 6917623, what word is represented by the code 6799?

Fare | Free | Full

Question 7:

You are making such good progress, code cracker.

Why don't you take a moment to give yourself a high five? You should feel very proud!

OK, now it's time to get back to business.

If the code for the word POLISH is 590136, what word is represented by the code 0135?

Question 8:

Can you believe that we only have three questions left, code cracker? We can definitely do this!

Right, let's calm it down now...

Isn't this a tranquil scene? If the code for TRANQUIL is 92416832, what is the code for QUILT?

Remember to use your handy hint!

Question 9:

We are almost there, code cracker!

You only have two questions left. What brilliant work!

So, if the code for PICTURE is 7931462, what is the code for TRIP?

Question 10:

You've made it to the last question, code cracker! Wahoo!

So, the code for WATERFALL is 621349877, what is the code for WALL?

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Year 3
CEM Exam board explanations

CEM Centre for Evaluation & Monitoring

Everything you need to know about CEM 11+ exams

CEM Centre for Evaluation & Monitoring

CEM stands for the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring. CEM is a research group and Exam board based at the University of Durham who produce entrance tests and 11+ exam papers for individual Grammar Schools and some local authorities in the UK.
The CEM exam board was started in response to concerns by some grammar schools that many existing 11+ exams had become too predictable and could be prepared for using tutors and widely available practice papers. Therefore, the CEM 11+ exam was launched as a 'tutor-proof' assessment which would test children's natural abilities and help reduce the disadvantage between children whose parents could afford tuition and those who could not.

This article will explain the differences between CEM and the other main 11+ exam board, GL. It will also aim to give you advice about how best to prepare your child if the exam they are sitting is written by CEM.

Which regions use CEM?

The following areas use the CEM exams for 11+ entry:

- Berkshire
- Bexley
- Birmingham
- Buckinghamshire
- Devon
- Gloucestershire
- Shropshire
- Walsall
- Warwickshire
- Wirral
- Wolverhampton

And these areas use a combination of CEM and GL assessment:

- Essex
- Hertfordshire
- Trafford
- Yorkshire

Bear in mind: Exam boards in specific areas and for individual schools do change from time to time, so it's important to check with your local authority before starting any kind of preparation with your child.

CEM versus GL, what's the difference?

There are some significant differences between the two main 11+ exam boards: **GL and CEM.**

GL covers the four main 11+ subjects – English, Mathematics, Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning/Spatial Awareness. Individual schools and regions can choose a combination of these to use in their 11+ exam. Papers are either Multiple Choice or Standard Format. Paper length varies and questions are taken from the GL assessment bank and a variety of types are used across the subjects, meaning that children can become familiar with exam type questions through practice papers and commercially published materials. Strong vocabulary, logic, maths and spelling skills are essential for GL.

CEM exam papers, however, contain a mix of questions and subjects within one exam. Typically, one 11+ paper combines English and Verbal Reasoning skills, whilst a second paper would test children on Maths and Non-Verbal reasoning. Depending on the specific school or region, Standard Format, Multiple Choice, or a combination of both may be used in one exam and this may change year on year.

CEM papers also tend to contain small, timed sections which change between subject areas rapidly. For example, a paper could move from Maths questions to Problem Solving and Logic type questions. Each section is timed tightly and children will not be allowed to return to previous sections. Good time management is key to success in the CEM 11+ exams. It's very common for children not to complete the paper as there are often more questions than there is time to reasonably complete them.

To succeed in the CEM exam, your child will need to show strength in the following areas:

- English – general skills
- Comprehension
- Vocabulary – this will need to be particularly strong and wide-ranging
- Spelling
- Maths

The weighting of subjects is not known beforehand and changes from year to year and between regions, making this a particularly tricky exam board to prepare for.

How to practise and prepare for CEM exams

CEM themselves advise against exam-specific preparation and do not publish official practice materials or practice papers. They suggest that the best preparation is for children to read widely and to develop independent study skills, such as completing homework set by their school without adult help and looking up words they don't understand to develop their vocabulary.

Whilst CEM doesn't produce practice papers, all grammar schools and local authorities using CEM will provide familiarisation materials to parents who have registered their child to take the 11+ exam. These materials will never contain actual test questions but will help you and your child to understand the format of the test.

Other general ideas for helping your child to prepare before taking a CEM 11+ exam include the following:

- Practise synonyms and antonyms. EdPlace have plenty of resources from year 3 to 6 to help your child!
- Complete word puzzles, vocabulary quizzes and crosswords with your child.
- Encourage your child to use a wide range of vocabulary and interesting word to describe things in everyday life.
- Read widely with your child.
- Keep a vocabulary diary and make or use commercially available flashcards of interesting and unusual words to help your child widen their vocabulary.

For the CEM test, time management is particularly important. Whilst no official practice papers are released, there are many 'CEM' style published materials which are really useful for timed exam practice. These may or may not reflect the actual content of the exam, but will help your child to be ready for possible exam formats and to develop good timekeeping skills.

Tips for effective timed practice include:

- Regular, small chunks of practice done under exam conditions.
- Encourage your child to work independently and gradually build up the number of questions they can complete in the time.
- Help your child to develop good exam technique by picking off questions they can easily answer, or those with the highest number of marks.
- Talk through any exam practice with your child, pinpointing any careless mistakes, or questions where estimating or approximation may provide short cuts.

Miss Becky's Top Tip for the CEM 11+ exam:

In the CEM 11+, it's very common for children not to finish the exam. So, focusing on achieving the most marks possible is really important. These tips should mean that your child can go into the exam feeling calm and confident about how to approach the papers.

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How to prepare for the 11+

CEM Centre for Evaluation & Monitoring

How to prepare your child for the CEM 11+ year by year

There are lots to think about with the 11+ and it's useful to get a head start on preparations so the journey can be a fun and exciting one for your family. The best way to prepare your child at any stage is to ensure they are meeting the National Curriculum requirements for their year group which can be found on the here. Below are some additional ideas to help you prepare.

Year 3

By now, you'll have a good idea of your child's progression in key skill areas such as Literacy and Numeracy through school reports and teacher consultations. Use this information to stretch them in the areas where it is most needed.
These should include:

Maths

- Revise mental and column-based arithmetic (addition and subtraction)
- 1-10 times table (and relevant divisions facts)
- Place values (tens, hundreds, thousands etc.)

All of these maths topics, along with the entire year 3 maths curriculum, are clearly laid out and easy to access on the EdPlace website, helping your child to become a more **confident mathematician** using **fun** and **interactive** worksheets.

English

- Focus on independent reading (aloud and silent)
- Basic synonyms and antonyms
- Decoding irregular spelling rules and basic grammar/punctuation (full stops, capital letters, commas to create lists)

Make sure your child is up to date with the year 3 spelling and grammar curriculum. This can be accessed on the EdPlace site and the fancy terminology is explained in a clear and engaging way. Age appropriate **comprehensions** are available on EdPlace to check that your child is interpreting passages in the correct way.

Verbal Reasoning

Learn with them and encourage them to access higher-level vocabulary. You can do this by reading together, listening to audiobooks and incorporating it into your everyday speech where possible.

Also, familiarise your child with the various types of spatial and non-verbal reasoning question types on the EdPlace website, which gradually get harder to ease your child into this new question type.

Non-verbal Reasoning

At this stage, the best way to practise non-verbal reasoning is to embed learning into everyday activities such as cooking (weights and measures), gardening (colours, plants, insects) or crafts (shapes, sizes, properties of materials). This enables your child to use their learning from school to problem-solve in a range of real-world situations, preparing them for the varied nature of the CEM 11+.

EdPlace's resources enable you to search for specific topic areas, allowing you to focus on the areas most needed.

Year 4

At this stage, build on the skills you focused on last year, shifting your focus forward from basic processes onto more advanced skills. These include:

Maths

- Practise geometry
- BIDMAS
- ratio and proportion
- angles and measurements
- weights
- measurements and basic conversions

English

- Revise comprehension
- Decoding figurative language
- Relationships between words
- Advanced synonyms and antonyms
- Homophones
- Spelling

Verbal Reasoning

Work on 'reading between the lines' by focusing on textual inference, emotive tone, evidence-based reasoning, using quotations.

Non-verbal Reasoning

Focus on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, repetition and symmetry. A great (and fun!) way to revise this is to use plasticine and other craft materials to make physical models of shapes.

EdPlace have a great range of resources to practise these skills. Our online activities utilise a range of question types to enable you to revise for the 11+ in a way that is fun and engaging.

Year 5

This year, you'll need to register your child for their 11+ (which they'll sit at the beginning of YEAR 6) either through your preferred school, an online portal or you may have been automatically registered, depending on your region. Create a weekly revision schedule, so you and your child can see and track progress and ensure you devote adequate time to all four skill areas.

Maths

Revise advanced skills such as algebra (using brackets), time and temperature, indices (squared/cubed numbers), different types of charts and graphs. Real-world examples (food labels and newspaper articles work well) are a great way to scaffold these skills in a range of contexts. Also, there are lots of maths puzzles online (e.g. sudoku) that are a great way for your child to begin thinking about the relationships between numbers.

English

Focus on spelling patterns, word puzzles, proof-reading texts (for spelling/grammar errors). Pick up some word puzzles (crosswords, word-searches, code-words etc.) to encourage your child to think laterally about the relationships between words and letters, and to practise locating specific information quickly.

Verbal Reasoning

Focus on key components of story structure (e.g. character, setting, conflict) and discussing how and why authors create a certain atmosphere in a text. Practise this by watching films as a family and discussing your opinions. You could even write film reviews to share with one another.

Non-verbal Reasoning

Work on sequences and patterns, detailed observation, mental perceptions of objects, shifting, reflecting and transposing images. Use mirrors, lights and tracing paper to support the revision of these skills. You'll also want to work on exam technique as this can make or break a result; it's useful to complete practice papers with a timer because it's important your child can showcase their skills by completing as much of the paper as possible in the time limit. This way you can track your child's progress in the run-up to their exam. EdPlace guides you through CEM question structure in a way that is fun and interactive. There is also a range of practice papers (with timers) to help you nail that all-important exam technique.

YEAR 6

Focus on timing, exam strategy (i.e. working a way that plays to your child's strengths) and practising those four key skill areas. Vary revision activities (either by format or subject) to prepare your child for the varied nature of the 11+. A good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast beforehand will set your child up for the day. Try to keep a cool head on the morning of the exam – be positive and encouraging as it's likely they'll be nervous.

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Year 3
GL Exam board explanations

GL Assessment

What is the 11+ GL assessment?

GL assessment write and provide assessments to UK schools as well as many schools overseas. They don't just write educational assessments, they've also created assessments to monitor wellbeing and mental health in children. They're a forward-thinking company developing online assessments to keep up with the times. GL assessments use experts to assist them in creating the highest quality educational assessments, such as those from the University of York and King's College London. This article will outline how GL works in terms of the 11+ and which areas use GL assessment.

Differences between GL and CEM exam boards

Don't confuse GL assessment with CEM, as these are different exam boards and the 11+ test layout is very different. The maths, English and non-verbal reasoning content are very similar in the CEM and GL tests, but the verbal reasoning is significantly different. The verbal reasoning in GL assessment is heavily based on logic and codes with some vocabulary based questions, whereas the verbal reasoning in CEM is purely vocabulary based, without the puzzles and codes. GL assessments have one large section in each test for the four main topics but CEM has several small sections for each topic.

Which 11+ regions use GL Assessment?

Don't confuse GL assessment with CEM, as these are different exam boards and the 11+ test layout is very different. The maths, English and non-verbal reasoning content are very similar in the CEM and GL test. The following are the regions who currently use GL assessment. These are subject to change each year. Please note that for any London based schools, you need to check each school's website to see which exam board they follow.

- Dorset
- Kent
- Lancashire
- Berkshire - Reading Girls' School only
- Cumbria
- Some Devon Schools - Check individual School websites for more information
- Some Greater Manchester Schools - Check individual School websites for more information
- Some Hertfordshire Schools - Check individual School websites for more information
- Lincolnshire
- Some London Barnet Schools
- London - Bromley Schools
- London - Kingston Upon Thames
- London - Redbridge
- Wiltshire
- Yorkshire

What makes up the GL exam?

DMost GL exams are made up of 4 main sections: English, maths, non-verbal reasoning (which can include spatial reasoning) and verbal reasoning. Most commonly, there are two 45 minute papers which are made up of two sections in each paper. It is highly likely that if your child is sitting a GL exam, it will be in a multiple choice format. This means around 20 minutes will be spent on each of the main sections overall, with each section making up 25% of your child's total score. For example, in Buckinghamshire, one paper is made up of English and verbal reasoning, whilst the other paper is made up of maths and non-verbal reasoning. Some regions may ask your child to complete an additional writing paper, which could be taken into account by some schools. Please check individual school websites to see if this is the case.

Here is an outline of the content that could be covered in each section:

Maths

Many word problems and some arithmetic questions based on the content of year 5 and year 6 maths. This means your child will have to learn content beyond the year group that they are currently in, as the 11+ is at the start of year 6 and they'll be tested on topics that may not be covered at school until the end of year 6. Don't worry as EdPlace has all of these topics online.

English

This will contain a comprehension with multiple choice questions testing the child's understanding of the test, identification of literary techniques (simile, metaphor, personification etc.) and certain word classes (verb, noun, adjective etc.). It will also contain a section in which your child will have to identify spelling and punctuation mistakes as well as a section in which the child has to identify the correct word to complete a sentence.

Verbal Reasoning

This will involve a range of question types which are covered on EdPlace. Your child will need abroad vocabulary and good logic for these questions.

Spatial and Non-Verbal Reasoning

This will involve a selection from a range of question types available on EdPlace. These questions involve images and look like your traditional IQ type questions. If your child has ever sat CAT tests, they will recognise these questions.

The GL website has familiarisation papers to help you understand the layout of the exam. Your child will also receive a familiarisation booklet in the summer before the 11+ exam so that they can get used to the GL layout for their area.

GL assessment provides each student with an '**age-standardised score'**. This makes the 11+ fair for all and adjusts the scores of younger students in the year so that they aren't at a disadvantage.

Where can I practice GL assessment style questions?

If your child is sitting the 11+ GL assessment, EdPlace is here to help!

- Our holistic approach revolutionises the 11+ by discreetly progressing your child to remove pressures, helping them enjoy learning and feel confident.
- Get ahead with engaging non-verbal and verbal reasoning activities and practice papers for ages 8-11 tailored to CEM or GL exam boards.
- Visionary new 11+ specific English and Maths practice.
- Track and measure your child's exam readiness and build their confidence so they're more than ready to show their skills come test day!

We're here to help your child smash whatever comes their way! From KS1-KS4, our students progress 150% across English, maths and science over a school year; **from ABCs - GCSEs, EdPlace is here for the 11+, and beyond!**

Head to page 35 to find out more about EdPlace

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How to prepare for the 11+

GL Assessment

How to prepare for the GL 11+ exam – Year by year breakdown

The GL 11+ exam is usually made up of four main sections; **English** (comprehension, spelling and punctuation), **Maths, Verbal Reasoning and Non-Verbal/Spatial Reasoning.**

How and when to prepare for the GL 11+

Many parents begin preparing their child for the GL 11+ as early as year 3. This does not mean you need to be doing actual 11+ level activities with your child in year 3, as this will most likely deter them and knock their confidence. You don't even need to use the phrase '11+' but there are a few things that you can do early on to **build foundational knowledge for the 11+**, which will help make their important year 5 11+ journey much smoother. If your child has just entered year 5, don't worry, there is still plenty of time to prepare your child for the 11+, especially with the help of **EdPlace**.

Here is an outline of what you can do to help prepare your child for the GL assessment 11+ and build foundational knowledge, based on each year group and section:

Year 3

Maths

By the end of year 3, make sure that your child is confident and secure in:

- Column addition and subtraction
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 times tables with associated division facts
- All year 3 curriculum maths and the beginning to look at year 4 maths

All of these maths topics, along with the entire year 3 maths curriculum, are clearly laid out and easy to access on the **EdPlace** website, helping your child to become a more **confident** mathematician using **fun** and interactive worksheets.

English

Reading: In year 3, it is vital to encourage a **love of books and reading** so that your child feels confident and comfortable around books. Make sure your child reads **aloud for 15-20 minutes** most days. Don't worry about how much they read, it's more important to stop and **discuss** the new **vocabulary** in the book and discuss what is happening in the book and why. If your child isn't on a level of book that contains tricky vocabulary, don't worry, you can listen to **audiobooks** before bed or in the car. Listening to audiobooks or another adult reading is incredibly beneficial as your child will be **exposed to higher**

level vocabulary and it can improve their comprehension by discussing what's happening in the story. It is often recommended that children read their own book as well as listening to an adult/audiobook reading a story of a **higher reading level** than theirs.

Make sure your child is up to date with the year 3 **spelling and grammar curriculum**. This can be accessed on the EdPlace site and the fancy terminology is explained in a clear and engaging way. Age appropriate **comprehensions** are available on EdPlace to check that your child is interpreting passages in the correct way.

Verbal Reasoning

- Encouraging your child to **read widely** and **discuss new vocabulary** will help with many types of verbal reasoning question, as these are often vocabulary focussed.
- Familiarise your child with the various types of verbal reasoning questions on the EdPlace website to gradually introduce them to question types that they won't be used to.

Spatial and Non-Verbal Reasoning

Children that play with Lego and similar building block toys are often more confident when it comes to spatial and non-verbal reasoning questions, especially spatial reasoning. This is because they are used to fitting 3D shapes together and understand how to move them to fit into place. **Tangrams** and **Tetris style puzzles** are also great to help children visualise how shapes fit together. This is a great way to **'disguise'** 11+ work and can be fun to do together.

Also, familiarise your child with the various types of spatial and non-verbal reasoning question types on the EdPlace website, which gradually get harder to ease your child into this new question type.

Year 4

Maths

By the end of year 4, make sure that your child is confident and secure in:

- All times tables up to 12 x 12, with associated division facts. We don't want times tables to slow them down in year 5, when learning new concepts.
- Short and long multiplication
- Short division, often known as the 'bus stop method
- Answering word problems
- All aspects of the year 4 maths curriculum and the beginning of the year 5 maths curriculum

All of these maths topics, along with the **entire year 4 maths curriculum**, are clearly laid out and easy to access on the **EdPlace** website, helping your child to become a more **confident** mathematician using **fun** and **interactive** worksheets.

English

Reading: The advice for English in year 4 strongly matches that of year 3 (please see above). Please make sure that your **child reads** widely to improve their **comprehension** and **vocabulary**. Set reading challenges with rewards to keep them motivated, many local libraries run these throughout the holidays. Make sure that your child is also listening to a story of a higher level than theirs to further boost comprehension and vocabulary. Comprehensions for year 4 can be accessed on the EdPlace website to check that your child has an age-appropriate comprehension level and will help boost this level with engaging practice.

Grammar: Make sure that your child is up to date with the grammar curriculum for year 4. Especially, make sure that they are familiar with the following terms: noun, verb, adjective, adverb, synonym and antonym.

Spelling: Your child will have to identify spelling mistakes in a passage so make sure they know how to spell the key curriculum words for year 3 and 4. These can be found on page 16 of this government document and activities to practise and understand spelling rules can also be found on EdPlace.

Verbal Reasoning

- Encouraging your child to read widely and discuss new vocabulary will help with many types of verbal reasoning question, as these are often vocabulary focussed.
- Familiarise your child with the various types of verbal reasoning questions on the EdPlace website for year 4 to gradually introduce them to question types that they won't be used to.

Spatial and Non-Verbal Reasoning

Please see the advice in the year 3 section for using lego and puzzles to improve your child's natural spatial and non-verbal reasoning potential. Familiarise your child with the various types of spatial and non-verbal reasoning question types, which gradually get harder to ease your child into this new question type.

Year 5

Maths

By the end of year 5, make sure that your child is confident and secure in:

- All aspects of the year 5 maths curriculum.
- All aspects of the year 6 maths curriculum.
- Applying this knowledge into word problems under timed conditions

The EdPlace website has a comprehensive list of all the maths topics that could come up in the 11+ and these are in the year 5 and year 6 maths sections. Completing these sections will help your child become confident in tricky maths topics and they can then apply this knowledge into 11+ style word problems.

English

Reading: Encourage your child to read widely and discuss the plot and motives of characters in their story. Set reading challenges with rewards to keep them motivated, many local libraries run these throughout the holidays. Practising comprehensions is vital in year 5, as the majority of the English 11+ is based on comprehension. A range of comprehensions can be accessed on the EdPlace site to make doing a 'dull comprehension' a bit more engaging and interactive!

Grammar: In terms of grammar, make sure your child is up to date with the year 5 grammar curriculum, which can be found on the EdPlace website. Make sure they can define and identify the following in a passage of text:

- Types of noun - common, proper, collective, abstract
- Pronoun
- Adjective
- Verb
- Preposition
- Adverb
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Personification

Punctuation: Make sure your child knows when to use the following punctuation, as they will have to identify punctuation mistakes within a passage:

- Capital letter and full stop
- Apostrophe
- Inverted commas (speech marks)
- Colon
- Semi-colon
- Comma
- Dashes

Spelling: Your child will have to identify spelling mistakes in a passage, so make sure they know how to spell the key curriculum words for 'year 3 and 4' and 'year 5 and 6'. These can be found on pages 16 and 23 of this government document and we have many activities to practise and understand spelling rules in at EdPlace

Verbal Reasoning

In the 11+ exam, your child will be tested on a selection of the many types of verbal reasoning question. This means that your child needs to be familiar with all of these types, as any could come up. All of these types are easily accessible on EdPlace and help your child become more confident by gradually increasing the difficulty. It's best to learn these one type at a time to begin with, rather than overwhelming your child with a worksheet that covers several in one go.

As previously mentioned, a broad vocabulary will help your child to succeed in verbal reasoning, so please do not forget about that all-important reading as it helps your child learn vocabulary in context, rather than just looking up tricky words in a dictionary.

Spatial and Non-Verbal Reasoning

In the 11+ exam, a selection of spatial and non-verbal reasoning questions types will come up, so it is important to practice all of the types before the 11+.so that your child is familiar with these. Children either love or hate non-verbal reasoning and if they are struggling to understand, take the time to talk through the patterns and changes out loud, to help them develop that all important 'reasoning' brain. All of the possible types of spatial and non-verbal reasoning questions are accessible on EdPlace, and each answer is clearly explained to help you and your child understand the thought process behind it and we will have them thinking like a reasoning rockstar in no time!

What to do in the last few months before the GL 11+ exam

In the months leading up to the 11+, it's time to begin test style questions with your child. The trickiest levels under year 5 on EdPlace are laid out in a similar way to the 11+ to help your child familiarise themselves with the layout. Your child will need to get used to answering these questions in timed conditions as well as being able to jump from one question type to another. Timed practice tests with clear answer explanations will be available on EdPlace to help your child improve these skills.

If you follow these guidelines and explore the vast collection of 11+ resources on EdPlace, then your 11+ journey can run smoothly, without stress. Just remember, the longest time that your child will be sitting down for in one of the 11+ tests is an hour, so give them plenty of rest breaks when you are practising at home. Good luck and remember, EdPlace are here for you every step of the way!

ed place is here to help your child pass the 11+

Smash the 11+ exams with EdPlace!

We're revolutionising 11+ preparation for your child. With an EdPlace account, you'll have access to non-verbal, spatial and verbal reasoning resources for ages 8-11 tailored to CEM or GL exam boards; plus 11+ specific English and Maths practice. Track and measure your child's exam readiness and build their confidence so they're more than ready to show their skills come test day!

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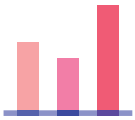
11+ pressures; making learning enjoyable so they feel confident



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Answers and scores

Non-Verbal

Question 1:

X marks the spot in this question!

In options a, b, c and e the X is the right-angled corner of the triangle.
In option d it is just floating around in the middle of the triangle.
This makes option d the odd one out.

Can you remember what a right angle is? This is the angle that is formed when two lines meet to form a corner which has a 90 degree angle.

Question 2:

This question also focuses on position to help you find the answer.

In options a, c, d and e there is a smaller version of the outer shape exactly in the centre of it. However, in option b, the smaller triangle is lazily sitting at the bottom of the big triangle, rather than the middle of it.

This makes option b the odd one out.

Question 3:

In the first four images, the circle is on the edge of the teardrop shape.

In option e the circle is outside of the teardrop.

This makes option e the odd one out.

There's no need to CRY if you made a slip; let's practise on the next one...

Question 4:

I hope you still have your position brains in gear, because this question will need them!

This time we have three shapes to consider in relation to each other.

Options a, b, c and e have a circle inside the heart and a black square outside of it.

Option d has these same three shapes, but positioned the wrong way round!

The square is inside of the heart rather than the circle, and the circle is outside rather than the square.

This makes option d the odd one out.

Question 5:

What can we count here?

If we count the number of sides of each shape, we can see that options a, b, c and d all have seven sides.

Option e has eight sides.

This makes option e the odd one out.

Did you know that a seven-sided shape is called a heptagon?

Question 6:

This one is a counting question too.

The last four circles have two small shapes inside of them.

Option a has three small shapes inside of it.

This makes option a the odd one out here.

Question 7:

I hope this question didn't make you too starry-eyed!

In options a, b, d and e there are the same number of stars on each side of the middle line, although the total numbers all differ.

If we look at option d as an example, it has four stars on the left side and four stars on the right side.

Option c has two stars on the left and three on the right.

This is unbalanced and doesn't match with the others, so option c is the odd one out.

Question 8:

These images are like a game with stacking bricks!

Options a, c, d and e have three of the same shapes stacked on top of each other.

Option b has four shapes, which is one too many!

This makes option b the odd one out - I hope it doesn't topple over!

Question 9:

What can we count here?

Four of the large circles have two small black circles and three small white squares inside of them.

Option c doesn't fit in as it has three black circles, rather than two.

Question 10:

This last one flips back to a position question again.

In options a, b, c and e the dashed line is positioned on the outside of the full line.

In option d the dashed line is positioned on the inside of the main shape instead.

This makes option d the odd one out.

Great work shape detective!

Score:

Answers and scores

Verbal

Question 1:

Did you get the correct answer, code cracker? Don't worry if not - we're still practising!

Let's look carefully. If we do, we notice that all the letters in the word PALE are in the word PEACEFUL.

So, let's break it down:

The P in PEACEFUL is 9.
The A in PEACEFUL is 1.
The L in PEACEFUL is 4.
The E in PEACEFUL is 7.

So, the code for PALE is 9147!

Question 2:

Did you manage this one, code cracker? Remember to use the handy hint to help you out!

Let's go through it together. If we look at the code for GRATEFUL, we see that:

The T in GRATEFUL is 1.
The U in GRATEFUL is 9.
The R in GRATEFUL is 3.
The F in GRATEFUL is 2.

So, the code for TURF is 1932!

Question 3:

How did you get on here, code cracker? I hope you used your handy hint because ESPECIALLY is a rather long word and it will have really helped you here.

Let's go through it, just in case you need a recap:

The L in ESPECIALLY is 8.
The A in ESPECIALLY is 9.
The C in ESPECIALLY is 3.
The E in ESPECIALLY is 6.
The S in ESPECIALLY is 2.

If we put it all together, we see that the code for LACES is 89362!

Question 4:

OK, code cracker, I hope that question felt manageable. There are quite a lot of repeated letters here, aren't there?

I definitely think you need to remember your handy hint here! The words are getting longer, after all.

Let's try and work this one out:

The B in BELONGING is 7.
The E in BELONGING is 2.
The G in BELONGING is 0.
The G in BELONGING is 0.
The I in BELONGING is 8.
The N in BELONGING is 6.
The G in BELONGING is 0.

If we put it all together, we see that the code for BEGGING is 7200860!

Question 5:

The correct answer is WAR. Let's see how we got there, code cracker:

We know that the code for AWARE is 62614. I asked you to work out what word was represented by the code 261. We can work it out as follows:

The 2 in 62614 is W.
The 6 in 62614 is A.
The 1 in 62614 is R.

So the code 261 represents the word WAR!

Question 6:

Are you using your handy hint to help you, code cracker? I think that it is really important when you are moving from codes to words, so do try to use it when you can.

Let's take a closer look at this. We know the code for FEARFUL IS 6917623, so we need to work out which letter each of the numbers 6799 represents:

The 6 in 6917623 is F.
The 7 in 6917623 is R.
The 9 in 6917623 is E.
The 9 in 6917623 is E.

So, the word you should have found in the code 6799 is FREE!

Question 7:

The word is LISP. Let's see how we got there, code cracker.

We know that the code for POLISH is 590136, so we can also work out the following:

The 0 in 590136 is L.
The 1 in 590136 is I.
The 3 in 590136 is S.
The 5 in 590136 is P.

So, the word we are looking for is LISP!

Question 8:

We are back on familiar ground here, code cracker: turning words into number codes. Did you manage to get this one right? Let's go through it to check.

We know the code for the word TRANQUIL, so we know that:

The Q in TRANQUIL is 6.
The U in TRANQUIL is 8.
The I in TRANQUIL is 3.
The L in TRANQUIL is 2.
The T in TRANQUIL is 9.

So the code for QUILT is 68329!

Question 9:

Did you manage to work this one out, code cracker? Let's go through it together. Remember: I'm always here to help!

So, using the code we already have, we know that:

The T in PICTURE is 1.
The R in PICTURE is 6.
The I in PICTURE is 9.
The P in PICTURE is 7.

So 1697 is the code for TRIP!

Question 10:

You have done so well to make it this far, code cracker - well done!
So, let's see if we can work out the final code.

We know the code for WATERFALL and using that we can work out that:

The W in WATERFALL is 6.
The A in WATERFALL is 8.
The L in WATERFALL is 7.
You will need to use the 7 again to account for the second L.

So, the code for WALL is 6877! Well done!

Score:

Overall score: