



Pupil's Name
School Name

DATE OF TEST		
Day	Month	Year

SCHOOL NUMBER

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DATE OF BIRTH		
Day	Month	Year

Please mark boxes with a thin horizontal line like this .

The Story of King Midas

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20	A B C D E

An Uncomfortable Interview

21 A B C D E

22 A B C D E

23 A B C D E

24 A B C D E

25 A B C D E

26 A B C D E

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Punctuation Exercise



Please mark boxes with a thin horizontal line like this .

Out of the Darkness

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END OF TEST

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P2-Pack 1 2018



11+E-3

Practice Paper 3

English

Read the following carefully:

1. **Do not open or turn over the page in this booklet until you are told to do so.**
2. You have to read a passage and then answer some questions about it. You can look back at the passage to check your answers as many times as you want. There are also some grammar, spelling and punctuation exercises to do.
3. This is a multiple-choice test in which you have to mark your answer to each question on the answer sheet. You should mark only one answer for each question.
4. Draw a firm line clearly through the rectangle next to your answer like this . If you make a mistake, rub it out as completely as you can and put in your new answer.
5. Be sure to keep your place on the answer sheet. Mark your answer in the box that has the same number as the question.
6. You may not be able to finish all the questions, but try to do as many as you can. If you cannot do a question, do not waste time on it but go on to the next. If you are not sure of an answer, choose the one you think is best.
7. You may do any rough working on a separate sheet of paper.
8. **Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.**
9. You will have 45 minutes to do the test.

Read this passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow.

The Story of King Midas

A legend of Ancient Greece

1. On a particular summer's day, King Midas was present at a music competition. The contest was to be judged by Tmolus, a river god, and there were two contestants: a young man named Marsyas, and a very powerful god named Apollo.

Marsyas was first to play. Now, although Marsyas was an ordinary young man, he possessed an extraordinary, magical flute. The music it made was so sweet that all who heard it were instantly bewitched. He raised the flute to his lips and, as the first notes fell on the summer air, the birds paused in their singing, the leaves were still, and wild creatures crowded around, spellbound.

When the flute finally fell silent, King Midas let out a long, wistful sigh. 'Perfect!' he
10. breathed.

Tmolus said nothing. He was too wise to rush to judgement, particularly when the second contestant was a powerful god, who was known for his quick temper. He turned and looked expectantly at Apollo.

Apollo's chosen instrument was the lute*. He began to play, and his touch was so delicate
15. that the clouds themselves were drawn down from the sky.

When the piece was finished, Tmolus pondered deeply. There was little to choose between the two competitors. Marsyas's playing had touched more hearts; it was true, but that was not the point. Even if Marsyas had played ten times better than his rival, he could not be judged the winner, for Apollo would be angry if he did not win, and Apollo's wrath meant
20. danger.

At last, Tmolus delivered his verdict: 'I declare Apollo the winner!'

Without thinking, King Midas cried: 'That's ridiculous! Marsyas played better, everyone could hear that! Anyone who thinks otherwise must have asses' ears!'

Apollo glared at the king. 'Indeed,' was all he said.

25. The next morning, King Midas was awoken by a strange itching in the region of his scalp. Scratching his head, he rose to look in the mirror.

*a stringed instrument something like a guitar

What he saw made his eyes grow wide in horror. His ears were long and pointed, and covered in coarse, grey hair.

'Everyone will laugh at me' – he almost wept, as he paced the room in despair – 'and
30. that must never be. A king who is ridiculous cannot command respect, and then – who knows? The people may rise up and rebel! My ears must remain a secret.'

At last he came up with a plan. 'I know,' he said to himself, 'I'll find a cap large enough to conceal the ears, and that cap will stay firmly on my head from dawn till dusk.'

The plan worked well. The king's subjects were duly impressed and caps became instantly
35. fashionable.

The only person who knew the secret was the royal barber. For hair does not stop growing just because you wear a hat, and every now and then King Midas's hair also needed cutting.

The barber worked in complete privacy. Not even the palace guards were permitted to
40. enter the room where he would gently remove the cap and get to work on the king's misshapen head.

'You must promise,' the king insisted, 'on pain of death, to tell no-one what you have seen.'

'I promise,' said the barber, his hand held discreetly over his mouth in case the king should
45. see the corners begin to twitch.

As the months passed, it seemed to the barber that the ears looked more and more absurd. Even thinking about them made him laugh. But when people asked him what the joke was, he hastily wiped the smile from his face. 'Oh, nothing!' he said. 'Nothing.'

Eventually, however, it became too much to bear.

50. He must tell someone – or something. So, one winter's night, he crept out of the city, carrying a spade, and walked until he came to a lonely marsh. There, among the dry, wintry stems of the weeds, he dug a hole and into it whispered his secret: 'King Midas has asses' ears!'

He had told his secret to the Earth itself, for the Earth is always silent.

55. Yet the barber had reckoned without the other living things around him. While the Earth lay silent, the reeds, though dry, were still full of life. In spring, they put up fresh, green shoots. In summer, their soft heads nodded in the breeze, growing gradually dry and brown under the hot sun. When the cool autumn wind rustled through them, they made a gentle hissing sound, for all the world like a crowd whispering: 'King Midas has asses' ears!'
60. The country people who lived near the marsh heard the rumour, and soon they, too, were whispering among themselves: 'King Midas has asses' ears!'

Up and down the kingdom, the words were soon on everyone's lips, and when people caught sight of the king they smiled to themselves or even laughed aloud.

- Some say King Midas realised his secret was out, but the king continued to wear his cap,
65. and the people continued to smile.

Even now, if you pass by a marsh on an autumn night, and the wind sighs through the reeds, you, too, may hear them whispering: 'King Midas has asses' ears!'

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.)
You should choose the **best** answer and mark its letter on your answer sheet.

1

Which of these is true?

- A Midas and Apollo were the competitors; Tmolus was the judge.
- B Tmolus and Apollo were the competitors; Midas was the judge.
- C Marsyas and Apollo were the competitors; Midas was the judge.
- D Apollo and Marsyas were the competitors; Tmolus was the judge.
- E Marsyas and Midas were the competitors; Apollo was the judge.

2

What was unusual about Marsyas?

- A He was a god.
- B He was friendly with the gods.
- C He had magical powers.
- D He owned a magical object.
- E He was a talented musician.

3

What happened when Marsyas played?

- A** Tmolus was depressed.
- B** Animals joined in.
- C** King Midas said nothing.
- D** Apollo was unimpressed.
- E** King Midas was moved.

4

Why did Tmolus look ‘expectantly’ at Apollo?

- A** He was a river god.
- B** He expected Apollo to be angry.
- C** He wanted Apollo to begin.
- D** He wanted to hear what Apollo had to say.
- E** He expected King Midas to be quiet.

5

What detail suggests that Marsyas should have been judged the winner?

- A** He had a flute with magic powers.
- B** The beasts listened to him.
- C** He played ten times better than Apollo.
- D** Apollo became angry afterwards.
- E** More people were moved by his playing.

6

Marsyas was the better musician. Why did he lose the competition?

- A** Apollo could not be allowed to lose.
- B** Marsyas did not play well on that day.
- C** Tmolus was a bad judge of musical ability.
- D** The audience did not like Marsyas.
- E** The king wanted Apollo to win.

7

Why did King Midas grow asses’ ears?

- A** It was a punishment from Apollo.
- B** It was the curse of Tmolus.
- C** It was the curse of Marsyas.
- D** It was a punishment from the gods.
- E** It was a disguise.

8

What first alerted King Midas to his new ears?

- A His hair had turned coarse and grey.
- B He saw the ears in a mirror.
- C His head felt itchy.
- D His ears felt long and pointed.
- E He felt the ears when he scratched himself.

9

Why was it especially important to King Midas to keep his ears a secret?

- A There might be a rebellion.
- B The cap might be too small.
- C He might feel despair.
- D He might feel silly.
- E The barber might laugh.

10

Why did caps become fashionable?

- A People knew the king's secret.
- B The cap was very impressive.
- C Hats were always popular.
- D People wanted to be like the king.
- E Hats were useful to keep off the sun.

11

Why did the barber work in 'complete privacy'?

- A The barber was afraid of dying.
- B The palace guards were very nosy.
- C The king was afraid of being seen.
- D The barber was very gentle.
- E The king was very modest.

12

Why did the barber hold his hand in front of his mouth?

- A He was horrified to see the ears.
- B He didn't want the king to see him laugh.
- C He didn't want the king to recognise him.
- D The hairy ears made him cough.
- E The king wanted him to be discreet.

13

What happened after a few months?

- A The barber found it harder to keep the secret.
- B The ears grew longer and longer.
- C People began to laugh at the barber.
- D The barber thought nothing was funny.
- E The king could not bear the secret.

14

Why did the barber walk so far before telling his secret?

- A He needed time to think.
- B He wanted to be far away from people.
- C He wanted to be well away from King Midas.
- D He had to find a place where he could dig a hole.
- E He was looking for Earth.

15

Why was the barber's secret not safe in the hole he had dug?

- A The Earth is not silent.
- B Animals had overheard and had spread the secret.
- C There were people listening.
- D The message was spread by plants.
- E The wind carried his voice far away.

16

What is the main message of this story?

- A Gods are powerful.
- B Music can be magical.
- C Kings must not look ridiculous.
- D Secrets will always be found out.
- E Silly people end up looking foolish.

Now answer the following questions about the meanings of words as they are used in the passage.

17

Which is the closest in meaning to ‘wistful’? (line 9)

- A dreamy
- B whistling
- C loud
- D happy
- E meaningful

18

Which is closest in meaning to ‘discreetly’? (line 44)

- A suspiciously
- B hilariously
- C definitely
- D secretively
- E unkindly

Now answer these questions about words and phrases as they are used in the passage.

19

'like a crowd whispering' (line 59)

How is this quotation best described?

- A a description
- B a simile
- C a phrase
- D a metaphor
- E an analogy

20

'When the flute finally fell silent' (line 9)

Which of these words is a verb?

- A When
- B flute
- C finally
- D fell
- E silent

In this exercise, you have to choose the **best** word, or **group of words**, to complete each numbered line so that the passage makes sense and is written in correct English. Choose the **best** answer and mark its letter on your answer sheet.

An Uncomfortable Interview

'Come in, Chris,' said the manager.

- 21** 'Please seat sat sit set seated down for a minute.'
- A B C D E

Chris could sense that something

- 22** was wasn't would have been wouldn't have been weren't right.
- A B C D E

- 23** 'I want to talk to you concerned around involving besides about'
- A B C D E

- 24** the mystery intruder whom that whose who's what's been breaking in
- A B C D E

- 25** every Saturday and has stole stealed has stealing been stolen stealing
- A B C D E

the cash from the till. As you know, the intruder seems to have come

- 26** through beside round with under the front door,
- A B C D E

27 even when though if since as I lock it myself every night.

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

28 I must advice advised advising advise advertise you that we have

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

some new evidence.'

29 The manager seems seams seamed unseemly seemed to be enjoying

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

the moment. 'I'm afraid, Chris,

30 that you are now suspicious suspected suspecting suspect suspiciously

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

of taking the money yourself.'

31 'What?' Chris croaked. He feels felt feeling would have felt will feel

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

like throwing up.

32 'How should would could might shouldn't you suspect me?'

A **B** **C** **D** **E**

Sweat began to appear on Chris's brow.

In this exercise, there are some mistakes in the use of capital letters and punctuation. On each numbered line, there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. **If there is no mistake, mark N.**

Punctuation Exercise

33 A hurricane a type of very strong wind) can knock over trees, damage buildings and bring down power lines.

A B C D

34 Welcome to Verton Zoo. Our most popular animals to see: are the lions, the pandas and the elephants.

A B C D

35 My oldest sister is going to university in September. It'll be strange without her at home.

A B C D

36 At the end of the garden gates have been fitted to stop the sheep from getting in and trampling mum's plants.

A B C D

37 'Stop the bus!' the boy anxiously yelled, as soon as he realised he had missed, his friend's stop.

A B C D

38 'You should come back to see the bluebells,' said our guide. 'The best time to visit is in March and April.'

39 My sister and I have bought our cousin a beautiful, sparkly, necklace for her birthday.

A B C D

- 40** 'Unless you want cavities, you should brush your teeth,' my dentist, Dr Horowitz, grumbled
- 41** Edinburgh is the capital city of scotland; it's a very scenic, busy and exciting place.
- 42** 'Do you think it's too wet to play outside today,' Simon asked, watching the rain come down.
- 43** 'Don't forget Olivers birthday again this year or he'll be very miserable,' warned my mother.
- 44** 'I don't want to watch that film,' said Zack, feeling worried. 'My friend said its really scary!'

This exercise contains some **spelling** mistakes. On each numbered line, there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. **If there is no mistake, mark N.**

Out of the Darkness

45 Kuli stared, blinking, at the magnificent colours of the parrot's fethers – orange,
A B C D

46 blue-green, scarlet – as they glowed in the sunlight. There in the depths of the
A B C D

47 rain-forest, the shade of the canopy had been delightfully cool and comfortable.
A B C D

48 Small creatures had scurried around Kuli's bare feet as the occasional snake
A B C D

49 slithered away in the direcktion of an enormous tree. Here on the rocky hillside,
A B C D

50 everything shimered in the dazzling, white heat under a brilliant blue sky.
A B C D

51 By the time Kuli reached the cave, sweat was poring down her back.
A B C D

52 Partched and panting from the climb, she lifted the water-skin to her lips and
A B C D

53 squeezed out the last few droplets. She felt the welcome moisture soaking



54 into her body as her breathing and heartbeat returned to normal.



55 Kuli sat down thoughtfully. It was time to prepare for tomorrow's meeting



56 with the Chief. Now the moment had finally come, it was exciting as well as frightening.

