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ICAS-Style Practice Series
Paper A · S3 / P2 / Y3 · 2026

📚 ICAS-STYLE PREPARATION SERIES

Paper A. Standard 3 / Primary 2 / Year 3 Student Workbook

Original ICAS-style practice questions with full worked answers, written for students sitting ICAS Paper A. The test is taken by Standard 3 (Malaysia), Primary 2 (Singapore), and Year 3 (Australia) students.

📖 English · 20 Q
✍️ Writing · 2 practice tasks
🔬 Science · 10 Q
📐 Maths · 12 Q
💻 Digital Tech · 10 Q

STUDENT NAME _____ SCHOOL _____ DATE _____

TOTAL QUESTIONS
52 original ICAS-style questions + 2 writing tasks

ANSWERS
Full worked explanations at back

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

How to Use This Workbook

Every question in this workbook is an original ICAS-style practice question. Each one has been carefully written to match the format, text types, difficulty and question style of real ICAS Paper A assessments. These are taken by Standard 3 students in Malaysia, Primary 2 students in Singapore, and Year 3 students in Australia.

⭐ MOST IMPORTANT RULE

Use a timer for every subject and do not check your answers until you finish. When time is up, read every explanation carefully, even for the ones you got right. The most important part is understanding the logic behind each answer.

Your Test at a Glance. Paper A / Standard 3 / Primary 2 / Year 3 (Official ICAS Format)

SUBJECT	QUESTIONS	TIME	TIME GUIDANCE	HALFWAY CHECK	FORMAT
📖 English	45	45 min	~60 sec per Q	Q22 by 22 min	Passage-based MCQ
✍️ Writing	1 task	35 min	5 plan · 25 write · 5 check	Writing by 5 min	Extended Response
🔬 Science	30	45 min	~90 sec per Q	Q15 by 22 min	MCQ with visuals
📐 Mathematics	40	45 min	~68 sec per Q	Q20 by 22 min	MCQ · No Calculator
💻 Digital Technologies	30	30 min	~60 sec per Q	Q15 by 15 min	MCQ · Screen-based

💻 ABOUT THIS WORKBOOK

The table above describes the test format at this level. **This workbook contains practice questions sized for classroom use**: 20 English, 2 Writing practice tasks (the real test has 1), 10 Science, 12 Maths, and 10 Digital Technologies questions covering software, hardware, file types and digital literacy.

🎯 **THE 3-PASS STRATEGY. USE EVERY TIME**

Pass 1: Answer every question you're confident about. Flag anything uncertain, don't get stuck.
Pass 2: Return to flagged questions. Eliminate at least 2 options, then choose your best answer.
Pass 3: If time allows, check questions where you made a very quick choice. There is NO penalty for a wrong answer, always answer every question.

English

Practice · 20 questions · 26 minutes · All questions are based on a passage

20 QUESTIONS

26 MINUTES

In the real ICAS English paper, every question is based on a passage. You will read four different text types: an informational article, a fiction story, a poem, and a cloze passage. Read each passage carefully before answering its questions.

📖 **ENGLISH STRATEGY FOR PAPER A**

Read the questions first, then read the passage looking for answers. Questions move from straightforward (finding information directly in the text) to more challenging (working out how a character feels, or why the writer made a particular choice). Always go back to the specific part of the text, don't rely on memory.

TEXT 1 OF 4. INFORMATIONAL ARTICLE

The Amazing Octopus

Original text for ICAS preparation purposes

A VERY UNUSUAL ANIMAL

Octopuses are some of the most fascinating animals in the ocean. They have eight arms, three hearts and blue blood. Scientists have found that octopuses are very clever. They can learn to open jars and even solve puzzles!

A MASTER OF DISGUISE

An octopus can change the colour of its skin in less than one second. This helps it hide from predators like sharks and eels. It can also make its skin bumpy or smooth to match the sea floor below it.

ESCAPE ARTISTS

Octopuses have soft bodies with no bones. This means they can squeeze through very small gaps. The gap only needs to be big enough for their hard beak. In aquariums, octopuses have been known to escape from their tanks at night. They find food in nearby tanks, then return before morning!

SHORT BUT SMART

Most octopuses only live for one to three years. In that short time, they learn to find and use tools, remember faces, and solve problems. Scientists who work with octopuses say each one has its own personality. Some are shy. Some are bold. Some even seem to enjoy playing tricks on their keepers!

Questions 1–7 are about *The Amazing Octopus*

1 VOCABULARY: WORD MEANING IN CONTEXT

The word predators in the second paragraph most likely means

- A animals that help other animals.
- B animals that hunt and eat other animals.
- C animals that live only in the ocean.
- D animals that are very difficult to find.

2 TEXT COMPREHENSION: MAIN PURPOSE OF TEXT

What is the MAIN purpose of this article?

- A To warn readers that octopuses are dangerous.
- B To tell a story about a pet octopus.
- C To give information about how octopuses live and behave.
- D To explain how to keep an octopus in an aquarium.

3 WRITER'S CRAFT: PURPOSE OF SUBHEADINGS

Why does the writer use subheadings in this article?

- A To show that the article was written by a scientist.
- B To separate different topics and help the reader navigate between them.
- C To show which parts of the article are most important to read.
- D To replace the need for a conclusion.

4

TEXT COMPREHENSION: LOCATE KEY INFORMATION

According to the article, what allows an octopus to squeeze through very small gaps?

A Its ability to change colour.

B Its very long arms.

C Its soft body with no bones.

D Its three hearts.

5

TEXT COMPREHENSION: DISTINGUISH FACT FROM OPINION

Which of these is an opinion rather than a fact stated in the article?

A Octopuses have eight arms, three hearts and blue blood.

B Octopuses are some of the most fascinating animals in the ocean.

C Most octopuses only live for one to three years.

D An octopus can change the colour of its skin in less than one second.

6

TEXT COMPREHENSION: IDENTIFY CAUSE AND EFFECT

According to the article, WHY can an octopus change the colour of its skin?

A To communicate with other octopuses far away.

B To help it hide from animals that might eat it.

C To attract small fish as prey.

D To keep warm in cold water.

7

WRITER'S CRAFT: ANALYSE WRITER'S POINT OF VIEW

The writer says octopuses 'seem to enjoy playing tricks on their keepers.' What does this tell us about how the writer VIEWS octopuses?

A The writer thinks octopuses are frightening and dangerous.

B The writer is unsure whether octopuses are really intelligent.

C The writer finds octopuses fascinating and sees them as animals with interesting personalities.

D The writer thinks octopuses should not be kept in aquariums.

TEXT 2 OF 4. FICTION NARRATIVE

The New Neighbour

Original fiction extract for ICAS preparation purposes

On Monday morning, a moving van arrived next door. Maya watched from the window as boxes and furniture were carried inside. A girl about Maya's age walked up the path, staring at the ground. She didn't look at anyone.

At school the next day, Maya saw the same girl sitting alone at lunchtime. Her sandwich was in her lap and she was reading a book. A group of girls walked past and whispered to each other. The girl with the book didn't look up.

Maya picked up her lunch and walked over.

"Is anyone sitting here?" she asked.

The girl looked up, surprised. "No," she said.

Maya sat down. "I live next door to you," she said. "I saw you move in."

The girl's face changed. It was only small, but Maya saw it. The corners of her mouth moved up, just a little.

"I'm Priya," the girl said.

"I'm Maya. Do you want to see the library after school? It's actually really good."

> Priya looked down at her book, then back at Maya. "Okay," she said.

Questions 8–13 are about *The New Neighbour*

8 TEXT COMPREHENSION: INFER CHARACTER'S FEELINGS

At the beginning of the story, how does Priya most likely feel?

- A Excited to meet new friends.
- B Lonely and uncomfortable at her new school.
- C Angry about having to move.
- D Happy and content reading her book.

9 TEXT COMPREHENSION: INFER MEANING OF ACTION

'The corners of her mouth moved up, just a little.' What does this show about how Priya is feeling?

- A She is confused by what Maya said.
- B She is pleased, even though she is trying not to show it too much.
- C She is about to cry and is trying to hold it back.
- D She is bored and wants Maya to go away.

10 TEXT COMPREHENSION: IDENTIFY SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Which of these events happened LAST in the story?

- A Maya watched the moving van arrive next door.
- B Priya sat alone at lunchtime reading a book.
- C Maya sat down next to Priya at lunch.
- D Priya agreed to visit the library after school.

11

VOCABULARY: INFER MEANING OF WORD IN CONTEXT

A group of girls <u>whispered</u> to each other as they walked past Priya. What does this suggest about what the girls were doing?

A They were being polite so as not to disturb others.

B They were saying something about Priya that they didn't want her to hear.

C They were too far away from Priya to speak normally.

D They had naturally very quiet voices.

12

TEXT COMPREHENSION: INFER CHARACTER MOTIVATION

Why does Maya most likely decide to sit with Priya at lunchtime?

A She wanted to find out more about Priya's book.

B She felt sorry for Priya sitting alone and wanted to be friendly.

C Her teacher asked her to look after the new student.

D She needed someone to walk home with after school.

13

SYNTAX: JOIN TWO SENTENCES WITH A CONJUNCTION

Read these two sentences: *"Priya had eaten her lunch. She was still hungry."* Which sentence best joins these two ideas and keeps the same meaning?

A Priya had eaten her lunch because she was still hungry.

B Priya had eaten her lunch so she was still hungry.

C Priya had eaten her lunch but she was still hungry.

D Priya had eaten her lunch before she was still hungry.

The Dragon Under the Bed

Original poem for ICAS preparation purposes

There's a dragon under my bed, I know,
His eyes are like two embers' glow.
My mother says it's just my shoe,
But mothers aren't always right, it's true.

His breath is warm — (that's just the heater)
He growls at night — (the floorboards creak)
He scatters crumbs — (Sam did it, really?)
He hides each morning, rather sneakily.

I've left him toast and biscuits there,
He ate them all! (Or did Sam dare?)
One day I'll catch him, just you wait —
Unless Sam ate the food from my plate.

Questions 14–16 are about *The Dragon Under the Bed*

14 WRITER'S CRAFT: IDENTIFY TEXT TYPE

What type of text is *'The Dragon Under the Bed'*?

- A An information report.
- B A poem.
- C A recount.
- D A procedure.

15

WRITER'S CRAFT: IDENTIFY A SIMILE

Which line from the poem contains a simile?

A 'There's a dragon under my bed, I know'

B 'His eyes are like two embers' glow'

C 'My mother says it's just my shoe'

D 'One day I'll catch him, just you wait'

16

WRITER'S CRAFT: PURPOSE OF BRACKETS

In the second stanza, the poet puts some lines inside brackets. Why does the poet do this?

A To show the lines that should be read the loudest.

B To give a sensible, real-world explanation for each piece of 'dragon evidence.'

C To show words that are not really part of the poem.

D To show what the dragon is secretly thinking.

Question 17. Punctuation

17

SYNTAX: IDENTIFY CORRECTLY PUNCTUATED SENTENCE

Which sentence uses speech marks correctly?

A "Be careful," said Tom "the floor is very slippery."

B "Be careful," said Tom, "the floor is very slippery."

C "Be careful" said Tom, "the floor is very slippery."

D "Be careful," said Tom "The floor is very slippery."

The Life of a Butterfly

Original cloze passage for ICAS preparation purposes

The butterfly life cycle has four stages. A butterfly begins as a tiny egg on a leaf. A caterpillar **(18)** from the egg and eats the leaf. It grows for several weeks. Then it forms a hard case called a chrysalis. **(19)** the chrysalis, the caterpillar slowly changes shape. **(20)**, a fully grown butterfly breaks free and flies away. The cycle then starts all over again.

18 SYNTAX: SELECT THE CORRECT WORD

Choose the word that best completes blank (18).

- A flies
- B hatches
- C sleeps
- D builds

19 SYNTAX: SELECT THE CORRECT PREPOSITION

Choose the word that best completes blank (19).

- A Above
- B Outside
- C Inside
- D Beside

20 SYNTAX: SELECT THE CORRECT CONNECTIVE

Choose the phrase that best completes blank (20).

- A By accident
- B At the start
- C In the end
- D For example

Writing

Paper A · Real test: 1 task · 35 min · This workbook: 2 practice tasks (Narrative + Persuasive)

2 PRACTICE

35 MIN EACH

On test day, ICAS gives you one writing task, either Narrative or Persuasive, and you have 35 minutes. **This workbook includes both types** so you can practise each one separately. You are marked on three areas: Genre (structure and language choices), Textual Grammar (tense, pronouns, sentence variety), and Syntax/Punctuation (correctness and accuracy).

✍ THE 5–25–5 RULE. EVERY TIME

5 min Plan: Who is in your story? What happens? How does it end? OR: What is your opinion? What are your two or three reasons?
25 min Write: Follow your plan. Use interesting describing words. Vary your sentences, some short, some long.
5 min Edit: Read back and fix capital letters, full stops, and spelling. Improve your very first and very last sentence.

Task W1. Narrative Writing

YOUR TASK

Write a story that begins with this sentence: *"The box had been sitting on the doorstep all morning, and nobody knew who it was for."*
Your story should describe what is inside the box and what happens next. Include at least one character and build to an exciting moment.

⏱ 35 minutes total, plan for 5 minutes first.

5 MIN PLAN

What is in the box? _____ **Who finds it?** _____

What exciting moment will happen?

Ending idea:

YOUR RESPONSE (25 MINUTES)

Task W2. Persuasive Writing

YOUR TASK

Write a letter to your school principal asking for your class to have a class pet. Clearly state your opinion and give at least two reasons why this is a good idea.

⏱ 35 minutes total, plan for 5 minutes first.

5 MIN PLAN

My opinion (one clear sentence):

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3 (if I have one):

YOUR RESPONSE

Science

Practice · 10 questions · 13 minutes · Every question uses a visual

10 QUESTIONS

13 MINUTES

In the real ICAS Science paper, every question uses a visual: a photograph, diagram, graph, table or drawing. The information you need is usually given to you in the question. Your job is to read it carefully and reason with it.

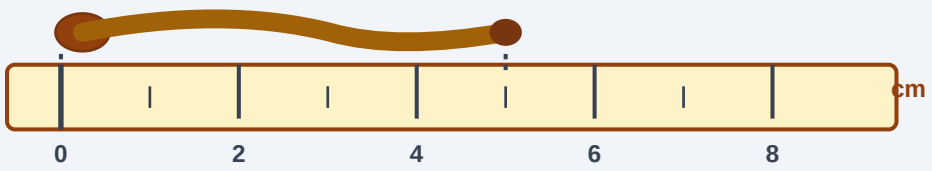
🔬 **KEY SCIENCE STRATEGY**

For **table and graph questions**: read ALL headings and labels before looking at the numbers. For **investigation questions**, ask yourself: what was changed? What was kept the same? What does the data actually show? Never go beyond what the evidence tells you.

1

LIFE & LIVING: OBSERVING & MEASURING (RULER)

Didi used a ruler to measure the length of an earthworm. The diagram shows the worm placed along the ruler.



Which statement correctly describes the worm's length?

A The worm is 3 cm long.

B The worm is 5 cm long.

C The worm is 6 cm long.

D The worm is 8 cm long.

2

NATURAL & PROCESSED MATERIALS: INTERPRETING (TABLE)

Sarah placed four objects into a container of water. The table shows what happened to each object.

OBJECT	MATERIAL	WHAT HAPPENED?
Rubber duck	Rubber	Floated
Wooden block	Wood	Floated
Metal nail	Steel	Sank
Glass marble	Glass	Sank

Which statement best explains why the rubber duck and wooden block BOTH float?

A They are both the same shape.

B They are both made from natural materials.

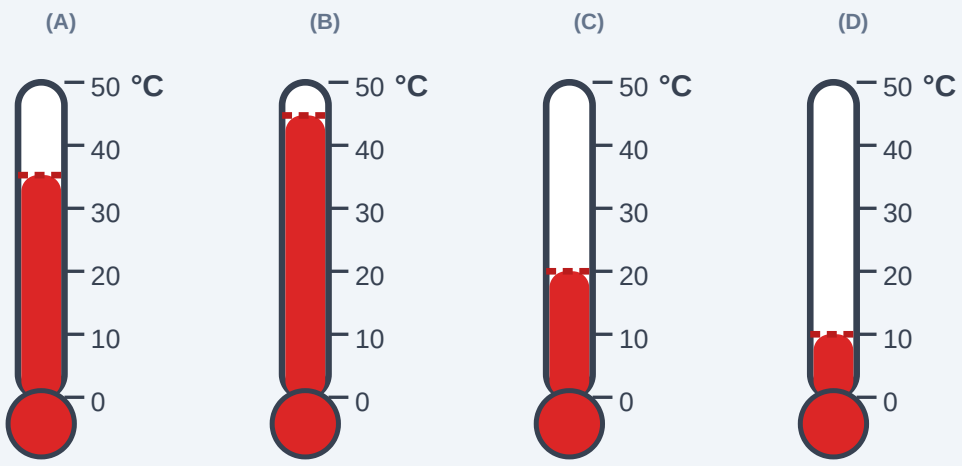
C They are both made of materials that float on water.

D They are both bright colours, which helps them float.

3

ENERGY & CHANGE: OBSERVING (READ A THERMOMETER)

The four thermometers below show different temperatures. Which thermometer shows a temperature of 35°C?

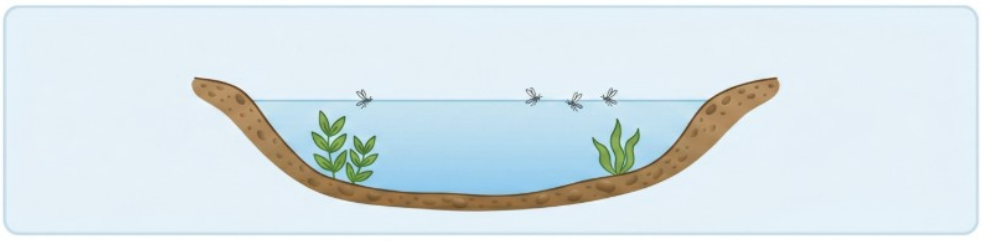


4

LIFE & LIVING: INTERPRETING (HABITATS)

The picture below shows a pond habitat. It has still freshwater, muddy banks, underwater plants, and insects on the surface.

POND HABITAT



Which animal is MOST likely to live in this habitat?

- A A camel
- B A polar bear
- C A frog
- D A sand lizard

5

NATURAL & PROCESSED MATERIALS: REASONING (SELECT BEST MATERIAL)

A designer needs a material for a raincoat. The raincoat must be waterproof, flexible and lightweight. The table shows the properties of four materials.

MATERIAL	WATERPROOF?	FLEXIBLE?	LIGHTWEIGHT?
Thin plastic sheet	✓ Yes	✓ Yes	✓ Yes
Metal sheet	✓ Yes	✗ No	✗ No
Cardboard	✗ No	✗ No	✓ Yes
Thick wool	✗ No	✓ Yes	✓ Yes

Based on the table, which material is BEST for making the raincoat?

A Metal sheet

B Thin plastic sheet

C Cardboard

D Thick wool

6

LIFE & LIVING: INVESTIGATING (LIVING & NON-LIVING)

Mia made a list of things she found in the garden and sorted them into two groups.

LIVING THINGS

🐱 Cat 🌳 Oak tree

🐜 Ant 🦋 Butterfly

NOT LIVING

🪨 Rock 🧴 Plastic bottle

💧 Water 🚲 Bicycle

Which of these is true about ALL the living things in Mia's list?

A They can all fly.

B They all live in or under the soil.

C They all need food or water to grow.

D They all have four legs.

7

ENERGY & CHANGE: PREDICTING (MAGNETS)

Jack has a bar magnet. He holds it near each of the four objects in the table. Magnets attract objects made from iron or steel, but NOT objects made from wood, rubber or copper.

OBJECT	MATERIAL
Paper clip	Steel
Wooden block	Wood
Rubber eraser	Rubber
Coin	Copper

Which object will the magnet attract?

A Wooden block

B Rubber eraser

C Paper clip

D Coin

8

EARTH & BEYOND: INTERPRETING (WEATHER TABLE)

The table shows the average temperature and rainfall in one town during each season of the year.

SEASON	AVERAGE TEMPERATURE	RAINFALL (MM)
Summer	30°C	28
Autumn	20°C	62
Winter	10°C	115
Spring	18°C	54

In which season is the average temperature lowest AND rainfall highest?

A Summer

B Autumn

C Winter

D Spring

9

INVESTIGATING: FAIR TEST (CONTROLLED VARIABLES)

Three students set up an experiment to find out whether sunlight makes ice melt faster. Each student placed one ice cube on a plate outside on the same day. One was in full sun, one in partial shade, and one in full shade. To make this a fair test, the students must make sure that

A the plates are all different sizes.

B the ice cubes are all the same size.

C the ice cubes are different shapes.

D the three spots have the same amount of sunlight.

10

INVESTIGATING: DRAWING CONCLUSIONS (TABLE)

Lily planted the same type of seed in three identical pots with the same soil. She gave each pot a different amount of water every day. After two weeks she measured each plant's height.

POT	WATER PER DAY	PLANT HEIGHT AFTER 2 WEEKS
Pot 1	10 mL	3 cm
Pot 2	50 mL	12 cm
Pot 3	100 mL	8 cm

What conclusion is best supported by Lily's results?

A Plants that receive the most water always grow the tallest.

B Plants grow best with a moderate amount of water. Too little OR too much both produce slower growth.

C Pot 1 is the healthiest because it receives the least water.

D Plants need exactly 50 mL of water per day and cannot grow with any other amount.

Mathematics

Practice · 12 questions · 16 minutes · No Calculator

12 QUESTIONS **16** MINUTES

In the real ICAS Maths paper, almost every question has a visual: a diagram, graph, image or pattern. Questions use real-world contexts and start accessible, getting progressively harder. At Paper A level, you need to be comfortable with patterns, fractions, clock times, data from graphs, shape turns and multi-step word problems.

📐 MATHS STRATEGY FOR PAPER A

Patterns: Write out the pattern on paper. Do not try to count in your head. **Fractions:** Draw the shape and shade it if you're not sure. **Grid/turn questions:** Use your pencil to trace each step carefully. **Word problems:** Underline the key numbers and the question being asked before starting.

1

ALGEBRA & PATTERNS: CONTINUE A GROWING PATTERN

Here is a growing pattern of dots. Look at how many dots are added at each step:
Step 1 has 1 dot. Step 2 has 3 dots (2 were added). Step 3 has 6 dots (3 were added). How many dots will Step 4 have?

A 8

B 9

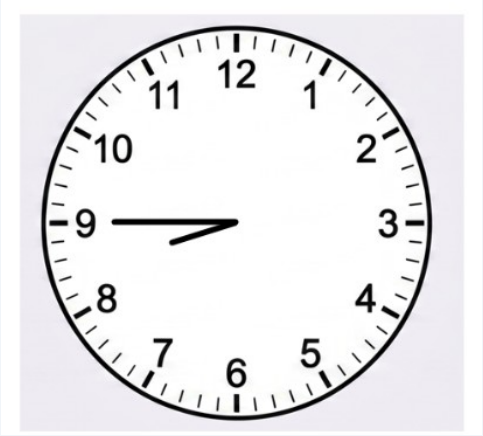
C 10

D 12

2

MEASURES & UNITS: READ AN ANALOG CLOCK (QUARTER HOUR)

The clock shows the time Aisha arrived at school one morning. What time did Aisha arrive?



A Quarter past three

B Quarter past nine

C Quarter to nine

D Quarter to three

3

NUMBER: IDENTIFY ONE-QUARTER SHADED

Which shape has exactly one-quarter (¼) shaded?

(A) (B) (C) (D)

4

CHANCE & DATA: READ A PICTURE GRAPH (MULTI-STEP)

The picture graph shows the number of books four students read last month. Each 📚 = 2 books.

STUDENT	BOOKS READ (📚 = 2 BOOKS)
Ali	📚📚📚
Beth	📚📚📚📚📚
Carlos	📚📚
Diana	📚📚📚📚

How many MORE books did Beth read than Carlos?

A 3

B 6

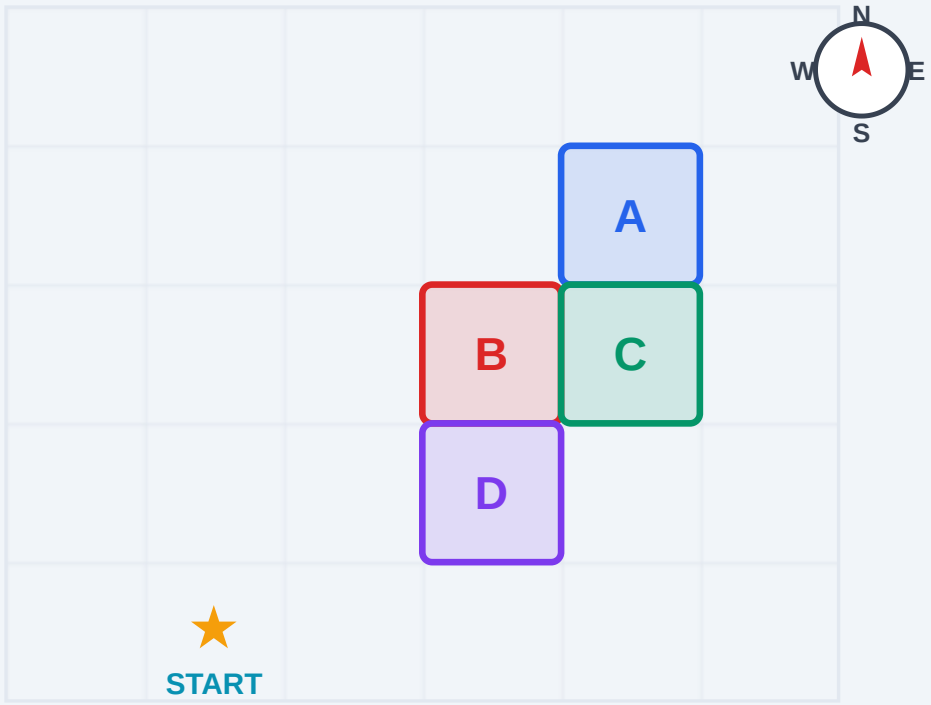
C 8

D 10

5

SPACE & GEOMETRY: FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON A GRID MAP

Bella starts at the star (★) on the map. She follows these steps in order: move 3 squares East, then 2 squares North, then 1 square West. Which labelled square does Bella finish on?



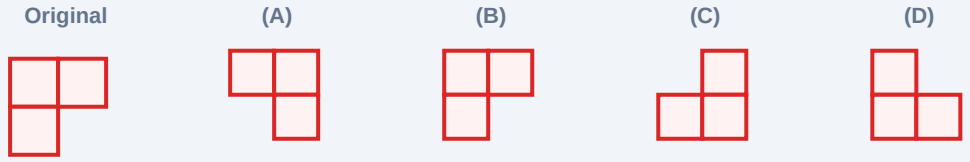
★ = Bella's starting position. Each small grid square is one step.

- A Square A
- B Square B
- C Square C
- D Square D

6

SPACE & GEOMETRY: QUARTER TURN CLOCKWISE

Sam drew the L-shaped piece shown. He turned it a quarter turn clockwise. Which option shows Sam's shape after the turn?



7

NUMBER: MULTI-STEP REASONING WORD PROBLEM

There are two bags of marbles. Bag A has 3 times as many marbles as Bag B. Together, the two bags hold 24 marbles in total. How many marbles are in Bag A?

A 6

B 8

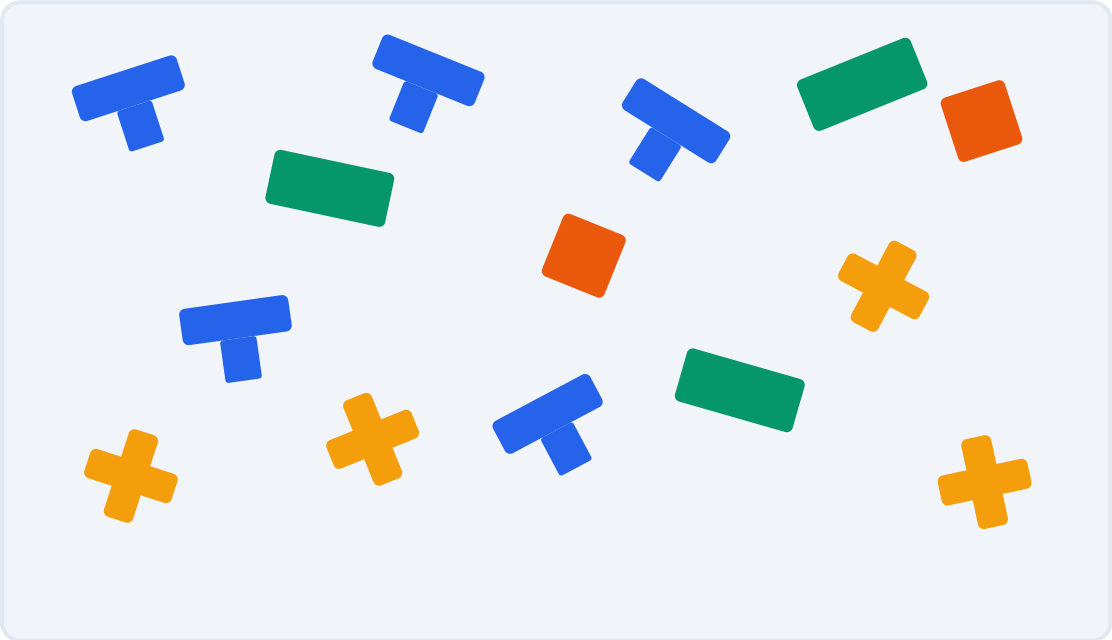
C 12

D 18

8

CHANCE & DATA: PROBABILITY (COUNT TO COMPARE LIKELIHOOD)

Sam tips a bag of coloured shapes onto the floor. The picture shows all the shapes.



He picks one shape without looking. Which shape is Sam least likely to pick?

A

B

C

D

9

NUMBER & ARITHMETIC: EXTEND A MULTIPLICATION SITUATION

Each shelf in a bookshop holds exactly 8 books. The picture shows 3 shelves already filled with books. How many books will there be in total if 2 more shelves are filled in the same way?

Current shelves (3 shelves × 8 books each):

8 books

8 books

8 books

+ 2 more shelves of 8 books each added

How many books are there in total once all 5 shelves are filled?

A 24

B 32

C 40

D 48

10

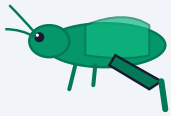
NUMBER: WORD PROBLEM WITH UNIT CONVERSION

A Monarch butterfly lives for around 2 months as an adult. This is about 2 weeks longer than a grasshopper lives as an adult. About how long does a grasshopper live as an adult?

MONARCH BUTTERFLY

~ 2 months

GRASSHOPPER



? weeks

💡 HELPFUL FACT

Remember: **1 month ≈ 4 weeks**, so 2 months ≈ 8 weeks.

A 6 weeks

B 10 weeks

C 15 days

D 60 days

11

NUMBER & ARITHMETIC: TWO-STEP WORD PROBLEM (× THEN −)

A teacher has 6 boxes of pencils. Each box contains 12 pencils. The teacher gives 18 pencils to the class for an art project. How many pencils does the teacher have left?

A 36

B 54

C 66

D 72

12

NUMBER: DIVISIBILITY & LOGICAL REASONING (HARDER)

Priya shares a packet of stickers equally between herself and her 4 friends (so 5 people in total). After sharing, each person receives a whole number of stickers that is strictly between 9 and 11. How many stickers were in the packet at the start?

A 42

B 48

C 50

D 55

Digital Technologies

Practice · 10 questions · 13 minutes · Software, hardware and digital literacy

10 QUESTIONS

13 MINUTES

This section gives you practice in **digital literacy** at Paper A level. The questions cover recognising software and hardware, reading common toolbar icons, working with files, and understanding simple algorithms on a grid.

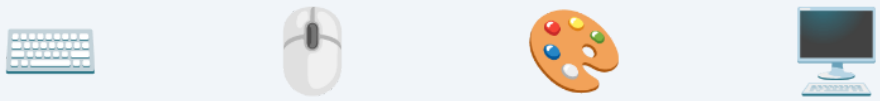
💻 DIGITAL TECH STRATEGY

Look carefully at screenshots and icons. Many questions can be answered by reading what's shown on screen. For algorithms and robot-on-a-grid questions, trace each step slowly with a pencil.

1

DIGITAL SYSTEMS: HARDWARE VS SOFTWARE

Look at the four items below. Which one is a piece of software (not hardware)?



(A) Keyboard (B) Mouse (C) Drawing app (D) Monitor

- A Keyboard
- B Mouse
- C Drawing app
- D Monitor

2

APPLICATIONS: READ A TITLE BAR

Maya is writing a school report on her computer. The picture shows her document window:

What is the name of the file Maya is working on?

A Word

B Ocean Report.doc

C Insert

D File

3

APPLICATIONS: IDENTIFY FONT SIZE IN A TOOLBAR

Maya is still working on her report. Looking at her document below, what font size is she using?

A Times New Roman

B 12

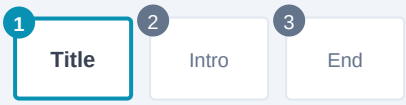
C 22

D 70

4

APPLICATIONS: COUNT SLIDES IN A PRESENTATION

Max is making a slideshow. The thumbnail panel on the left side of his screen shows:



How many slides are in Max's slideshow so far?

A 1

B 2

C 3

D 4

5

APPLICATIONS: READ EMAIL INBOX (UNREAD COUNT)

The picture shows Ben's email inbox. Emails in bold have not yet been read.

📥 **Inbox (3)**

📧 **Mum. Dinner tonight?**

📧 Grandpa. Holiday photos 📷

📧 **Library. Book return reminder**

📧 Teacher. Homework returned

📧 **Sam. Party on Saturday!**

How many unread emails does Ben have?

A 2

B 3

C 5

D 4

6

APPLICATIONS: WEB BROWSER NAVIGATION

Nina is using a web browser. She is on a page about elephants, and she wants to return to the previous page she was on. Which button should she click?

◀ ▶ ↻ 🏠 www.animalfacts.com/elephants

A ◀ (back arrow)

B ▶ (forward arrow)

C ↻ (refresh)

D 🏠 (home)

7

APPLICATIONS: READ A SPREADSHEET (ACTIVE CELL)

The picture shows part of a spreadsheet. The thick border around one cell shows which cell is currently selected (the active cell).

C3 ▾ fx 42

	A	B	C
1	Name	Age	Score
2	Ali	9	38
3	Beth	8	42
4	Carlos	9	35

Which cell is currently the active cell?

A A3

B B3

C C3

D C4

8

APPLICATIONS: SPREADSHEET SUM FORMULA

Priya is working in a spreadsheet. She types the formula =SUM(A1:A4) into cell A5. What will cell A5 show?

	A
1	5
2	12
3	8
4	10
5	=SUM(A1:A4)

A 4

B 10

C 35

D A1, A2, A3, A4

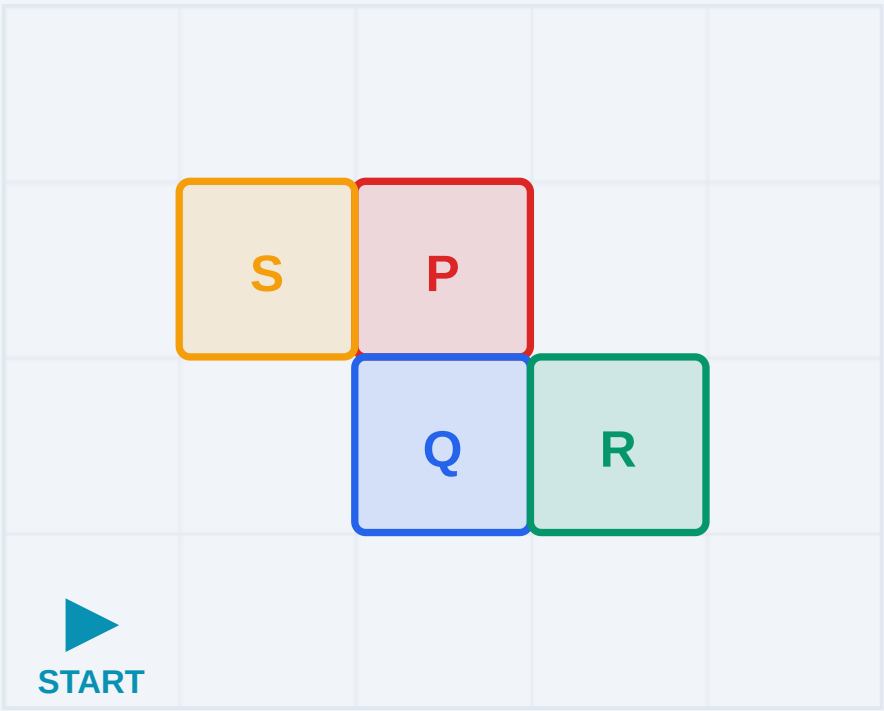
9

COMPUTATIONAL THINKING: FOLLOW AN ALGORITHM ON A GRID

A small robot starts at the arrow (▶) facing right. It follows these instructions in order:

`FORWARD 2 · TURN LEFT · FORWARD 2 · TURN LEFT · FORWARD 1`

Where does the robot end up?



A Square P

B Square Q

C Square R

D Square S

10

DIGITAL SYSTEMS: RECOGNISE FILE TYPES BY EXTENSION

Emma has four files on her computer. Which file is most likely a photo?

A holiday.jpg

B report.docx

C music.mp3

D notes.txt

✓ WORKED ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

Full Answer Key with Explanations

📖 English (Questions 1–20)

1 Word meaning, *predators*

✓ Correct answer: B

The passage says the octopus changes colour to "hide from predators such as sharks and eels." Sharks and eels are dangerous animals that hunt and eat other animals. So **predators** means animals that hunt and eat other animals.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Opposite meaning. Predators harm prey, they do not help them.
- **C** Some predators live on land (lions, wolves). The word is not about where the animal lives.
- **D** Predators can be easy or hard to find. The word is about what they do, not how visible they are.

2 Main purpose of the article

✓ Correct answer: C

The article is an **informational text** about octopuses. It has subheadings covering different features: body, colour change, escape ability, personality. Its purpose is to give facts about how octopuses live and behave.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** The article admires octopuses. It does not warn readers to stay away.
- **B** There’s no main character or story, this isn’t a narrative.
- **D** Aquariums are mentioned once as an example of escape behaviour, not as the main topic.

3 Purpose of subheadings

✓ Correct answer: B

Subheadings like "A Master of Disguise" and "Escape Artists" break the article into **different topics**. They help readers find the information they want and navigate the article easily.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Subheadings show what a section is about. They tell us nothing about the writer.
- **C** All sections are equally important in an informational text. Subheadings organise, they don't rank.
- **D** A conclusion summarises the whole text; subheadings label sections. Different jobs.

4 What allows the octopus to squeeze through small gaps?

✓ Correct answer: C

The "Escape Artists" section says: "Octopuses have soft bodies with no bones. This means they can squeeze through very small gaps." So it's the **soft, boneless body** that allows it.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Colour change helps it hide, not squeeze.
- **B** The article doesn't say arm length helps with squeezing.
- **D** Three hearts are an interesting fact but the passage doesn't link them to squeezing.

5 Fact vs opinion

✓ Correct answer: B

"Most fascinating" is a **judgement**. Different people would rank animals differently, and there is no measurement for "fascinating". That makes it an **opinion**, even though most readers would agree with it.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Number of arms, hearts and blood colour can all be checked, these are facts.
- **C** "One to three years" is a measurable lifespan, a fact.
- **D** The speed of colour change has been measured by scientists, a fact.

6 Why octopus changes colour (cause and effect)

✓ Correct answer: B

The passage states: "This helps it hide from predators such as sharks and eels." So colour change **helps the octopus hide from animals that might eat it**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A Communication isn't mentioned in the article.
- C Attracting prey isn't mentioned.
- D Temperature control isn't mentioned.

7 Writer's point of view, "seem to enjoy playing tricks"

✓ Correct answer: C

Saying octopuses "seem to enjoy playing tricks on their keepers" gives them **personality traits** (enjoyment, playfulness). The article also calls them "very clever" and "fascinating." Together, these tell us the writer finds octopuses genuinely interesting and sees them as individuals with personalities.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A Nothing in the passage describes octopuses as dangerous to people.
- B The writer calls them "very clever", no doubt expressed.
- D The writer describes aquarium escape stories without criticising aquariums.

8 Priya's initial feelings

✓ Correct answer: B

Several clues in the text show Priya is lonely and uncomfortable: she "stared at the ground" when arriving, "didn't look at anyone," "sat alone at lunchtime," and didn't look up when the whispering group walked past. These behaviours show someone new and uneasy.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A An excited child would look around, not stare at the ground.
- C No anger is shown, she is quiet and withdrawn, not angry.
- D Someone truly happy reading would look more relaxed; the story describes signs of isolation.

9 **"Corners of her mouth moved up, just a little"**

✓ Correct answer: B

The "corners moved up" is a **small smile**. "Just a little" means she isn't smiling broadly yet, she's pleased but holding it back. It's a carefully controlled moment of happiness.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

A Corners going UP means smile. Confusion would be a frown or raised eyebrow.

C About to cry would show tears or a wobbly mouth, not corners going up.

D Boredom would be a flat or downturned mouth.

10 **Which event happened LAST?**

✓ Correct answer: D

The story is in order: Monday (van arrives) → Tuesday (Priya sitting alone) → Maya sits with her → they introduce themselves → Priya agrees to go to the library. The **library agreement** is the final event.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

A The van arrived on Monday, this is FIRST.

B Priya sitting alone happens at lunchtime, BEFORE Maya approaches her.

C Maya sitting down happens BEFORE the library agreement.

11 **Why the girls whispered**

✓ Correct answer: B

People whisper when they don't want someone to overhear what they're saying. Since the whispering happens as they walk past Priya, and the story emphasises Priya is alone and new, the most likely reason is they were **talking about her** and didn't want her to hear.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

A Politely lowering volume doesn't usually involve whispering to each other in groups.

C They are walking past, right next to her. No distance issue.

D "Whispered to each other" suggests a specific moment, not a permanent quiet voice.

12 Why Maya sat with Priya

✓ Correct answer: B

Maya had noticed Priya arriving alone the day before, saw her sitting alone at lunch, and watched the whispering girls walk past. She then chose to go and sit with Priya. This shows Maya was being **kind and friendly** to someone who looked lonely.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A The book is never mentioned as the reason Maya approached.
- C No teacher is mentioned in the story.
- D Maya offering to go to the library together is an invitation, not a request for company.

13 Joining two sentences

✓ Correct answer: C

The two ideas **contrast**: even though Priya had eaten, she was still hungry. The word "**but**" is the joining word (conjunction) that shows a contrast between two ideas.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A "Because" gives a reason, but eating is not the reason for being hungry.
- B "So" shows cause → effect, which doesn't fit here.
- D "Before" is a time-order word that makes no sense here.

14 What text type is *The Dragon Under the Bed*?

✓ Correct answer: B

The text has **stanzas** (groups of lines), **rhyme** ("know/glow", "true/shoe"), and strong rhythm. These are all features of a **poem**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A An information report gives facts in paragraphs, not rhyming lines.
- C A recount tells a story about the past in sentences and paragraphs.
- D A procedure gives step-by-step instructions.

15 Which line contains a simile?

✓ Correct answer: B

A **simile** compares two things using the words "like" or "as." The line "His eyes are **like** two embers' glow" compares the dragon's eyes to glowing embers using "like", that's a simile.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** No comparison word in "There's a dragon under my bed."
- **C** No "like" or "as", this is just a statement.
- **D** No comparison, this line is a statement about the future.

16 Why the poet uses brackets

✓ Correct answer: B

The main lines describe "dragon evidence" (warm breath, growling, crumbs), but the bracketed lines give the **real-world explanation** (the heater, floorboards, Sam). The brackets cleverly show that the speaker knows the sensible explanation but chooses to believe in the dragon anyway, that's the humour of the poem.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Brackets don't indicate volume.
- **C** The bracketed lines are crucial to the poem's humour, they are part of the poem.
- **D** The bracketed explanations are practical real-world ones, not the dragon's thoughts.

17 Correctly punctuated speech

✓ Correct answer: B

When speech is split around "said Tom," the rules are: (1) comma inside the first speech marks, (2) comma after "Tom," (3) lowercase letter to continue the same sentence after the interruption, (4) full stop inside final speech marks. Option B follows all four rules correctly.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Missing comma after "Tom."
- **C** Missing comma inside the first speech marks after "careful."
- **D** Missing comma after "Tom" AND the word "the" is incorrectly capitalised as "The" (speech continues the same sentence).

18 Cloze blank (18)

✓ Correct answer: B

A caterpillar **hatches** out of an egg, this is the correct word for emerging from an egg. Try each option in the blank: "A caterpillar hatches from the egg and eats the leaf." This sentence makes perfect sense.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Caterpillars can’t fly, they have no wings.
- **C** "Sleeps from the egg" makes no sense grammatically.
- **D** "Builds from the egg" makes no sense, you don’t build from an egg, something comes out of it.

19 Cloze blank (19)

✓ Correct answer: C

The caterpillar changes into a butterfly **inside** the chrysalis. The chrysalis is like a protective case around the caterpillar. Read the sentence: "Inside the chrysalis, the caterpillar slowly changes shape." This matches the life cycle correctly.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** "Above the chrysalis" would mean the caterpillar is on top, but the caterpillar is inside.
- **B** "Outside" is the opposite, the caterpillar isn’t outside its own chrysalis.
- **D** "Beside" means next to, but the caterpillar is within the chrysalis.

20 Cloze blank (20)

✓ Correct answer: C

This is the **final stage** of the life cycle. "In the end, a fully grown butterfly breaks free and flies away" matches the text coming to its conclusion. "In the end" is a connective used to signal the final event.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** "By accident" suggests the butterfly comes out by mistake, it doesn’t.
- **B** "At the start" would put the butterfly at the beginning, but the butterfly appears at the end of the cycle.
- **D** "For example" would introduce an example, but this is the next stage, not an example.

✍️ Writing Rubric (Tasks W1 & W2)

How to mark your own writing. ICAS Writing is marked on three areas. In the real test you'd get one task. Here, practise marking yourself on both of your responses using this rubric. Aim for a "Strong" rating in all three areas.

1. GENRE

-> Narrative: has a clear beginning, middle and end

-> Persuasive: clear opinion + at least 2 reasons

-> Uses descriptive or persuasive language

-> Matches the task type

2. TEXTUAL GRAMMAR

-> Consistent tense (past for narrative, usually)

-> Pronouns refer clearly (we know who "she" or "it" is)

-> Variety of sentence lengths, some short, some long

-> Paragraphs group related ideas

3. SYNTAX & PUNCTUATION

-> Capital letters at start of sentences & for names

-> Full stops, question marks, exclamation marks

-> Speech marks around spoken words

-> Spelling mostly correct

🔬 Science (Questions 1–10)

1 Length of the worm

✓ **Correct answer: B**

To measure length, look at where the object **starts** and where it **ends**. The worm's head is at **0 cm** and its tail is at **5 cm**. Length = 5 − 0 = **5 cm**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 3 cm is where the middle of the worm sits, not its length.
- **C** 6 cm is past the tail, too long.
- **D** 8 cm is almost twice the true length, student has misread the tail mark.

2 Why rubber duck and wooden block both float

✓ Correct answer: C

The **material** an object is made from determines whether it floats or sinks. Rubber floats on water. Wood floats on water. Steel and glass are too heavy for their size and so they sink. The key word is the **material**, not the shape or colour.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Looking at the table, the two floating objects are different shapes (a duck vs a block). Shape is not why they both float.
- **B** Wood IS natural, but rubber used in toys is usually synthetic. Natural vs man-made is not the deciding factor.
- **D** Colour has nothing to do with floating. A bright red metal nail still sinks.

3 Which thermometer shows 35°C?

✓ Correct answer: A

Look at the top of the red liquid on each thermometer. Thermometer **A**'s liquid reaches halfway between the 30 and 40 marks, that's **35°C**. (B is at the 45 mark, C is at 20, D is at 10.)

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **B** B reads 45°C (halfway between 40 and 50).
- **C** C reads 20°C (on the 20 mark).
- **D** D reads 10°C (on the 10 mark).

4 Which animal lives in a pond habitat?

✓ Correct answer: C

A **frog** lives in and around ponds, it can swim in the water, rest on muddy banks, and eat insects from the surface. The pond habitat's features (still freshwater, plants, insects) match the needs of a frog perfectly.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** A camel lives in deserts, hot, dry places.
- **B** A polar bear lives in Arctic ice and snow, very cold.
- **D** A sand lizard lives in sandy, dry places, not ponds.

5 Best material for a raincoat

✓ Correct answer: B

The raincoat needs **all three** properties: waterproof, flexible and lightweight. Only **thin plastic sheet** has ✓ in all three columns of the table. The other materials each fail on at least one property.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Metal sheet is waterproof but not flexible or lightweight.
- **C** Cardboard is lightweight but soaks up water, not waterproof.
- **D** Thick wool is flexible and lightweight but soaks up water, not waterproof.

6 What is true of ALL the living things?

✓ Correct answer: C

All living things **need food or water to grow**. Cats need food and water. Oak trees need water (and sunlight for their food). Ants need food and water. Butterflies drink nectar (food) and water. This is true of every living thing.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Only butterflies fly. Cats, oak trees, and ants don't fly.
- **B** Oak trees grow in soil but mostly above it. Cats and butterflies don't live in soil.
- **D** Cats have 4 legs. Ants have 6. Butterflies have 6. Oak trees have 0. Not all share this.

7 Which object does the magnet attract?

✓ Correct answer: C

The stem gives us the rule: magnets attract iron or steel, but not wood, rubber, or copper. Only the **paper clip (steel)** fits the rule.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Wooden block, wood is not attracted to magnets.
- **B** Rubber eraser, rubber is not attracted to magnets.
- **D** Copper coin, copper is not attracted to magnets (even though it's a metal).

8 **Lowest temperature AND highest rainfall**

✓ Correct answer: C

Check both conditions in the table. Winter has the **lowest temperature (10°C)** AND the **highest rainfall (115 mm)**. Both conditions are met.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A Summer has the highest temperature (30°C), opposite of what we want.
- B Autumn has 62 mm rain (not highest) and 20°C (not lowest).
- D Spring has 54 mm rain (not highest) and 18°C (not lowest).

9 **What makes this a fair test?**

✓ Correct answer: B

A **fair test** changes only **one variable** at a time, here, the amount of sunlight. Everything else must be kept the **same**. If the ice cubes were different sizes, bigger cubes would melt slower simply because they're bigger, not because of sunlight. So the cubes must be the **same size** for the test to fairly show the effect of sunlight.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- A Different plate sizes could introduce new variables (heat conduction). We want plates to be the same, not different.
- C Different shapes means different amounts of surface touching air, another new variable. We want shapes the same.
- D The sunlight is the variable we ARE testing, we WANT it to be different at each spot. Keeping sunlight the same would defeat the whole experiment.

10 Best conclusion from Lily's plant experiment

✓ Correct answer: B

Look at the pattern: **10 mL → 3 cm** (too little), **50 mL → 12 cm** (best), **100 mL → 8 cm** (too much). Growth *peaks* at 50 mL and is lower both below AND above that amount. The correct conclusion is that a **moderate amount** of water is best.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Not supported. Pot 3 had the most water (100 mL) but was shorter than Pot 2 (50 mL).
- **C** Pot 1 is the SHORTEST, so 10 mL is clearly not healthiest.
- **D** This overclaims from the data, we only tested 3 amounts. Plants can grow with values near 50 mL, not only exactly 50 mL.

📐 Mathematics (Questions 1–12)

1 Dots in Step 4

✓ Correct answer: C

Follow the growth rule: Step 1 had 1 dot → Step 2 added 2 (total 3) → Step 3 added 3 (total 6) → **Step 4 adds 4 more (total 10)**. The "+2, +3, +4" arrows on the diagram confirm this pattern.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 8 is 6 + 2 (using the Step-2 increase of 2 again, forgetting the growing pattern).
- **B** 9 is 6 + 3 (reusing Step 3's increase instead of increasing by 4).
- **D** 12 = 6 × 2 (doubling instead of adding the next count).

2 **What time does the clock show?**

✓ **Correct answer: C**

Both hands of the clock point to the **left side**. The **long hand** (minute hand) points straight at the **9**. When the minute hand points at 9, it shows 45 minutes past, which we say as "**quarter to**" the next hour. The **short hand** (hour hand) sits between 8 and 9, closer to 9, so the hour is still 8. The time is **quarter to nine** (8:45).

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Quarter past three = 3:15. The minute hand would point at 3 (right side) and the hour hand near 3, but both hands here point left.
- **B** Quarter past nine = 9:15. "Past" means the minute hand points at 3, not 9.
- **D** Quarter to three = 2:45. The hour hand would be near 3, not between 8 and 9.

3 **Which shape shows one-quarter shaded?**

✓ **Correct answer: A**

One-quarter (¼) means the shape is split into **4 equal parts** with **1 part shaded**. Shape A is divided into 4 equal squares with 1 shaded, that's exactly ¼.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **B** B has 2 out of 4 parts shaded, that's ½, not ¼.
- **C** The circle has three-quarters shaded (only the top-left quarter is white), that's ¾, not ¼.
- **D** D has 3 out of 8 shaded, that's ⅜, not ¼.

4 **How many more books did Beth read than Carlos?**

✓ **Correct answer: B**

Remember: each 📚 = **2 books**. Beth has 5 books (5 × 2 = 10 books). Carlos has 2 books (2 × 2 = 4 books). **10 − 4 = 6**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 3 is the difference in picture count (5 − 2 = 3), but each picture equals 2 books.
- **C** 8 would mean Beth had 5 more pictures than Carlos, but she had 3 more.
- **D** 10 is Beth's total books, not the difference.

5 Which square does Bella end up on?

✓ Correct answer: B

Trace Bella's journey from the ★ using the compass in the corner (N = up, E = right):

- Start at ★ · **3 East** → move 3 squares right
- **2 North** → move 2 squares up
- **1 West** → move 1 square left

This lands her on **Square B**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Square A = 2 extra North or 1 extra East, common mis-count.
- **C** Square C = forgot to do the final West step.
- **D** Square D = moved only 1 North instead of 2.

6 L-shape after a quarter turn clockwise

✓ Correct answer: A

A **quarter turn clockwise** rotates the shape 90° to the right (imagine turning the minute hand from 12 to 3). The original L has squares at top-left, top-right, and bottom-left. After a quarter turn clockwise, these move to top-left, top-right, and bottom-right, which is shape **A**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **B** B is the original shape, not turned.
- **C** C is the shape after a *half turn* (180°), too far around.
- **D** D is the shape after a quarter turn *anticlockwise*, the opposite direction.

7 How many marbles are in Bag A?

✓ Correct answer: D

If Bag A is 3 times Bag B, then the two bags together are **4 "parts"** (1 part B + 3 parts A). Total is 24, so each part is 24 ÷ 4 = **6 marbles**. Bag A = 3 parts = 3 × 6 = **18 marbles**. Check: Bag B = 6, Bag A = 18, 6 + 18 = 24 ✓.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 6 is Bag B's total, not Bag A's.
- **B** If Bag A had 8, Bag B would be 8 ÷ 3 (not a whole number) and the total would not be 24.
- **C** 12 = half of 24, this would make both bags equal, not 3×.

8 Least likely shape to pick

✓ Correct answer: D

Count each shape in the picture:

- Blue L-shapes (A): 5
- Green rectangles (B): 3
- Yellow plus signs (C): 4
- Orange squares (D): **2**

Fewer shapes = lower chance of picking. Orange squares are least likely.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** Blue L-shapes are the MOST likely (5 of them).
- **B** Green rectangles have 3, more than orange.
- **C** Yellow plus signs have 4, more than orange.

9 Total books on 5 shelves

✓ Correct answer: C

5 shelves × 8 books = **40 books**. You can also do it as: 3 shelves already filled (24 books) + 2 more (16 books) = 40 books.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 24 is the current books on 3 shelves, forgot to add the 2 new shelves.
- **B** 32 = 4 × 8, counted only 4 shelves.
- **D** 48 = 6 × 8, counted one extra shelf.

10 How long does a grasshopper live as an adult?

✓ Correct answer: A

Convert the butterfly's adult lifespan into weeks: **2 months ≈ 8 weeks** (since 1 month ≈ 4 weeks). The grasshopper lives **2 weeks less**: 8 − 2 = **6 weeks**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **B** 10 weeks = 8 + 2. Added instead of subtracted, this would make the grasshopper live LONGER than the butterfly, which contradicts the question.
- **C** 15 days is roughly the *difference* (2 weeks = 14 days), not the grasshopper's lifespan.
- **D** 60 days is the butterfly's lifespan (≈ 2 months), not the grasshopper's.

11 Pencils left after giving some away

✓ Correct answer: B

This is a **two-step** problem. **Step 1:** total pencils = 6 × 12 = 72. (Use 6 × 10 = 60, then 6 × 2 = 12, add: 72.) **Step 2:** subtract what's given away: 72 − 18 = **54**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 36 = 6 × 6 (wrong multiplication).
- **C** 66 = 72 − 6 (subtracted 6 instead of 18).
- **D** 72 = total before subtracting, forgot to subtract the 18 given away.

12 Stickers in the packet

✓ Correct answer: C

Two conditions must both be true:
(1) The total must divide **exactly by 5** (so each person gets a whole number).
(2) Each share must be **strictly between 9 and 11**, which means each person gets exactly **10** stickers (since 10 is the only whole number greater than 9 and less than 11).
So the total is 5 × 10 = **50** stickers. ✓ Check: 50 ÷ 5 = 10.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

- **A** 42 ÷ 5 = 8.4. Not a whole number, and 8 is less than 9.
- **B** 48 ÷ 5 = 9.6. Not a whole number.
- **D** 55 ÷ 5 = 11. This gives each person exactly 11, but "strictly between 9 and 11" excludes 11 itself.

💻 Digital Technologies (Questions 1–10)

1 Software vs hardware

✓ Correct answer: C

Hardware is the physical parts you can touch (keyboard, mouse, monitor). **Software** is the programs and apps that run on a computer. A drawing app is a program, software.

2 File name from title bar

✓ Correct answer: B

The **title bar** at the top of the window shows the file name. "Ocean Report.doc" is the file Maya is writing. "Word" is the program she is using, not the file. "Insert" and "File" are menu options, not file names.

3 Font size

✓ Correct answer: B

In a word processor toolbar, the font-size box shows a small number. In Maya's document, that number is **12**. "Times New Roman" is the font *name* (not its size). "22" is the word count shown at the bottom. "70" is the percentage mentioned in the report text.

4 Number of slides

✓ Correct answer: C

Count the thumbnails in the panel: 1 (Title), 2 (Intro), 3 (End) = **3 slides**.

5 Unread emails

✓ Correct answer: B

Unread emails are shown in **bold**: Mum, Library, Sam = **3 unread**. The "Inbox (3)" indicator at the top also shows the unread count, confirming the answer. Counting carefully and ignoring the already-read (non-bold) emails is the key skill.

6 Browser back button

✓ Correct answer: A

The **back arrow** ◀ takes you to the previous page. The forward arrow ▶ goes forward (only after going back). The refresh button reloads the current page. The home button takes you to your homepage.

7 Active cell

✓ Correct answer: C

The thick border is around the cell in **column C, row 3**, so the active cell is **C3**. The Name Box on the left also displays "C3", this is a useful helper you can check to confirm the active cell.

8 Spreadsheet SUM formula result

✓ Correct answer: C

SUM adds all the numbers in the given range. A1:A4 means cells A1, A2, A3, A4. Add them: 5 + 12 + 8 + 10 = **35**. The cell shows the *result* of the calculation, not the formula text itself.

9 Where the robot ends

✓ Correct answer: D

Trace each step carefully. The robot starts at the ★ (bottom-left) facing **East**.

- **FORWARD 2** → moves 2 squares east (still facing east).
- **TURN LEFT** → from east, a left turn means now facing **north**.
- **FORWARD 2** → moves 2 squares north (now near the top of the grid, facing north).
- **TURN LEFT** → from north, a left turn means now facing **west**.
- **FORWARD 1** → moves 1 square west.

This lands the robot on **Square S**.

WHY THE OTHER OPTIONS ARE WRONG

A Square P would require one more step west, or one fewer step north.

B Square Q is too far down (one row lower than where the robot lands).

C Square R is further east (the robot turned west at the end, so it cannot land here).

10 Which file is a photo?

✓ Correct answer: A

File extensions tell you what type of file it is. **.jpg** = image/photo. **.docx** = document. **.mp3** = music/audio. **.txt** = plain text. So "holiday.jpg" is the photo.

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