

GL Buckinghamshire Mock 2 Verbal Skills



Verbal Skills

- This test contains English and Verbal Reasoning sections.
- The English section consists of a 5-minute practice section and a 25-minute test.
- The Verbal Reasoning section consists of two 5-minute practice sections and a 20-minute test.
- All responses should be marked on the separate answer sheet provided.

Please turn over the page to begin the English Practice Section.

English Practice Section

(5 minutes)

This practice section gives an example of the sort of questions you will be faced with in this test, with the correct answer filled in on the answer sheet so that you can see how to do it.

There are also some practice questions that don't have the answers filled in, so that you can practise working them out for yourself and filling in the answer sheet.

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

Whispers in the Woods

- 1 The forest held its breath. Not a leaf rustled, not a bird sang. Even the wind tiptoed
2 between the trees, as though afraid to disturb the silence. Mia crept forward, her
3 heartbeat loud in her ears, clutching the map like it was a lifeline. Somewhere ahead,
4 beneath the tangled roots of the oldest oak, the truth waited – ancient, buried, and
5 ready to be found. Behind her, a twig snapped.

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.

A Example

What is the quote below an example of?

'The forest held its breath.'

(Line 1)

- A Simile
- B Hyperbole
- C Personification
- D Metaphor
- E Onomatopoeia

The answer is C. Personification is the attribution of human characteristics to something non-human.

The answer C has been marked on your answer sheet.

Now try this practice question. You should choose the best answer and mark its letter on the answer sheet.

1 Practice

What does the description of the forest suggest about the mood of the scene?

- A It is joyful and peaceful.
- B It is tense and mysterious.
- C It is chaotic and loud.
- D It is boring and uneventful.
- E It is cheerful and welcoming.

2 Practice

What does the map most likely symbolise for Mia in the story?

- A A piece of history.
- B A treasured memory.
- C A guide to a safe place.
- D A symbol of hope and discovery.
- E A trick played on her.

In this type of question, you have to choose the **best word**, or **group of words**, to complete the sentence so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. You should choose one of the five answers and mark its letter on the answer sheet.

B Example

The old library had a

timeless	boring	loud	temporary	modern
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A B C D E

charm that made it feel like stepping into the past.

*The answer is **A** because 'timeless' is the word that makes the most sense in the sentence as a whole.*

Now try this practice question. Choose the best word to complete the sentence so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. Mark its letter on the answer sheet.

3 Practice

To everyone's surprise, the magician

stumbled	yelled	fell
----------	--------	------

A B C

vanished	sang
----------	------

 from the locked box without a trace.

D E

In this type of question, you have to identify a spelling or punctuation error in a sentence. Take a look at Example C below.

In each sentence, there may be a spelling 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.

C Example

I will definitely be at the station to greet you on your return.

A	B	C	D
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*The word 'definitely' is spelt incorrectly. Therefore the answer is **A**.*

*The answer **A** has been marked on the answer sheet.*

Now try this practice question. In each sentence, there may be an error in the use of capital letters or punctuation. 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.

4 Practice

At the top of the hill we paused and stared at the view.

A	B	C	D
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END OF PRACTICE SECTION

The English test begins on the next page.

- You have 25 minutes to complete the English test.
- There are 25 questions to answer.
- Your time will start when you turn over the page.
- Do not turn over the page until you are told to do so.

English

(25 minutes)

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

***The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum**

All this time Dorothy and her companions had been walking through the thick woods. The road was still paved with yellow brick, but these were much covered by dried branches and dead leaves from the trees, and the walking was not at all good.

There were few birds in this part of the forest, for birds love the open country where there
5 is plenty of sunshine. But now and then there came a deep growl from some wild animal hidden among the trees. These sounds made the little girl's heart beat fast, for she did not know what made them; but Toto knew, and he walked close to Dorothy's side, and did not even bark in return.

"How long will it be," the child asked of the Tin Woodman, "before we are out of the
10 forest?"

"I cannot tell," was the answer, "for I have never been to the Emerald City. But my father went there once, when I was a boy, and he said it was a long journey through a dangerous country, although nearer to the city where Oz dwells the country is beautiful. But I am not afraid so long as I have my oil-can, and nothing can hurt the Scarecrow,
15 while you bear upon your forehead the mark of the Good Witch's kiss, and that will protect you from harm."

"But Toto!" said the girl anxiously. "What will protect him?"

"We must protect him ourselves if he is in danger," replied the Tin Woodman.

Just as he spoke there came from the forest a terrible roar, and the next moment a great
20 Lion bounded into the road. With one blow of his paw he sent the Scarecrow spinning over and over to the edge of the road, and then he struck at the Tin Woodman with his sharp claws. But, to the Lion's surprise, he could make no impression on the tin, although the Woodman fell over in the road and lay still.

Little Toto, now that he had an enemy to face, ran barking toward the Lion, and the great
25 beast had opened his mouth to bite the dog, when Dorothy, fearing Toto would be killed, and heedless of danger, rushed forward and slapped the Lion upon his nose as hard as she could, while she cried out:

"Don't you dare to bite Toto! You ought to be ashamed of yourself, a big beast like you, to bite a poor little dog!"

30 "I didn't bite him," said the Lion, as he rubbed his nose with his paw where Dorothy had hit it.

"No, but you tried to," she retorted. "You are nothing but a big coward."

"I know it," said the Lion, hanging his head in shame. "I've always known it. But how can I help it?"

35 "I don't know, I'm sure. To think of your striking a stuffed man, like the poor Scarecrow!"
"Is he stuffed?" asked the Lion in surprise, as he watched her pick up the Scarecrow and
set him upon his feet, while she patted him into shape again.
"Of course he's stuffed," replied Dorothy, who was still angry.
"That's why he went over so easily," remarked the Lion. "It astonished me to see him whirl
40 around so. Is the other one stuffed also?"
"No," said Dorothy, "he's made of tin." And she helped the Woodman up again.
"That's why he nearly blunted my claws," said the Lion. "When they scratched against the
tin it made a cold shiver run down my back. What is that little animal you are so tender
of?"
45 "He is my dog, Toto," answered Dorothy.
"Is he made of tin, or stuffed?" asked the Lion.
"Neither. He's a—a—a meat dog," said the girl.
"Oh! He's a curious animal and seems remarkably small, now that I look at him. No one
would think of biting such a little thing, except a coward like me," continued the Lion
50 sadly.
"What makes you a coward?" asked Dorothy, looking at the great beast in wonder, for he
was as big as a small horse.
"It's a mystery," replied the Lion. "I suppose I was born that way. All the other animals in
the forest naturally expect me to be brave, for the Lion is everywhere thought to be the
55 King of Beasts. I learned that if I roared very loudly every living thing was frightened and
got out of my way. Whenever I've met a man I've been awfully scared; but I just roared
at him, and he has always run away as fast as he could go. If the elephants and the tigers
and the bears had ever tried to fight me, I should have run myself – I'm such a coward;
but just as soon as they hear me roar they all try to get away from me, and of course I let
60 them go."
"But that isn't right. The King of Beasts shouldn't be a coward," said the Scarecrow.
"I know it," returned the Lion, wiping a tear from his eye with the tip of his tail. "It is my
great sorrow, and makes my life very unhappy. But whenever there is danger, my heart
begins to beat fast."
65 "Perhaps you have heart disease," said the Tin Woodman.
"It may be," said the Lion.
"If you have," continued the Tin Woodman, "you ought to be glad, for it proves you have
a heart. For my part, I have no heart; so I cannot have heart disease."
"Perhaps," said the Lion thoughtfully, "if I had no heart I should not be a coward."
70 "Have you brains?" asked the Scarecrow.
"I suppose so. I've never looked to see," replied the Lion.
"I am going to the Great Oz to ask him to give me some," remarked the Scarecrow, "for
my head is stuffed with straw."
"And I am going to ask him to give me a heart," said the Woodman.
75 "And I am going to ask him to send Toto and me back to Kansas," added Dorothy.
"Do you think Oz could give me courage?" asked the Cowardly Lion.

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** According to the text, what made walking along the yellow brick road difficult for Dorothy and her companions?
- A The road was too steep.
 - B There were large holes in the road.
 - C The road was covered in branches and leaves.
 - D It was raining heavily.
 - E The road was very narrow.
- 2** Why were there few birds in this part of the forest?
- A They had all flown south.
 - B The forest was too noisy.
 - C There were too many predators.
 - D They prefer open, sunny areas.
 - E It was too cold for them.
- 3** What does this phrase suggest about the way Dorothy is feeling?
These sounds made the little girl's heart beat fast, for she did not know what made them. (Lines 6 & 7)
- A Dorothy is curious.
 - B Dorothy is full of excitement.
 - C Dorothy feels a sense of relief.
 - D Dorothy is filled with sadness.
 - E Dorothy is scared.

- 4 Which character has a father who once went to the Emerald City?
- A Dorothy
 - B Toto
 - C The Tin Woodman
 - D The Lion
 - E The Scarecrow
- 5 What does the Tin Woodman say will protect Dorothy from harm?
- A His oil can
 - B Her bravery
 - C Her shoes
 - D The Good Witch's kiss
 - E Nothing
- 6 Choose a synonym for the word '**bounded**', in the context of the passage.
(Line 20)
- A cried
 - B roared
 - C leaped
 - D lurked
 - E bundled

- 7 What happened to the Scarecrow when the Lion struck him?
- A He span to the edge of the road.
 - B He fell apart completely.
 - C He caught fire.
 - D He made no impression.
 - E Dorothy ran to his protection.
- 8 Why do you think that the Lion couldn't hurt the Tin Woodman?
- A He couldn't get close due to Dorothy's protection.
 - B The Tin Woodman dodged the blow.
 - C The Tin was too strong for the claws
 - D The Lion changed his mind.
 - E The Tin Woodman used his axe.
- 9 What does the word '**coward**' mean? (Line 32)
- A A person who always tells the truth.
 - B A person who lacks courage and is afraid of danger.
 - C A person who pysicaly hurts others to show courage.
 - D A person who a brave and fearless leader.
 - E A person who stands up for others.

- 10** What might the phrase 'hanging his head in shame' suggest about the Lion?
(Line 33)
- A He felt embarrassed.
 - B He felt sleepy.
 - C He was dizzy.
 - D He wanted to leave.
 - E He had to give up.
- 11** What is the quote below an example of?
'for he was as big as a small horse'
(Line 52)
- A Simile
 - B Metaphor
 - C Hyperbole
 - D Alliteration
 - E Personification
- 12** What did the Lion use to wipe away a tear?
- A Tip of his tail
 - B Scarecrow straw
 - C A Tissue
 - D His paw
 - E Dorothy's dress

13 What theme is most strongly reflected in the Lion's character?

- A Friendship and loyalty
- B Anger vs. revenge
- C Happiness and joy
- D Courage vs. fear
- E Isolation and loneliness

Spelling

In these sentences there are 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.**

14 We had to wait in a long que before entering the museum.

A	B	C	D
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15 Her sudden appearance startled everyone in the room.

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

16 It's important to stay consious of your surroundings in the dark.

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

17 The teacher gave us a clear explanation of the homework task.

A	B	C	D
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Punctuation

In these sentences there are some **punctuation** 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.**

18 “Are you sure this is the right path” Ellie whispered, peering through the

A	B	C
----------	----------	----------

dense forest.

D

19 Sam packed his bag with everything he needed a map, a compass,

A	B	C
----------	----------	----------

and a torch.

D

20 The twins – identical in every way – had never been apart for

A	B	C
----------	----------	----------

more than a day.

D

21 “When will we arrive?” asked james, his voice edged

A	B	C
----------	----------	----------

with impatience.

D

Sentence Completion

In this passage you must choose the **best** word, or **group of words**, to complete each numbered line so that it makes sense and is written in correct English.

Choose the **best** answer and mark it on your answer sheet.

22 She gave a nervous smile, hoping to

conceal	expose	ignore
---------	--------	--------

A B C

repeat	increase
--------	----------

 her anxiety before stepping onto the stage.
D E

23 He was praised for his

bravery	confusion	excitement	panic	delay
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A B C D E

during the emergency; he remained calm and made quick decisions.

24 The students were told to

ignore	skip	hide	edit	analyse
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A B C D E

the text carefully before answering the questions.

25 They had to cancel the picnic because the weather was too

sunny	beautiful	ideal	pleasant	unpredictable
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A B C D E

END OF ENGLISH TEST.
DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

Verbal Reasoning Practice Section

(10 minutes)

This practice section gives an example of the sort of questions you will be faced with in this test, with the correct answer filled in on the answer sheet so that you can see how to do it.

There are also some practice questions that don't have the answers filled in, so that you can practise working them out for yourself and filling in the answer sheet.

In these questions, you need to use the code to work out the new word. The alphabet is here to help you with these questions. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A Example

If the code for PAPER is QBQFS, what does CPPLT mean?

- A. COOKS B. SHALL C. BOOKS D. SPOON E. BALLS

1 Practice

If the code for CROP is IZYA, what does UZML mean?

- A. ORCA B. OATS C. OATH D. PACE E. PACT

2 Practice

If the code for HEIST is IGMAJ, what does TKKPJ mean?

- A. SIXTH B. SHIRT C. HOIST D. SIGHT E. THING

In each question, there are two pairs of words. You must select a word from the options below that will go equally well with both pairs. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

B Example

(rush, attack)

(cost, fee)

A. charge

B. spend

C. money

D. hurry

E. speed

3 Practice

(modern, present)

(movement, flow)

A. agile

B. gift

C. current

D. trickle

E. river

4 Practice

(firm, business)

(friendship, presence)

A. company

B. organisation

C. comrade

D. fellowship

E. together

A four-letter word is hidden at the end of one word and the beginning of the next word in the sentence. Find the pair of words that contains the hidden word. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

C Example

As I am tall, I can reach every book on the shelf.

A. I am

B. am tall

C. can reach

D. reach every

E. the shelf

5 Practice

The striker ran towards the goal before the final whistle.

A. the striker

B. ran towards

C. the goal

D. goal before

E. the final

6 Practice

Today the weather is warm for the first time this year.

- A. today the B. for the C. the first D. time this E. this year

The three words in the second group should go together in the same way as the three in the first group. Choose the missing word. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

D Example

care (rent) want / fire (___) most

- A. reap B. rest C. beat D. cram E. what

7 Practice

boat (comb) come / knit (___) pear

- A. peel B. seal C. peak D. lean E. brim

8 Practice

hostel (remote) remake / regard (___) appeal

- A. dealer B. parade C. agreed D. leaped E. appear

END OF PRACTICE SECTION

The Verbal Reasoning test begins on the next page.

- You have 20 minutes to complete the Verbal Reasoning test.
- There are 32 questions to answer.
- Your time will start when you turn over the page.
- Do not turn over the page until you are told to do so.

Verbal Reasoning

(20 minutes)

In each of these questions, you need to use the code to work out the new word. The alphabet is here to help you with these questions. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1 If the code for SHINE is YSDAR, what does JCZNZ mean?

- A. DREAM B. DEALS C. CROWN D. CRAWL E. DRESS

2 If the code for TALLY is SKLAM, what does ZWUHS mean?

- A. AMPLE B. AMUSE C. AMBLE D. AGENT E. AGREE

3 If KJESH means WHALE, what does QJIJN mean?

- A. CHEEK B. CHEAP C. CHEER D. CHANT E. CHECK

4 If LTAMP means PRINT, what does WPYDN mean?

- A. ANGEL B. EMBER C. ANGLE D. ANGER E. AMBER

5 If the code for FENCE is BLUAV, what does XYHAV mean?

- A. BLEAK B. BRACE C. BRAVE D. BREAK E. BRAND

6 If the code for APPLE is HNTSA, what does SYOLO mean?

- A. LANDS B. LEAPS C. LAKES D. LAMPS E. LARGE

7 If BBGPO means RAMPS, what does OBALA mean?

- A. EAGLE B. EARLY C. EARLS D. EAGER E. EATEN

In each question, there are two pairs of words. You must select a word from the options below that will go equally well with both pairs. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

- 8** (group, ensemble) (belt, loop)
A. club B. hoop C. musical D. instrument E. band
- 9** (equitable, just) (gala, fete)
A. fair B. market C. bright D. festival E. true
- 10** (correspond, coincide) (equal, rival)
A. choice B. replica C. match D. compete E. agree
- 11** (surge, swell) (flourish, brandish)
A. gesture B. dismiss C. flood D. wave E. thrive
- 12** (purpose, intention) (aim, direct)
A. achieve B. quality C. ready D. point E. important
- 13** (vault, tomb) (solemn, sombre)
A. trivial B. grave C. grassy D. dreadful E. consequence
- 14** (forfeit, sanction) (superior, magnificent)
A. fine B. handsome C. robust D. trinkets E. delicate

A four-letter word is hidden at the end of one word and the beginning of the next word in the sentence. Find the pair of words that contains the hidden word. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

15 Can you help me remake the bed?

- A. Can you B. you help C. help me D. me remake E. remake the

16 Why does Christmas seem to go by so quickly?

- A. Why does B. does
Christmas C. Christmas
seem D. seem to E. so quickly

17 I've done all my work, so let's go to the cinema.

- A. I've done B. done all C. so let's D. go to E. the cinema

18 Looking at the test paper, Becky realised how little she knew.

- A. Looking at B. test paper C. Becky
realised D. how little E. she knew

19 A new shop would be good for the town!

- A. A new B. new shop C. shop would D. be good E. the town

20 The severe flooding lasted for days in the village.

- A. The severe B. flooding
lasted C. for days D. days in E. the village

21 Can you reply to my invitation, please?

- A. Can you B. you reply C. reply to D. my invitation E. invitation,
please

The three words in the second group should go together in the same way as the three in the first group. Choose the missing word. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

22 guard (fudge) feared / cobra (___) phases

- A. shape B. poach C. horse D. chase E. share

23 ending (losing) social / timely (___) reform

- A. filter B. tremor C. former D. loiter E. merely

24 simply (silent) talent / labour (___) clench

- A. launch B. unlace C. lancer D. cloner E. anchor

25 handle (leader) closer / artist (___) direct

- A. traced B. driest C. strict D. resist E. triads

26 phrase (author) custom / threat (___) winter

- A. writer B. renter C. either D. retain E. hitter

Find the number that will complete the sum correctly. **Mark your answer on the answer sheet.**

27 $(12 + 4) \times 7 = 42 + (___)$

- A. 84 B. 70 C. 76 D. 80 E. 78

28 $3 \times (___) \times 4 = 112 - (4 \times 4)$

- A. 8 B. 6 C. 10 D. 4 E. 7

29 $(65 \div 13) \times (\underline{\quad}) = (5 \times 3) + 30$

A. 11

B. 4

C. 9

D. 7

E. 8

30 $156 \div 12 = 141 - 82 - (\underline{\quad})$

A. 38

B. 42

C. 46

D. 39

E. 40

31 $39 + 12 + 57 = 216 \div (\underline{\quad})$

A. 6

B. 5

C. 4

D. 3

E. 2

32 Cleo, Hallie, Robyn and Filipe have been given their pocket money. Cleo received twice as much as Hallie. Robyn got £2 less than Cleo. Filipe received £14, which was £4 more than Cleo.

Which statement is true?

A. Hallie received £4 in pocket money.

B. Robyn received £10 in pocket money.

C. Hallie and Robyn received £13 between them.

D. Cleo received the most pocket money.

E. Hallie received £5 less than Filipe.

END OF VERBAL REASONING TEST.

