

CSSE Mock Paper 2 English



First Name:

Last Name:

Primary School:

Date of Birth:

Today's Date:

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.

11 Plus Essex CSSE – English

Read the instructions carefully.

This test consists of two sections:

- **COMPREHENSION** (40 minutes plus 10 minutes reading time)
- **CONTINUOUS WRITING** (20 minutes) *This section may be completed at any time during the total 50 minutes.*

Total time: 70 minutes

AFTER THE FIRST 10 MINUTES YOU DO NOT NEED TO WAIT TO BE TOLD TO CARRY ON TO THE NEXT SECTION.

Instructions:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. On the next page there is a passage of text. Read the passage carefully when you are told to do so. You then have to answer the questions that follow.
3. Work quickly but carefully through the questions.
4. The number of marks available for each question is indicated in the right-hand margin.
5. Correct spelling and grammar is recommended.
6. Punctuation should be clear and exact.
7. Where you are asked to choose between a number of responses, always choose the most appropriate response.
8. If you finish with time to spare, please remember to check your work.
9. Once the test has begun, you should not ask about questions in the test.
10. REMEMBER, this is not a test of memory. You can look back at the passage to check your answers as many times as you want.

1 At a time when most children are thinking about school tests or weekend football
2 matches, Jordan Romero was thinking about the tallest mountain on Earth. At just
3 thirteen years old, Jordan stood triumphantly at the summit of Mount Everest, the
4 world's highest peak. Towering at 8,848 metres above sea level – so high that jet
5 planes sometimes fly at that altitude – Everest is a place of fierce winds, biting cold,
6 and breathtaking views. Reaching the top is a feat even experienced
7 mountaineers often fail to achieve. Yet Jordan, a boy not yet old enough to drive
8 a car, had done it. So, how did a teenager from California end up standing on the
9 roof of the world?

10 It all began with a simple poster in his school corridor. It showed the Seven
11 Summits – the tallest mountain on each of the seven continents. Most people
12 glance at such a picture and move on. Jordan didn't. He stared at it, fascinated.
13 Each snow-capped peak seemed to whisper a silent challenge. That day, a seed
14 was planted in his mind, a wild idea that began to grow.

15 Early attempts to reach the summit of Everest began in the 1920s. They failed largely
16 because of the harsh conditions on the mountain. The first successful climb took
17 place in 1953. Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay, a Nepalese
18 Sherpa guide, were the first to reach the top. Since then there have been a number
19 of successful climbs. The previous record for youngest to climb Everest was held by
20 Ming Kipa of Nepal who was 15 years old when she reached the summit on May 24,
21 2003. The peak of Everest is on the border between Nepal and the Chinese region
22 of Tibet. In Tibetan the peak is known as Chomolungma, or Qomolangma, meaning
23 'Goddess Mother of the World'.

24 Climbing Everest is not like walking up a hill. The air is so thin that every step feels like
25 trudging through treacle. At high altitudes, oxygen is scarce, and the human body
26 begins to rebel. Muscles ache. Heads throb. Some people even hallucinate. The
27 conditions near the top are too harsh for any plant or animal life to survive. Huge
28 ice sheets called glaciers cover the slopes down to the base of the mountain. The
29 dangers are real: avalanches, frostbite, altitude sickness, and sudden storms that
30 can sweep in like a curtain of white. It is not a place for the faint-hearted.

31 To prepare, Jordan spent months training his body and mind. He ran up slopes with
32 a backpack filled with weights. He practised breathing through oxygen masks. He

33 a backpack filled with weights. He practised breathing through oxygen masks. He
34 learned to listen to his body, to understand the signs of exhaustion and fear without
35 letting them take control.

36 Climbing Everest can be quite expensive, but to make his dream come true, Jordan
37 was awarded a Polartec Grant, a \$10,000 grant awarded to teams looking to
38 produce low impact and cost-effective expedition that is both culturally and
39 environmentally friendly. Furthermore, Jordan also sold t-shirts to raise more funds for
40 his trip.

41 In May 2010, after a long, gruelling trek through the Himalayas, Jordan and his team
42 reached Base Camp. From there, they inched their way up the mountain in stages,
43 pausing to acclimatise at each camp. Some days they climbed. Other days they
44 simply waited – listening to the howling winds and watching as snowflakes danced
45 like silver butterflies in the air.

46 At last, the summit push began. It took hours of slow, steady climbing, often in
47 darkness and silence. Step by careful step, they rose above the clouds. And then,
48 at 9:45am on May 22nd 2010, Jordan reached the summit. He unfurled a small flag
49 with a message from his school friends and looked out over a world that stretched
50 endlessly below him. He described the moment as 'magical and humbling'. There
51 was no cheering, no loud celebration – just the quiet awe of having achieved
52 something extraordinary.

53 Before Jordan climbed Everest, there was some criticism over whether a child this
54 young should be allowed to take such risks. David Hillebrandt, medical adviser to
55 the British Mountaineering Council, questioned whether Romero was mentally
56 mature enough. But Jordan was well-prepared, well-supported, and incredibly
57 determined. His achievement wasn't just about physical strength; it was about grit,
58 focus, and ambition beyond his years.

59 Since then, Jordan has continued to climb, speak to young people around the
60 world, and encourage others to dream big – even when their goals seem
61 impossibly far away. After Romero climbed Mount Everest, he wrote a book *The Boy*
62 *Who Conquered Everest: The Jordan Romero Story*. Jordan Romero is a true
63 inspiration to all young people to pursue their dreams, even if they seem impossible
64 at first!

END OF PASSAGE

SECTION ONE

Spend about 30 minutes on this section.

1	According to the text, what is the height of Mount Everest?	1 mark
2	How old was Jordan Romero when he climbed Mount Everest?	1 mark
3	Write a synonym for the word ' feat ', in the context of the passage. (Line 6)	1 mark
4	What literary device is used in the phrase ' standing on the roof of the world '? Explain the effect of the phrase. (Lines 8 & 9)	3 marks
5	What inspired Jordan to start dreaming about climbing the Seven Summits? (Line 10)	1 mark

6	Find and copy a sentence that is an example of personification.	2 marks
7	Who were the first people to successfully climb Everest? (Line 17)	2 marks
8	Where is the peak of Mount Everest located? (Line 21 & 22)	2 marks
9	Give two reasons why climbing Mount Everest is such a difficult challenge. Reason 1: Reason 2:	2 marks
10	In Tibetan the peak is known as 'Chomolungma', which means what? (Line 23)	1 mark

11	What does the phrase 'trudging through treacle' suggest? (Line 25)	2 marks
12	Describe how Jordan prepared for his climb.	3 marks
13	How did Jordan fund his climb and what is the purpose of this funding?	2 marks
14	What is the quote below an example of? 'watching as snowflakes danced like silver butterflies in the air.' Explain the effect of the phrase. (Lines 44 & 45)	3 marks

15	What was the date and time when Jordan reached the summit of Mount Everest? 	2 marks
16	What did Jordan unfurl when he reached the summit? 	2 marks
17	What does the word 'grit' mean in the context of the text? (Line 57) 	1 mark
18	Why do you think the author ends the text by saying Jordan is 'a true inspiration'? 	2 marks
19	What is the purpose of this text? 	2 marks

20	<p>Select from the passage the ONE WORD that most closely corresponds to the word or phrase on the left. The line numbers on the right give you an idea of where in the passage the word can be found.</p> <table> <tr> <th></th><th data-bbox="587 286 887 320">Word from passage</th><th data-bbox="1107 286 1297 320">Look in lines</th></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 360 256 394">(a)</td><td data-bbox="288 360 347 394">top</td><td data-bbox="587 360 1082 394">..... 3–4</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 434 256 468">(b)</td><td data-bbox="288 434 475 468">accomplish</td><td data-bbox="587 434 1082 468">..... 7–8</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 508 256 542">(c)</td><td data-bbox="288 508 411 542">voyage</td><td data-bbox="587 508 1082 542">..... 38–39</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 582 256 616">(d)</td><td data-bbox="288 582 475 616">demanding</td><td data-bbox="587 582 1082 616">..... 41–42</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 656 256 689">(e)</td><td data-bbox="288 656 464 689">spread out</td><td data-bbox="587 656 1082 689">..... 48–49</td></tr> </table>		Word from passage	Look in lines	(a)	top 3–4	(b)	accomplish 7–8	(c)	voyage 38–39	(d)	demanding 41–42	(e)	spread out 48–49	5 marks
	Word from passage	Look in lines																		
(a)	top 3–4																		
(b)	accomplish 7–8																		
(c)	voyage 38–39																		
(d)	demanding 41–42																		
(e)	spread out 48–49																		

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR CONTINUOUS WRITING SECTION.

SECTION TWO

Spend about 20 minutes on this section. (20 marks)

Continuous Writing (Answer **BOTH** questions in your own words.)

1. Compare a day at the beach with a day at the park. What are the main differences and similarities? You must aim to **write at least six sentences** and you must make sure that you write with accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.

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2. Write a story based on this picture below. You must aim to **write at least six sentences** and you must make sure that you write with accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of a document template designed for handwritten notes or answers. It features approximately 28 evenly spaced horizontal dotted lines across the entire width of the page, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The background is plain white, and there are no margins, headers, or footers visible.

END OF TEST

