

Answers to Sample 11+

Assessment Test for the CEM Test — Verbal Reasoning

- 1) **A** — Daniel is anxious about starting his new school.
- 2) **D** — In the passage it says that Daniel "squinted through the thick lenses of his spectacles". This shows that Daniel wears glasses.
- 3) **B** — In the passage Mr Graham is described as "towering", which is another word for 'tall'.
- 4) **C** — Daniel says his name wrong when he speaks to Rachael because he is nervous.
- 5) **A** — In the passage it says "Daniel was sure that he would never hear the end of it from his classmates", so Daniel thinks the other pupils will be unkind.
- 6) **D** — Rachael's brother is in "the year above" which shows that he already goes to the school.
- 7) **B** — In the passage it says "Daniel thought secondary school might not be so bad after all." This shows that he is relieved because being at school is not as bad as he thought.
- 8) **C** — Daniel's dad is Mr Graham, so Daniel's surname is Graham.
- 9) **C** — "address" means 'a speech'. In this context, a "welcome address" is a speech given to welcome the new pupils to the school.
- 10) **A** — "severe" means 'strict'. The headmaster is 'strict' because he does not put up with any nonsense.
- 11) **D** — "simultaneously" means 'at the same time'. Mr Graham will be both Daniel's father and his headmaster at the same time.
- 12) **B** — Rachael's older brother already goes to the school, so she knows what to expect.
- 13) **B** — This phrase means that Daniel thinks that people will keep reminding him that he is the headmaster's son.
- 14) **D** — This phrase means that somebody seems scary because they shout a lot, but they are not as scary as they seem. Mr Graham's words are frightening, but his actions are not.
- 15) **Ancient** — 'Over four and a half thousand years ago, the **Ancient** Egyptians'
- 16) **building** — 'Ancient Egyptians began **building** pyramids.'
- 17) **intended** — 'The pharaohs **intended** the pyramids to be impressive monuments'
- 18) **places** — 'eternal resting **places** to safeguard their souls.'
- 19) **things** — 'Wealthy Egyptians would fill their tombs with the **things** they would need in the afterlife'
- 20) **believed** — 'but they **believed** that before their souls'
- 21) **granted** — 'their souls were **granted** eternal life'
- 22) **actions** — 'their **actions** on Earth would be judged rigorously.'
- 23) **judgement** — 'This **judgement** happened in the underworld'
- 24) **weighed** — 'the deceased person's heart was **weighed** against the feather'
- 25) **heavier** — 'If the heart was **heavier** than the feather'
- 26) **unworthy** — 'it was deemed **unworthy**.'
- 27) **enter** — 'the person could not **enter** the afterlife.'
- 28) **first** — 'Djoser's Step Pyramid was one of the **first** of these tombs.'
- 29) **because** — 'It is known as a step pyramid **because** it was built.'
- 30) **smaller** — 'a series of six successively **smaller** squares'
- 31) **another** — 'on top of one **another**.'
- 32) **hidden** — 'The burial chamber is **hidden** underground'

- 33) **deter** — 'but this did not **deter** the grave robbers.'
- 34) **nothing** — 'almost **nothing** was left inside.'
- 35) **aim** — 'aim' can mean 'to point something in a particular direction' or 'a desired outcome'.
- 36) **ditch** — 'ditch' can mean 'a narrow channel used for drainage' or 'to discard'.
- 37) **gift** — 'gift' can mean 'a talent or inclination' or 'something given'.
- 38) **track** — 'track' can mean 'a rough path' or 'to follow'.
- 39) **rule** — 'rule' can mean 'a code of behaviour' or 'to exercise control'.
- 40) **mark** — 'mark' can mean 'to evaluate work' or 'a visible trace or spot'.
- 41) **race** — 'race' can mean 'a group of people united by common lineage or history' or 'a competition of speed'.
- 42) **behind** — 'behind' can mean 'delayed' or 'further back'.
- 43) **rock** — 'rock' can mean 'a stone' or 'to move back and forth'.
- 44) **lock** — 'lock' can mean 'to secure something' or 'a curl of hair'.
- 45) **bitter** — 'sweet' is an adjective which means 'sugary', whereas 'bitter' means 'sour'.
- 46) **wealthy** — 'poor' means 'having little money', whereas 'wealthy' means 'having lots of money'.
- 47) **moist** — 'dry' means 'containing no moisture', whereas 'moist' means 'containing moisture'.
- 48) **shady** — 'bright' means 'light', whereas 'shady' means 'dark'.
- 49) **permanent** — 'temporary' means 'for a limited time', whereas 'permanent' means 'for an unlimited time'.
- 50) **speedy** — 'slow' is an adjective which means 'at low speed', whereas 'speedy' means 'at high speed'.
- 51) **woe** — 'joy' means 'happiness', whereas 'woe' means 'sadness'.
- 52) **common** — 'rare' means 'infrequent', whereas 'common' means 'frequent'.
- 53) **eager** — 'uninterested' means 'indifferent', whereas 'eager' means 'enthusiastic'.
- 54) **amateur** — 'professional' is a noun which means 'someone who is paid to do a job', whereas 'amateur' means 'someone who does something without being paid'.
- 55) **fearless** — Both words mean 'courageous'.
- 56) **estimate** — Both words mean 'to predict based on uncertain knowledge'.
- 57) **value** — Both words mean 'the importance of something'.
- 58) **learn** — Both words mean 'to gain knowledge'.
- 59) **aid** — Both words mean 'to help'.
- 60) **pleased** — Both words mean 'happy'.
- 61) **scoop** — Both words mean 'tools for picking up loose material'.
- 62) **band** — Both words mean 'something that encircles something else'.
- 63) **flexible** — Both words mean 'easily bent'.
- 64) **taut** — Both words mean 'not slack'.
- 65) **shock** — Both words mean 'to make someone feel afraid'.
- 66) **wane** — Both words mean 'to decrease'.
- 67) **drench** — Both words mean 'to make something wet'.
- 68) **curt** — Both words mean 'abrupt'.