THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BANGALORE

PRIMARY YEARS | SAMPLE ENTRANCE PRACTICE PAPER

ENTRY INTO GRADE 3

Time allowed: 60 minutes English: 20 marks Mathematics: 20 marks Total: 40 marks

Instructions: Read carefully. Answer in your own words where possible. Show your working in Mathematics. Plan your writing and check your answers.

This is an original practice paper for families, not the actual admissions assessment.

A. ENGLISH – READING (10 marks)

The Mystery of the Missing Labels

On Tuesday morning, Leela found three pots of seedlings on the classroom windowsill. Each pot had a label showing what had been planted. After lunch, the labels were lying on the floor. A breeze from the open window had probably blown them away.

Leela wanted to put the labels back immediately, but Omar suggested they look for clues first. One pot had tall, thin shoots. Another had round leaves, and the third had not sprouted at all. They compared the pots with drawings in their gardening notebook.

Omar thought the pot without shoots must contain beans because beans always grow slowly. Leela disagreed. ‘We planted them on different days,’ she reminded him. ‘We cannot be certain just by looking.’ They wrote down their observations and decided to wait a few days before replacing the labels.

1. Where were the three pots kept? (1 mark)

_____

2. What probably caused the labels to fall? (1 mark)

_____

3. Name TWO clues the children noticed about the pots. (2 marks)

_____

_____

4. Why did Omar suggest looking before replacing the labels? (1 mark)

_____

5. What does ‘observations’ mean in the passage? (1 mark)

_____

6. Why did Leela disagree with Omar? Give TWO details. (2 marks)

_____

_____

7. Suggest another suitable title and explain why it fits. (2 marks)

_____

_____

_____

B. ENGLISH – WRITING (10 marks)

A few days later, Leela and Omar discover something unexpected in one of the pots. Continue the story. Describe what they discover, what they do and how the story ends. Write approximately 100–130 words.

Plan your ideas:

_____

_____

_____

Write your response:

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C. MATHEMATICS (20 marks)

Show your method for multi-step and explanation questions. Use the working space provided.

1. Write the number with 6 hundreds, 0 tens and 4 ones. Explain why it is not 64. [2 marks]

_____

_____

2. Arrange 609, 690, 906 and 960 from smallest to largest. [2 marks]

_____

_____

3. A school collected 174 bottles on Monday and 138 on Tuesday. It recycled 86. How many bottles remain? Show two steps. [3 marks]

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. There are 6 trays with 5 muffins on each. Eight muffins are sold. How many remain? Show your method. [3 marks]

_____

_____

_____

5. A teacher has 29 pencils and puts 4 in each pack. How many full packs can be made, and how many pencils remain? [2 marks]

_____

_____

_____

6. Ria estimates 397 + 205 is about 600. Is this reasonable? Explain and find the exact answer. [3 marks]

_____

_____

_____

7. A string is 85 cm long. Two pieces of 20 cm are cut off. How much remains? [2 marks]

_____

_____

_____

8. Complete 7, 14, 21, __, __ and explain the rule. [3 marks]

_____

_____

_____

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PRIMARY YEARS | SAMPLE ANSWER KEY

ENTRY INTO GRADE 3

A. Reading – Self-Assessment Answer Key (10 marks)

Read your answers and compare them with the suggested responses below. Your answers do not need to use exactly the same words, as long as they show the correct understanding.

1. (1 mark) On the classroom windowsill.
2. (1 mark) A breeze coming through the open window.
3. (2 marks) Tall, thin shoots; round leaves; no shoots yet. Any two correct observations.
4. (1 mark) To gather clues before making a conclusion instead of guessing.
5. (1 mark) Things they noticed or recorded by observing carefully.
6. (2 marks) The seeds were planted on different days (1 mark), so the absence of shoots does not necessarily mean the pot contains beans (1 mark).
7. (2 marks) Example: *The Seedling Detectives* (1 mark), because the children investigate clues to identify their plants (1 mark).

How to check your answers: Give yourself marks for answers that communicate the same meaning, even if you have used different words. For questions worth 2 marks, check that you have included two relevant points. Small spelling mistakes are acceptable if your meaning is clear.

B. Writing – Self-Assessment Guide (10 marks)

Read your story again and use the guide below to reflect on your writing. Choose the score that best describes your work.

What to check	How to give yourself marks
Ideas and details (3 marks)	3: I have included all parts of the task with interesting, developed ideas. 2: I have included the main ideas with some details. 1: My ideas are limited or incomplete. 0: My writing does not address the task.
Organisation (3 marks)	3: My story has a clear beginning, middle and ending, with ideas in a logical order. 2: My story mostly follows a clear sequence. 1: Some parts are confusing or out of order. 0: My story has no clear sequence.
Vocabulary (2 marks)	2: I have used interesting and varied words to express my ideas. 1: My words are simple but clear. 0: My word choices make the story difficult to understand.
Sentences, spelling	2: My sentences are clear, with mostly correct spelling, capital letters and

and punctuation (2 marks)	punctuation. 1: I have made some mistakes, but my writing is understandable. 0: My mistakes make my writing difficult to understand.

My writing checklist

- I have included a discovery or surprising event.
- My story has a clear beginning, middle and ending.
- I have described what happens using relevant details.
- I have used interesting words to help the reader imagine the events.
- I have checked my sentences, spelling, capital letters and punctuation.

Remember: There is no single correct story. Focus on how well you communicate your ideas, organise your writing and help your reader understand what happens.

My self-assessment score: _____ / 10

One thing I did well: _____

One thing I can improve: _____

C. Mathematics answer key (20 marks)

1. (2 marks) 604; the 0 shows there are no tens.

2. (2 marks) 609, 690, 906, 960.

3. (3 marks) 174 + 138 = 312; 312 − 86 = 226.

4. (3 marks) 6 × 5 = 30; 30 − 8 = 22.

5. (2 marks) 7 full packs and 1 pencil remains.

6. (3 marks) Yes; 400 + 200 ≈ 600; exact answer 602.

7. (2 marks) 85 − 40 = 45 cm.

8. (3 marks) 28, 35; add 7 each time.

Self-Assessment Guidance: Check your answers against the sample answer key. Give yourself credit for using a correct method and explaining your reasoning clearly, even if you have made a calculation error. Remember, there may be more than one correct way to solve a problem.

Practice score record

Reading: ____ / 10 Writing: ____ / 10 Mathematics: ____ / 20 Total: ____ / 40