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Comprehension Tips for Multiple Choice

It is a good idea for the student to read through this advice with an adult before they begin the comprehension papers.

- Read the story passage carefully as it is important you understand it. Remember as much as you can. (It may help if you think of your brain as a sponge, soaking up as many details as you can!)
- Read the question carefully then check the reading passage to find the answer and then mark your answer in the box provided on the answer sheet.
- It is important that you understand that you are allowed to go back and check the reading passage to help you answer the questions. In fact it is **essential** to use the reading passage to help. This exam is not a memory test.
- If you are not sure what a word means in a question, go back to the passage and read the sentences that come before and after the word you need to explain. Use the **context** in which the word is used to have your best guess.
- Always try to mark an answer for every question. If you do not answer you will lose marks. Always have a guess if you are unsure as you never know, you may be correct!
- Be careful! Multiple choice comprehension tests may appear to be easier than they are. If you finish quickly use the full time to go back and check your answers again.
- Some questions are about grammar, spellings and Parts of Speech. To find out more about words and their meanings my book, *Tutor Master helps you Learn English - A Literacy Dictionary*, contains lots of helpful definitions and examples.

Practical Advice

- Agree a suitable time and place where the practice test will be carried out. It is advisable for the student to conduct the test in a place where they can be supervised and timed by an adult and which will also be free from noise or distractions.
- Provide a clock that the student can see, several pencils, a ruler and an eraser. It is probably better to write answers in pencil so that any mistakes can be more easily corrected.
- As this is a practice situation it is probably helpful to read through the instructions on the front page with the student before they begin.
- Make sure the student understands what they have to do before they begin and give them the chance to ask any questions.

Read the passage below and answer the following questions carefully. It is a good idea to go back and check the passage to find your answers. Write your answers neatly on the answer sheet.

Alice in Wonderland

Alice has been exploring down a rabbit hole following after a White Rabbit, when suddenly she finds herself falling. She falls slowly, and for a long time, until her fall is broken and with a thump! thump! she lands upon a heap of sticks and dry leaves and the fall is over.

5 Alice was not hurt at all and quickly jumped to her feet. She looked around but could see little as it was dark, but she could see the White Rabbit hurrying away down a long passage. Not wanting to see the White Rabbit disappear, Alice ran like the wind and as the White Rabbit turned a corner, Alice was just in time to hear it say, "Oh my ears and whiskers, how late it's
10 getting!" Although Alice was following close behind, when she turned the corner she could no longer see the Rabbit, and she found herself in a long, low hall, which was dimly lit up by a row of lamps hanging from the roof.

All around the hall were doors, and one by one Alice tried to open them but they were all locked. She walked sadly to the middle of the hall and stood
15 there wondering how she would ever get out.

Suddenly she came upon a little three-legged table made of solid glass, and on the top was placed a tiny golden key. Alice thought that this key must surely open one of the doors in the hall, but to her dismay she found that
20 to unlock any of the doors. However, as she looked more carefully she noticed a low curtain that she had not seen before, and behind was a little door fifteen inches in height. She put the little golden key into the lock and to her great delight it fitted.

Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage. She knelt
25 down and looking along the passage she saw the most beautiful garden imaginable. Alice really wanted to get out of the gloomy hall and to wander about among the beds of bright flowers and cool fountains, but she could not even get her head through the doorway, "And even if my head *would* go through," thought poor Alice, "it would be of little use without my
30 shoulders. Oh, how I wish I could shut up like a telescope! I think I could if I only knew how to begin."

There seemed to be no use in waiting by the little door, so she went back to the table, half hoping she might find another key on it, or at any rate a book of rules for closing people up like telescopes. This time she found a little
35 bottle on the table, which Alice remembered had certainly not been there before. Tied around the neck of the bottle was a paper label with the words "DRINK ME" beautifully printed on it in large letters.

It was all very well to say, "Drink me," but the wise little Alice was not going to do *that* in a hurry. "No, I'll look first and see whether it's marked

Answer these questions carefully. It is a good idea to go back and check the passage to find your answers. You should choose the best answer and mark its letter on your answer sheet.

1. It is very likely that Alice has fallen down
 - a) a fox hole
 - b) a snow hole
 - c) a rabbit hole
 - d) a manhole
 - e) a cubby hole

2. Alice ran quickly because
 - a) it was very dark
 - b) she was scared
 - c) she was late going home
 - d) she wanted to keep sight of the White Rabbit
 - e) she was lost

3. Alice was sad because
 - a) it was very dark
 - b) the door was locked
 - c) the White Rabbit was being unfriendly
 - d) her feet were hurting
 - e) she did not know how she would get out

4. In the long, low hall Alice found
 - a) the White Rabbit
 - b) a solid glass table with four legs
 - c) a three legged table made of solid gold
 - d) a tiny brass key
 - e) a tiny golden key

5. Alice was dismayed because
 - a) the locks were too small
 - b) the key was too large
 - c) she could not remember the padlock number
 - d) she was unable to unlock any of the doors
 - e) she wanted to go home

6. When Alice looked carefully she noticed
 - a) a little door
 - b) the White Rabbit
 - c) a low curtain
 - d) a secret garden
 - e) a sign saying "Way Out"

Read the following passage. 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 X.*

Exploring at Night

29. It happend all of a sudden and he was

A B C D X

30. not sure what had occured. One moment

A B C D X

31. he had been standing shinning his torch

A B C D X

32. at the object and the next moment he new

A B C D X

33. he had a promble. Because it was so

A B C D X

34. sudden he decided to go and fetch the

A B C D X

35. others. He thought they would know wether

A B C D X

36. to go or stay. He knew he shuold go now.

A B C D X

Read the following passage. There are some mistakes in the use of *capital letters* and *punctuation*. 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 X.*

A Trip to Town

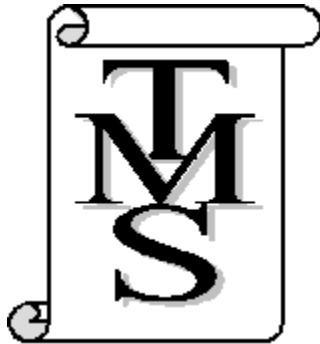
37. On monday John went down to town to

A B C D X

38. buy his mum. Some perfume she would like.

A B C D X

Tutor Master Services



ENGLISH Composition/Essay

30 minutes
Total Marks: 50

Choose one of these to write

1. Imagine that you are a reporter for an important London newspaper. Dick Whittington is soon to be married to the rich man's beautiful daughter and the people of London want to know more. Your editor has asked you to write a report telling of Dick Whittington's amazing rise to wealth and power. Use your imagination to tell the readers about:
 - a) Dick's poor and humble beginning.
 - b) His journey to London and his life there.
 - c) His rise to wealth and status.

Use the newspaper headline "**From Rags to Riches**".

OR

2. Dick Whittington had a pet cat. Use your imagination to write a story about a pet you have had, or an animal you know about. Use the title:

"The Pet"

You may wish to write about where the pet came from, how it is looked after and cared for, the best moments and any adventures you have had with the animal.

- Remember that the examiners are looking to see if you have included speech correctly punctuated, feelings (of yourself or your characters) and good description.
- Remember to check your grammar, spelling and punctuation carefully.
- If you make a mistake, cross it out neatly and write in your correction.