

Parent-Pupil

ENGLISH

Information File 2

*Comprehension and
Vocabulary*

for SEAG Entrance Assessment

SAMPLE



PMP Publications

Other titles available from PMP Publications
for SEAG Entrance Assessment preparation

- * Parent-Pupil English Information File 1:
Punctuation, Grammar and Spelling
- * Parent-Pupil English Information File 2:
Comprehension and Vocabulary
- * English Punctuation, Grammar and Spelling Test Pack 1
(39 check-up exercises)
- * English Punctuation, Grammar and Spelling Test Pack 2
(27 check-up exercises)
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- * English Comprehension Test Pack 2 *(16 tests)*

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Introduction

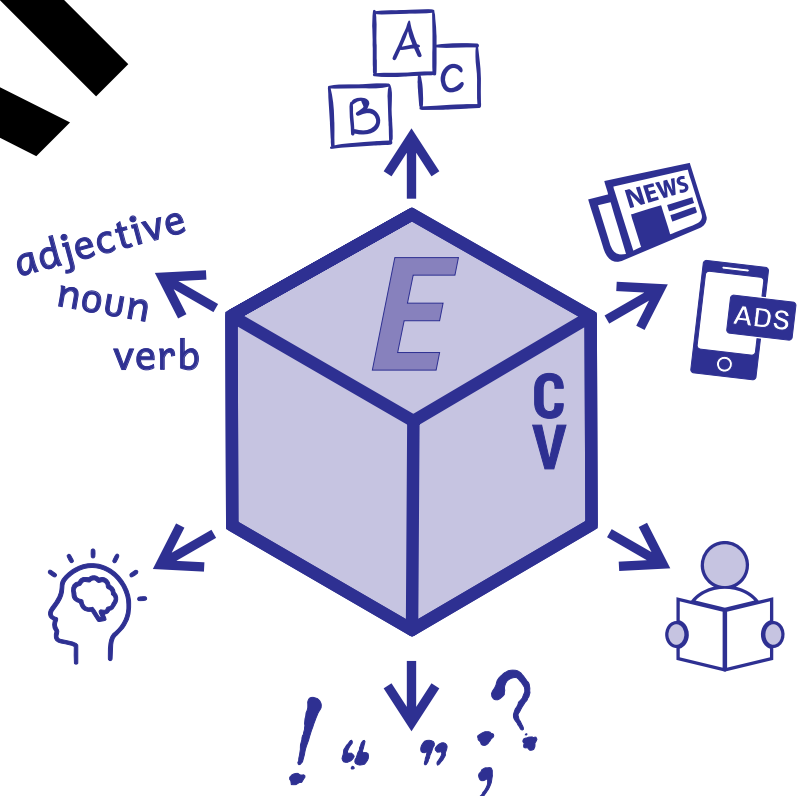
This Information File is a complete revision package covering all aspects of the **Comprehension and Vocabulary** element required for the SEAG Entrance Assessment. It also covers the content and syllabus of the Northern Ireland Curriculum for Language and Literacy at the end of Key Stage 2.

The Information File comprises:

- * A comprehensive reference file detailing information that children should know for all aspects of the **Comprehension and Vocabulary** element of the SEAG Entrance Assessment and at the end of Key Stage 2. The content, which should be learnt, is outlined briefly in a number of **NEED TO KNOW** boxes.
- * Check-up exercises and example questions to assess children's understanding of English Comprehension and Vocabulary. Answers are given in the Answer Key section at the back of the book.
- * 4 tests of the Comprehension and Vocabulary aspect of the SEAG Entrance Assessment.
- * 4 tests that mirror the complete English element of the actual SEAG Entrance Assessment.

Comprehension & Vocabulary

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Types of Writing

NEED TO KNOW

Children should know where a variety of types of text might be found, and the purpose for which they were written.

Children should also know by reading a passage or text, the place it is most likely to be found, and the purpose for which it was most likely written, e.g.

In a/an

Advertisement	-----	to inform or persuade
Autobiography	-----	an account of a person's life written by that person
Biography	-----	an account of a person's life written by someone else
Brochure	-----	to inform or persuade
Diary	-----	to make a personal record
Dictionary	-----	to inform
Encyclopaedia	-----	to inform
Newspaper/article	-----	to inform or persuade
Novel	-----	to entertain
Play	-----	to entertain

SAMPLE

? Example question

What is the main purpose of a diary account?

- A to entertain
- B to persuade and inform
- C to give a personal record of events in your life
- D to provide factual information and inform
- E to encourage someone to make a purchase

Answer: C

Fact or Opinion Check-up

For each of these questions you should tick a box under either **Fact** or **Opinion**.

		Fact	Opinion
1	Professional footballers are paid too much.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	The capital of Northern Ireland is Belfast.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Dogs make great pets.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Valentine's Day is on 14th February each year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Liverpool is the best city in England.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	There are 366 days in a leap year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	We live in the twenty-first century.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Paris is the most romantic city in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SAMPLE

Understanding Alphabetical Order

Lists, tables and contents pages are often given in alphabetical order, or sometimes in numerical or date order.

Many books have chapters with numbers, but dictionaries and encyclopaedias arrange their contents alphabetically, starting from A and working through to Z. Indexes found at the back of many books are also usually arranged in alphabetical order. Some books contain glossaries that give the meanings of important words or terms used in the book, or lists of characters. They are usually listed in alphabetical order.

Examples

Look at the first letter of each word to decide the order.

Diary
Encyclopaedia
Newspaper

If two words have the same first letter, then you look at the second letter to work out which should be first in an alphabetical list, e.g.

Newspaper
Novel

If two words have the same first and second letter, then you look at the third letter,

Nary
Nary

You may need to continue looking at the next letters when two or more words have the same initial letters.

COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY

Mark: / 13

Test 1

Children should have **15 minutes** to complete this test.

Candidate's Name

DATE OF TEST					
Day		Month		Year	

Read the **whole** index carefully, then answer the questions that follow. For these questions you have to **write your answers**, neatly, on the lines provided.

The index of contents in an **Encyclopaedia of Knowledge** was listed alphabetically as shown.

First letter of topic	Page number	Chapter
A – Da	1–25	1
De – Fl	26–50	2
Fo – Ja	51–75	3
Jo – Ma	76–100	4
Me – Q	101–125	5
Ra – Un	126–150	6
Un – Z	151–175	7

In which chapter would you find information about the following subjects?

- | | Chapter |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1 Ocean currents | _____ |
| 2 Gold mining | _____ |
| 3 Produce of the world | _____ |
| 4 Scotland | _____ |
| 5 Coal | _____ |

Between what pages would I find information about the following subjects?
The first one has been done for you.

	Page Numbers
Rats	<u>100–112</u>
6 Icebergs	_____
7 Poland	_____
8 Europe	_____
9 Mongols	_____
10 Corn	_____

For these questions you have to write answers neatly, in the box beside the question.

1. **Icebergs**

2. An iceberg is a piece of freshwater ice more than 15 m long that has
 3. broken off a glacier or ice shelf and is floating freely in open (salt)
 4. water. Smaller chunks of floating glacially-derived ice are called
 5. “growlers” or “bergy bits”. The sinking of the Titanic in 1912 led to the
 6. formation of the International Ice Patrol in 1914. Much of an iceberg
 7. is below the surface, which led to the expression “tip of the iceberg”
 8. to describe a small part of a larger unseen issue. Icebergs are
 9. considered a serious maritime hazard.

Source: *Wikipedia*

11 In the box, write all the nouns found on line 4 of the encyclopaedia extract above.

Advertisements

The following terms are often used in advertisements and children may be expected to know their meaning. Children may be asked to match advertisement terminology to its appropriate meaning as shown below.

Advertisements can:

- (a) give information about something
- (b) persuade people to go somewhere or buy something

Reviewer	-----	someone who gives their opinion about a book, film or event
Title	-----	a heading
Sentences	-----	explaining more detail or information about items being sold for an event being advertised
Asterisks (*)	-----	are used to give extra information, or to verify a statement
Bullets (e.g. ●, ■, ◆, ◇, ✱, ❖)	-----	are used to list or draw attention to the main points or features of something being advertised
Bold print or BLOCK PRINT	-----	is used to stress a point or give importance to something written
Illustrator	-----	person who draws pictures, e.g. for a book
Offer	-----	best or nearest offer
RRP	-----	recommended retail price
Complimentary	-----	free
Subject to availability	-----	goods can only be bought while stocks last
<i>Italics</i>	-----	are used to highlight something in order to make it stand out

Read the **whole** advertisement carefully, then answer the questions that follow.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.

Kingly's Windows
A REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE

Summer Madness Sale

Simply Unbelievable Offers

50% off
all windows purchased
before 30th September 2022

All our windows are:

- * fitted by professionals
- * approved by 'British Quality Control' (BQC)
- * fitted using safety glass
- * made from reinforced plastic
- * manufactured in our own factory

Visit our showroom and factory in Mallon Road.
Open Monday–Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Phone BELFAST 028 9037 1614

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.)

You should choose the best answer and mark the box beside its letter with a thin horizontal line like A.

5

Based on the advertisement, which of the following statements is **FALSE**?

- A** The windows are all manufactured in Mallon Road
- B** The window frames are all made with strengthened plastic
- C** The company fits safety glass in their windows
- D** You could buy windows on 1st October 2022 for 50% off
- E** The sale is taking place in July and August

Poetry

Poetry is a special kind of writing that uses language to arouse feeling and stimulate imagination, by selecting and arranging words in patterns and meter that may include rhythm and rhyme. It is written in lines that are grouped into verses and stanzas.

Children should understand the following terms and identify their use within poems:

Rhyme

Rhyme is the use of a pattern of similar sounding words or syllables used in writing, e.g.

The *cat* sat on the *hat*, and the *hat* sat on the *mat*.

In poetry rhyme usually happens at the end of a line. Here is an example from the first stanza of a famous poem by William Butler Yeats:

The Lake Isle of Innisfree

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
 And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:
 Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,
 And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

Innisfree rhymes with *honeybee*, and *made* rhymes with *glade*.

But not all poetry has rhyme, like this haiku from Japan:

Windows XP crashed.
 I am the Blue Screen of Death.
 No one hears your screams.

NEED TO KNOW

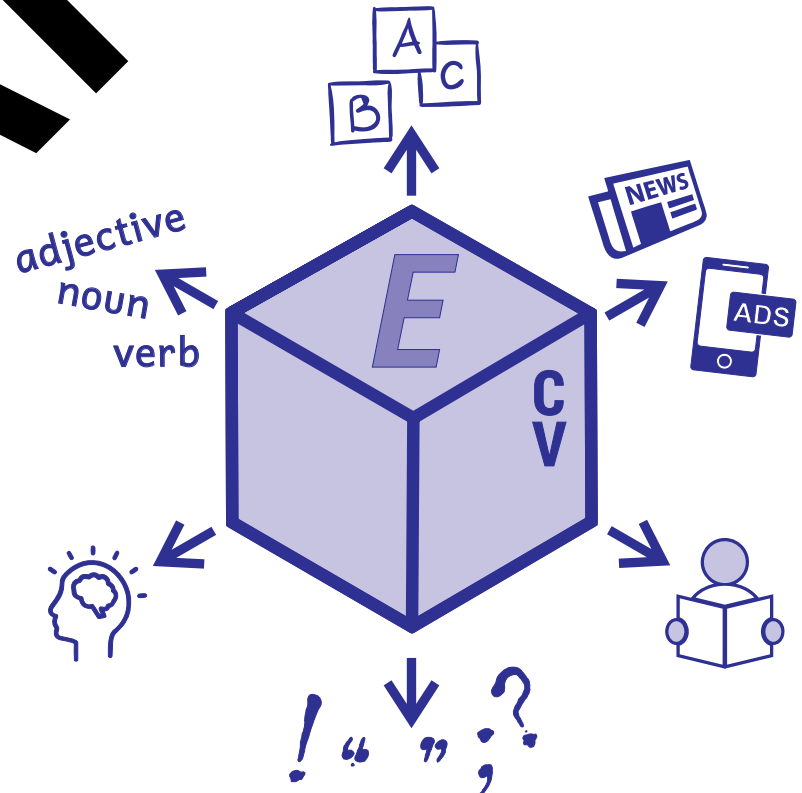
Children should be familiar with a variety of forms of poetry writing, and understand how poems use language to create mood and convey meaning. They should have an understanding of

- * imagery,
- * verse and rhyme,
- * alliteration and onomatopoeia,
- * simile and metaphor.

Complete English Tests

COMPREHENSION & VOCABULARY
(including Punctuation, Grammar and Spelling)

SAMPLE



Test 5

Mark: / 28

Children should have **30 minutes** to complete this test.

Candidate's Name

DATE OF TEST					
Day		Month		Year	

Punctuation Exercise

In this exercise there are some mistakes with **punctuation** or use of **capital letters**. On each numbered line there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and **circle its letter**. If there is no mistake, circle **N**.

- 1** "How often do you come to this book store," asked Jo.
 A B C D N
- 2** "Take the dog for a walk please," Kate's mum said.
 A B C D N
- 3** Instead of a knife and fork Michaela used chopsticks.
 A B C D N
- 4** "What a fantastic new childrens playground!" exclaimed
 A B C
 the playgroup leader.
 D N
- 5** "Laura don't cry. It will be OK," said her mother reassuringly.
 A B C D N

20 According to the passage, what was one of Dickens's favourite hobbies?

- A being a newspaper reporter
- B labelling pots of blacking polish
- C being a bachelor
- D going to the theatre
- E talking to friends

21 Which of Dickens's single friends, according to the passage, was also an author of great standing?

- A Oliver Twist
- B Charles Mathews
- C William Ainsworth
- D Benjamin Disraeli
- E Nicholas Nickleby

For these questions you have to write your answers, neatly, in the box beside the question.

22 What age was Charles Dickens when he died?

23 What was the name of Dickens's favourite book?

24 What two social problems did Dickens fight to see improved?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

**Answer
Key**

SAMPLE



Test 3

page 25

**Simile and Metaphor
Check-up**

page 33

(Space Alien)

1. D – in the back cover of a book
2. C – Space Alien is a book of the highest quality
3. E – Edward Jenkins
4. (i) Ann Blackly
(ii) Jim Bunting

(Kingly's Windows)

5. D – You could buy windows on 1st October 2022 for 50% off
6. C – bought
7. British Quality Control
8. Kingly's Windows
9. Simply unbelievable

(Chip City)

10. B – You could get a bacon burger with free fries on 26 September 2023
11. 50
12. (i) trained
(ii) experienced
13. 67 [correct for the year 2023]

1. Her heart is gold.
2. He is a pig.
3. The baby was toast.
4. The burglar was a cunning fox.
5. The sun was a jewel.
6. The children were lions.
7. The boy was a pig.
8. The gymnast was a rock on the beam.
9. The sky was a blanket over the field.
10. The tiger was a wild animal in the rain.

Test 4

page 34

(The Lake Isle of Innisfree)

1. D
2. B
3. D
4. build (line 4)
5. slow (line 7)
6. core (line 14)
7. glimmer (line 9)
8. honeybee *or* bee (lines 5–6)
cricket (line 8)
linnet (line 10)
9. conjunction
10. preposition

(Anthem for Doomed Youth)

11. rifles' rapid rattle (line 3)
12. rattle (line 5)
13. shires (line 10)