

## 9+ English Assessment

### Reading Comprehension - Sample Questions

This is a sample of the type of questions on the paper; there will be many more questions on the actual.

Put a circle round the right word to complete the sentence

1. A cauliflower is a **machine/variable/vegetable/flower**.
2. The birthday present was **ripped/wrapped/folded/ruined** in gold paper.
3. The burglar was **encouraged/punctuated/arrested/endured** by the police.
4. The scientist completed a complicated **experience/experiment/exposition/extension**.
5. We might see a solar eclipse **regularly/indefinitely/frequently/occasionally**.

Please read the story and answer the questions below.

#### The Treasure Box

Jim was on holiday staying at a hotel that had once been a castle. There was a famous legend that claimed that centuries ago when battles raged regularly a frightened king, who was locked in battle with a neighbouring baron, had buried all his valuable treasure in a secret spot deep beneath the castle. Just hours later the castle was captured by the enemy and the king was no more.

Over the centuries the story was almost forgotten - until now. Quite by chance, Jim who was staying in the castle, had stumbled across a very ancient, dusty book that not only told the story of the knight's treasure but

also told of a map, a map marking the very spot where the treasure was located. Jim's curiosity was aroused and he decided he would search high and low until he found this map.

And now he was really excited. Hidden under piles of junk he had spotted a corner of a box. He pulled it out, blew off the dust and gasped in wonder. It was beautiful.

The ornamental box was taken from the cellar and placed carefully in the centre of the table in the study. Jim's next task was to open the box. Try as he would, he could discover no keyhole, so it seemed clear that a spring of some sort would have to be found.

There were numerous decorations carved on the top and on the sides: grinning faces, baskets of fruit, sheaves of corn, any of which when pressed, might cause a panel to slide or a lid to spring open. There were many failures before Jim's searching fingers finally discovered the correct spot. As he pressed the most beautiful carving of a lotus flower the box opened and revealed its secret. There lay the roll of parchment he had been looking for. He hoped it was the treasure map, the clue to the vast hoard that was hidden somewhere in the castle.

**Put a circle round the right answer for each question**

**1. What was Jim determined to do at Claremont castle?**

- Discover a map that might lead to treasure
- To find out about the battles long ago
- Dig up a treasure box

**2. Why do you think the king in the ancient story buried his treasure?**

- He didn't know what to do with it
- He didn't want Jim to find it
- He wanted to keep it safe from his enemies

**3. When Jim read the story about the king burying his treasure he felt:**

- scared but excited
- inquisitive and determined
- brave and strong

**4. Why did Jim feel he needed to take great care with the box?**

- It was covered in beautiful decorations and colourful carvings
- He hoped it would contain a map to show him where the treasure was.
- He couldn't find a keyhole

**5. In the story it says 'there were numerous decorations carved on the top and the sides'.**

**Does this mean?**

- The box was old and fascinating.
- The box was painted in bright colours on the top and sides
- There were intricate patterns chiselled into the wood.