



St John's School  
LEATHERHEAD

NAME:.....

SCHOOL:.....

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

### Assessment (Sample Material)

Time allowed – 50 minutes

### Section A: Reading: 30 minutes

*Read the sentences that follow and underline the correct word from among those shown in brackets to complete the sentence correctly.*

*Example:*

**The ..... barked at the cat (lady, chair, dog, key, cattle)**

*You have 30 minutes to complete as many sentences as you can. If you are unsure of the answer, leave the sentence unmarked and move on to the next one.*

1. The.....went to play football (story, leg, toy, boy, grass)
2. The ..... was laid for supper (table, clothes, fable, soup, leg)
3. The horses were standing in a ..... (cow, field, sky, middle, sink)
4. Mother brought the tea in on a ..... (book, stand, tray, white, laid)
5. Please tell me a ..... at bedtime (black, tail, pony, story, chill)
6. We all ..... at the clown (stood, clever, jumped laughed, ought)
7. I was ..... about my last holiday (thinking, drinking, standing, sadly, down)
8. .... is a colour I like (read, purple, fire, small, shiny)
9. The dog ate its dinner ..... (likely, wagging, jumped, wish, greedily)
10. I had to run ..... to win the race (glance, small, fast, jump, last)
11. We found a large ..... of jewellery lying in the road (huge, street, quantity, shape, mess)
12. We will make an ..... to meet up later (arrangement, trip, talked, appointment, station)
13. The ..... of the meeting was to choose a leader (small, purpose, forget, difficult, slander)
14. The railway ..... was empty (living, bedroom, shoulder, printing, carriage)
15. His leg was ..... broken in the fall from the cliff (damage, cleanly, danger, severely, places)
16. In the Science ..... we had to carry out an experiment (change, laughing, crimson, create, practical)
17. I gained a ..... badge for some good work (excellent, merit, timer, smaller, sensible)
18. I was given a £500 ..... for getting the contract (bonus, river, dangerous, cookery, yellow)
19. The twins were ..... and could not be told apart (small, playing, identical, unhelpful, sad, problem)

20. We worked in .....rooms so that we would not be tempted to talk (large, lounge, separate, definite, twentieth)
21. A metre is a ..... of measurement (unfit, ruler, unit, colour, starry)
22. My ..... watch has broken (digital, small, time, straight, dressed)
23. We use a ..... to look up word meanings (date, serious, shepherd, false, dictionary)
24. A circle is a ..... shape (rounded, triangle, breakfast, similar twelve)
25. Be ..... when crossing busy roads ( smaller, creeping, familiar, silly, cautious)
26. He is an ..... fellow and always laughing (amiable, unpleasant, stiff, angry, frozen)
27. I like ..... coffee, without a bitter taste (shoulder, yellow, station, strange, mellow)
28. The monster had a very ..... expression (quieten, frightening, guard, slightly, ghost)
29. I have not been doing my homework ..... (lately, fierce, suggest, burning, soon)
30. He was most ..... when he was late for the lesson (smiling, sullen, shuddered, grief, apologetic)
31. The criminal was told to always be polite and not ..... the police. (frighten, temper, antagonise, direction, grovel)
32. After all that walking I am feeling very ..... (weary, mountain, slowly, presume, matching)
33. To ..... means to think, or meditate (briefly, singing, contemplate, gorgeous, tiredness)
34. 'You are so very clever', he said with an ..... smile (hardly, genius, bothersome, grinning, ironic)
35. I was ..... when I passed all my exams (sorrowful, meanwhile, ecstatic, loathing, quieted)
36. I find Maths ..... really difficult (triangular, equations, equator, scorching, bootleg)
37. Germany became a ..... country in 1872 (enormous, warlike, uniform, unified, territory)

38. I tried to ..... around the final bend during the race  
(speeding, accelerate, kindness stale, citizen)
39. I felt the pain when I trod on a .....of glass (childish, metallic, dreadful, sliver, charming)
40. What a .....meeting you like this! ( surprising, matching, coincidence, brutish, worldly)
41. The plane ..... when it hit the ground (disintegrated, orchestrate, spinning, crashing, disappoint)
42. The sad music made us feel very..... (happiness, startled, groundless, melancholy, colourful)
43. The whistle ..... the end of the match (finished, troublesome, pointless, signified, phantom)
44. Many ..... of ape are on the point of becoming extinct (special, mystified, lighthouse, jovial, species)
45. The pain form my broken leg was.....(interesting, intolerable, happiness, efficient, kinetic)
46. A judge is not allowed to take sides, he must be ..... (legitimate, secure, impartial, trivial, splendour)
47. Driving in an open-top car can be..... (boring, troublesome, exhilarating, trembling, scared)
48. We are a ..... country and everyone is allowed to vote (disinterested, available, guided, democratic, communism)
49. 'It is ..... to struggle', said the guard to his prisoner (futile, silliness, promised, boundless, bribery)
50. The .....professor never changed his clothes (happiness, academic, eccentric, appealing, sought)
51. Some ..... soldiers were fighting as guerrillas in the desert (badly, regiment, renegade, armies, proudly)
52. The first .....bomb helped to win the Second World War (atomic, secondly, detonate, destruction, blatant)
53. The roads in Birmingham .....out from the centre (parallel, boundary, radiate, stretching, curling)
54. I have ..... a lot of expense on our holiday to Barbados. (incurred, embarrassed, wanted, seemingly, pointed)
55. The Prime Minister is very .....and does not consult his ministers (rudeness, helpful, autocratic, challenging, piquant)

56. The scandal was caused through ..... gossip by some people in the town. (insipid, malicious, tedious, stringy, malpractice)
57. The ..... child was very clever for his age (kindness, handsome, precocious, phantasm, choked)
58. I could not tell even my most ..... friends about the problem ( deadly, anaemic, heinous, intimate, ungodly)
59. The ..... murdered anyone who stood in his way (priesthood, tyrant, malicious, belligerent, positive)
60. The pulling down of The Berlin Wall was partly a ..... gesture (treason, communist, symbolic, triumph, cowardice)
61. It was wonderful to hear the whole orchestra paying in .....( discord, harmony, flautist, boundaries, gorgeous)
62. I was very ..... by my performance in the test, as I had worked so hard. (disheartened, captivated, solidarity, personable, autocrat)
63. The earthquake was ..... for the whole region (challenging, annotate, catastrophic, gigantic, splendid)
64. I need some .....help with all this paperwork ( secretarial, special, mollify, gregarious, fecund)
65. Your ..... manner is making people uncomfortable ( friendly, miserable, effective, haughty, forestry)
66. The railway ..... at Waterloo station (agitate, travelling, terminates, extraordinary, delegate)
67. My remarks were taken out of ..... and have been misunderstood ( friendliness, business, greatly, heartfelt, context)
68. The thieves were taken before the .....and received a heavy prison sentence (magician, troublesome, celebrity, magistrates, clerk)
69. The committee wanted complete ..... rather than being ordered about by the director (suggestible, behavioural, society, autonomy, beneficial)
70. The five bishops were convicted of ..... and sentenced to burn at the stake ( enchantment, catholic, energetic, physique, heresy)

71. My Hoover is very.....and I can't buy any spare parts  
(untidy, antiquated, journal, secrecy, liberal)
72. I heard a .....sound coming from the music room where  
the quartet were playing ( strained, uncertain, secondary,  
mellifluous, hybrid)
73. Today governments try to make forests ....., by planting  
more trees than they chop down ( extinct, revolutionary,  
sustainable, production, termination)
74. My finances are in a ..... state, and I need to talk to my  
accountant about saving money (parlous, seriously,  
understandable, directory, suggestible)
75. Your .....is so poor that I cannot understand what you say  
(dressage, behaviour, laudanum, helix, contemporary, diction)
76. Whether God exists is an interesting ..... question  
(religion, philosophical, simian, legitimately, lugubrious)
77. It is the ..... of celebrities to arrive late for appointments  
(symbol, chance, prerogative, trend, affluence)
78. After twenty days without food, the castaway looked very  
..... (happiness, hopeless, gaunt, tribal, forsook)
79. The clerk consulted an ..... Latin law book to find the  
answer which the solicitor asked for ( archangel, archaic,  
archaeology, specious, spurious)
80. Your ..... schemes for the house are going to be too  
expensive (grandiose, intelligent, parsimonious, understated,  
specific)

**Section B – Writing: 20 minutes**

*You have 20 minutes to complete this section. You will be marked on the quality of your writing, including the accuracy of spelling, grammar and punctuation.*

1. A friend of yours is about to move into your area and is thinking of joining your school. Write a letter to your friend explaining what you think is good or bad about your school, to help with this decision.