

**End of Primary Benchmark
2016**

English Reading Comprehension

**30 marks
50 minutes**

Read the following schedule carefully and answer the questions below.

Mid-day Break Activities

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Gardening	Basketball	Tennis	Board Games	Cookery
Drama	Dance	Craft	Science Club	Gymnastics
Hockey	Table Tennis	Choir Practice	Athletics	Reading Club

1. Underline the correct answer.

3 marks

- (a) Daniel plays basketball on (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday).
- (b) Maria needs to take the ingredients for cookery with her to school on (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday).
- (c) Karl needs to take his hockey stick with him to school on (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday).
- (d) Jake and Nicole play table tennis every (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday).
- (e) Vicky enjoys playing board games with her friends every (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday).
- (f) Mia must remember to take her reading book to school on (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday).

Read the following timetable carefully and answer the questions below.

Sports Day Activities

8.30 – 09.00	All Year Groups	Opening Ceremony		
9.00 – 09.30	Year 1	Potato Race	Year 2	Potato Race
9.30 – 10.00	Year 2	Sack Race	Year 3	100-metre Race
10.00 – 10.30	Year 3	Relay Race	Year 1	Sack Race
10.30 – 11.00	All Year Groups	Mid-morning break		
11.00 – 11.30	Year 4	100-metre Race	Year 5	200-metre Race
11.30 – 12.00	Year 5	High Jump	Year 6	Long Jump
12.00 – 12.30	Year 6	200-metre Race	Year 4	High Jump
12.30 – 13.15	All Year Groups	Mid-day break		
13.15 – 14.00	All Year Groups	Closing Ceremony		

2. True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG)

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

- (a) The Opening Ceremony starts at 8.30.
- (b) The school choir will sing during the Opening Ceremony.
- (c) Year 3 students will take part in the potato race.
- (d) Mid-morning break is between 10.00 and 10.30.
- (e) Year 6 students will run the 200-metre race at 12.00.
- (f) The Closing Ceremony will be held in the hall.

T	F	NIG

Read the following text which is divided into two sections. Then, answer the questions that follow each section.

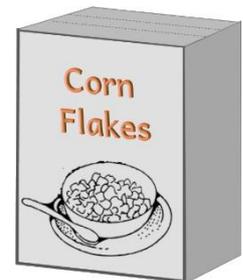
Section 1

Mark ran across the fields to Miss Pride's shop at Sticks Corner and asked if she had any cornflakes.

'Oh, I don't think I have any left, dear,' Miss Pride said. 'I'll have a look ... I think I sold the last packet a week ago Tuesday.'

'What about the one in the window?' asked Mark.

'That's a dummy packet, dear,' replied Miss Pride.



Miss Pride's shop-window was full of nasty old cardboard cartons with nothing inside them, and several empty display stands which had fallen down and never been propped up again. Inside the shop were a few small, tired-looking tins and jars, which had a **worn** and scratched appearance as if mice had tried them and given up. Miss Pride herself was small and pale, with yellowish grey hair; she searched rather **hopelessly** in a pile of empty boxes. Mrs Armitage, Mark's mother, never bought any groceries from Miss Pride if she could help it, since the day when she had found a label saying 'This cheese should be eaten before 11th May 1899.'

'No cornflakes, I'm afraid, dear,' said Miss Pride.

'Any Wheat Crispies? Puffed Corn? Rice Nuts?' asked Mark.

'No, dear. Nothing left, only Brekkfast Brikks,' replied Miss Pride.

'Never heard of *them*,' said Mark doubtfully.



'Or I've a jar of Ovo here. You spread it on bread. That's nice for breakfast,' said Miss Pride with a sudden burst of salesmanship.

Mark thought it looked beastly, like yellow paint; so he took the packet of Brekkfast Brikks. At least it wasn't very big. On the front of the box was a picture of a boy banging on the plate with his spoon.

Questions on Section 1

(9 marks)

1. Why did Mark go to the shop?

1 mark

2. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

(a) ‘... had a **worn** and scratched appearance ...’

The word **worn** in this sentence means the same as (used, clothed, ugly).

(b) ‘she searched rather **hopelessly** in a pile of empty boxes’

This means that Miss Pride was (brilliant, good, poor) at what she was doing.

3. Write down **TWO** food items that Mark could buy from Miss Pride’s shop.

(a) _____

(b) _____

1 mark

4. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

(a) Miss Pride (managed, tried, didn’t try) to sell a jar of Ovo to Mark.

(b) It was the (first, second, third) time Mark had bought Brekkfast Brikks.

5. True (T), False (F), No Information Given (NIG).

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) Mark walked to the shop slowly.			
(b) Miss Pride’s shop looked old and untidy.			
(c) Mrs Armitage always bought her groceries from Miss Pride’s shop.			
(d) Miss Pride’s shop stayed open late.			
(e) There was only one kind of cereal for sale in Miss Pride’s shop.			
(f) Mark felt happy about buying Brekkfast Brikks.			

6. Why do you think Miss Pride kept a dummy packet in the shop window?

2 marks

Section 2

‘They look like tiny doormats,’ said Mrs Armitage, as Mark **shovelled** some Brikks into his bowl.

‘They taste like them too. Gosh,’ said Mark, ‘I must hurry or I’ll be late for school. There’s a rather nice little cut-out garden on the back of the packet, though; don’t throw it away when it’s empty. Goodbye,’ he shouted through the door.



At breakfast the next morning, Mark had a huge helping of Brekkfast Brikks and persuaded his father to try them.

‘They taste just like grass,’ complained Mr Armitage.

‘Yes, I know, but do take some more, Daddy. I want to cut out the model garden, it’s so lovely,’ added Mark.

‘Rather pleasant, I must say. It looks like a very old German painting,’ his father agreed. ‘It certainly was a stroke of genius putting it on the packet. No one would ever buy these things to eat for pleasure. Pass me the sugar, please. And the cream.’



It was the mid-term break; so after breakfast Mark was able to take the empty packet away to the playroom and get on with the job of cutting out the stone walls, the row of little trees, the fountain, the two green lawns, and the tiny clumps of brilliant flowers. He knew better than to ‘stick tabs in slots and secure with glue’ as the directions suggested; he had made models of packets before and knew they always fell to pieces unless they were firmly bound together with transparent sticky tape.

It was a long, messy, pleasurable job.

Nobody interrupted him. Mrs Armitage only cleared the playroom once every six months or so, when she made a ferocious descent on it and tidied up roller-skates and dismantled railway-engines, threw away countless old magazines, stringless tennis rackets, abandoned paintings, and unsuccessful models. There were always bitter complaints from Mark; then he forgot and things piled up again till next time.

(Adapted from *The Serial Garden* by Joan Aiken)

Questions on Section 2

(11 marks)

7. What does Mrs Armitage compare the Brikks to? 1 mark

8. ‘... Mark **shovelled** some Brikks into his bowl.’

Write **a phrase** which means the same as **shovelled**. 1 mark

9. Why did Mark have a huge helping of cereal at breakfast that morning? 1 mark

10. Why did Mark’s father think that putting the picture on the back of the cereal packet was a great idea? 1 mark

11. How can we tell that Mr Armitage tried to make the cereal taste better? 1 mark

12. What **TWO** things did Mark have to do in order to make the model? 1 mark

(a) _____

(b) _____

13. What had Mark learnt from making models before? 1 mark

14. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark

Mrs Armitage cleared the playroom around (once a week, once a month, twice a year).

15. True (T), False (F), or No Information Given (NIG).

Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

3 marks

	T	F	NIG
(a) Mark finished off all the cereal in one day.			
(b) Mark encouraged his father to eat some cereal.			
(c) Mr Armitage compares the model garden to a modern painting.			
(d) Mark made the model on a school holiday.			
(e) It took Mark six hours to make the model garden.			
(f) Mr Armitage entered the playroom while Mark was making the model garden.			

Questions on the two sections

(4 marks)

16. Underline the correct answer.

(a) Miss Pride's shop put (up with, off, down) its customers.

(b) Mark's mother tidied up the playroom (slowly, thoroughly, carelessly).

17. Underline the correct answer. Then complete the sentence.

This passage is taken from a (story, history, gardening) book.

I can tell because _____

END OF READING COMPREHENSION PAPER