

**End of Primary Benchmark  
2019  
Second Session**

**English Reading Comprehension**

**30 marks  
50 minutes**

Read this poster carefully and answer the questions on the opposite page.



# Annual Summer School Fair

Come along for a great family day out!

Saturday 22nd June 2019  
Sunday 23rd June 2019  
10:00am - 4:00pm

For more information visit our website:  
[www.ourschool.com/activities/schoolfair/june](http://www.ourschool.com/activities/schoolfair/june)

**Main Entrance on West Street**

<p><b>Attractions</b> Beat the goalie Soak the teacher Plant and name a sunflower Hair-braiding</p>	<p><b>Entrance Fee</b> €2 + Free Parking Included Children under 12 Free</p>	<p><b>Buy</b> Handmade clothes Second-hand sports equipment</p>
---	--	---

**Raffle at 3:30am**  
**Prizes**  
Tablet  
€100 shopping voucher  
Luxury Beauty Hamper

Proceeds go to the school gym



1. **Underline the correct word or phrase.**

**3 marks**

- a) You can visit the fair (at the weekend, on a weekday, all week).
- b) The school fair is open until (Saturday morning, Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon).
- c) (Gardening, Sewing, Gymnastics) is among the attractions at the fair.
- d) (Some, All, None) of the prizes include sport equipment.
- e) You can have your hair (cut, dyed, plaited) at the fair.
- f) The aim of the poster is to (teach, persuade, entertain) readers.

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

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

**3 marks**

	T	F	NIG
a) There is more than one entrance to the school.			
b) Parking is available at no extra cost.			
c) At the fair you can only buy clothes.			
d) You can buy entrance tickets online.			
e) The money raised at the fair will help the school gym.			
f) Used sports equipment will be given away for free at the fair.			

Questions on Section 1

(9 marks)

Read Section 1 of the text printed on a separate sheet. Then answer the following questions.

1. What are the English well known for? 1 mark

---



---

2. Underline the correct answer. ½ mark

In the past, only rich people could afford to buy (meats, sweets, sandwiches).

3. Underline the correct answer. ½ mark

“...which cost a pretty penny”

The phrase **pretty penny** means (expensive, cheap, attractive).

4. How often did Queen Victoria receive sweet treats? 1 mark

---

5. Tick (✓) the **THREE** correct facts about the Victoria sandwich recipe as you have read them in the text.

Do not tick more than **THREE**.

**3 marks**

Cover the top of the cake with a layer of cream.	
Add eggs to the dry ingredients.	
Dust the top with icing sugar.	
Bake in a very hot oven.	
Add another cup of sugar to the mixture.	
Sandwich the layers together with jam and cream.	

6. True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG). Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct box.

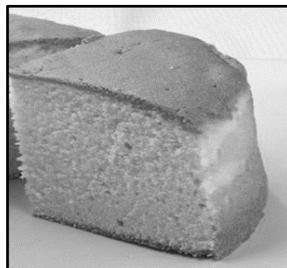
2 marks

	T	F	NIG
a) <i>The Great British Bake Off</i> is the most viewed television programme in Britain.			
b) Queen Victoria had a weakness for sweets.			
c) The recipe for the Victoria sponge cake contains mostly flour and eggs.			
d) Bakers liked adding cream to the Victoria sponge cake.			

7. Tick (✓) the picture that best describes the way Queen Victoria preferred the sponge cake.

1 mark







Questions on Section 2

(11 marks)

Read Section 2 of the text printed on a separate sheet. Then answer the following questions.

8. a) Why was the Duchess of Bedford unhappy in the afternoon? **1 mark**

---

---

b) How did the Duchess of Bedford solve her problem? **1 mark**

---

---

9. **Underline the correct answer.** **½ mark**

The Duchess of Bedford and Queen Victoria were (cousins, friends, sisters).

10. Tick (✓) the correct answer. **1 mark**

The tables were decorated with

- flowers and candles.
- flowers and fruit bowls.
- fruit and jugs of milk.

11. How did the afternoon tea tradition become part of British culture? **1 mark**

---

---

12. Mention the **TWO** rooms where the Duchess of Bedford used to have tea. **1 mark**

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

13. From **paragraph 8**, find a phrase of **THREE** words which means **helped**.

1 mark

---

14. How can you tell that people enjoyed their slice of sponge cake?

1 mark

---

---

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

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

2 marks

	T	F	NIG
a) In the 1830s people were already having afternoon tea.			
b) The Duchess of Bedford first had afternoon tea with her friends.			
c) Guests at tea parties are offered both sweet and savoury food.			
d) The tea parties at the Queen's Palace are held three times a year.			

16. Find a **word** in **paragraph 8** that means the opposite of 'publicly'.

½ mark

---

17. Mention **TWO** things from **paragraph 8** which show that the Queen's tea party is a stylish event.

1 mark

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

Questions on the two sections.

(4 marks)

18. Underline the correct answer.

a) Who would be most interested in reading this text?

1 mark

- i. A baker preparing for *The Great British Bake Off*.
- ii. An organiser planning a party.
- iii. A tourist visiting a British tea room.

b) Choose the best title for this text.

1 mark

- i. The British Recipe Tradition
- ii. The British Tea Tradition
- iii. British Traditions

19. Tick (✓) the TWO correct facts based on what you have read.

Do not tick more than TWO.

2 marks

a) Both Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth have a sponge cake named after them.	
b) Queen Victoria was the first British queen to attend tea parties.	
c) Guests at tea parties nibbled the sweets and cakes.	
d) The traditional sponge cake is a firm, heavy cake cut into slices to serve as sandwiches.	
e) Anna Russell invited Queen Elizabeth to her tea parties.	
f) Tea parties are still held at Buckingham palace today.	

**END OF READING COMPREHENSION PAPER**