



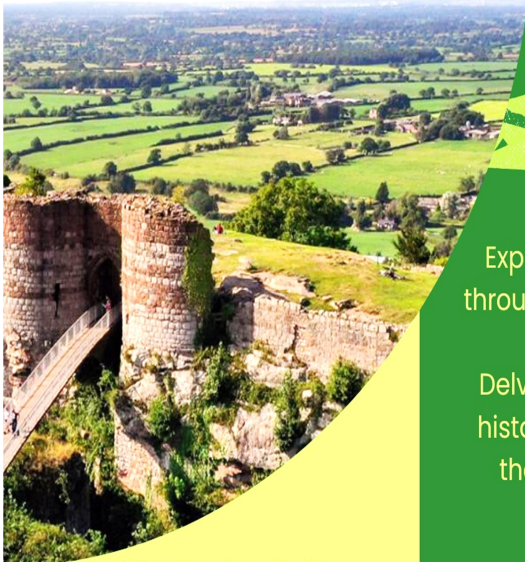
Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2024

YEAR 8

ENGLISH SOURCE BOOKLET

In this booklet, you will find the texts which you need to read to be able to answer the reading comprehension and literature questions in the Main Paper.

SOURCE A



WELCOME TO BEESTON CASTLE AND WOODLAND PARK

Standing majestically on a sheer rocky crag, Beeston offers perhaps the most stunning views of any castle in England as well as fantastic woodland walks.



Explore 40 acres of trails through the woodland park.

Delve into the 4,000-year history behind Beeston at the Castle of the Rock exhibition.

Explore the abundance of wildlife, which the castle and woodland park is home to.

Discover the 100-metre well, a legendary hiding place for Richard II's treasures.



FACILITIES

- 1 Pet friendly
- 2 Picnic area
- 3 Parking available at a fee
- 4 Restrooms available

SUBHEADING A

1 Apr–30 Sept	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
1 Oct–31 Mar	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
1 Dec – 31 Dec	CLOSED

SUBHEADING B

Adult	£5.30
Senior 65+	FREE
Child (5–12)	£4.50
Child under 5	FREE

Group discounts available

SUBHEADING C

CHAPEL LANE BEESTON
CHESHIRE CW6 9TX
11 MILES SOUTH EAST OF CHESTER
ON MINOR ROAD OFF A49 OR A41

Malta, where sun, sea and history meet

FROM €499

WHEN 30th June -
6th July

VISITING Valletta, Mdina,
Cottonera,
Marsaxlokk, Gozo

PRICE

- * Flight to Malta including 25kg luggage
- * 5 nights in 4-star Grand Plaza Hotel in Sliema
- * Rooms with private facilities & TV
- * Service of tour leader



PRICE PER PERSON

Adult in twin	€519
Adult in single	€499
Child sharing with 2 adults	€329

EXCURSIONS	ADULT	CHILD
Valletta	€35	€20
Mdina	€45	€20
Cospicua	€35	€20
Marsaxlokk	€35	€20
Gozo	€60	€20
Village Feast	€35	€15

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

City tax of €20 per person per night is to be paid directly at the hotel.



Welcome to the Mediterranean island of Malta! Discover its rich history from ancient temples to stunning architecture.

Day 1- Exploring the capital city built by the Knights (Half Day)

Your tour starts with a guided tour through the streets of Valletta. Discover the beauty of the city built by the Knights in 1566. We will first enjoy a fantastic view of the Grand Harbour. Then, we will visit St. John's Co-Cathedral and walk on one of the most beautiful marble floors in the world whilst admiring the Caravaggio masterpiece in the Oratory, which is not to be missed. Going down Republic Street, you will walk past the Grand Masters' Palace and the recently restored St. George's Square. There, we will watch a re-enactment that will bring Malta's history back to life. For a late lunch, which is included in the price, we will visit a restaurant for a typical Maltese meal.

5

Day 2 – Visiting the medieval city of Mdina (Full Day)

Today's excursion takes you to the medieval city of Mdina. The narrow, winding streets will lead you to the huge bastions. From here you can see a magnificent view of the island; no wonder it is often used as a film set! You can also admire the palaces and other historical buildings in the vicinity. Later, we will visit the Mdina dungeons, the Cathedral Museum and Palazzo Falson. Known also as the "silent city", Mdina is a true gem, offering a unique blend of history, culture and architecture. We will leave Mdina through the Greek's Gate and head to our final destination for the day, Rabat's catacombs.

Day 3 – The historic three cities tour (Half Day)

Today we will explore the area known as the three cities. We will first go to the quaint walled city of Cospicua and there we will have a walking tour through the cobbled streets. At the waterfront, we will take a harbour boat for a tour of the harbour creeks. From Senglea Garden, ideal for some memorable photos, there is a stunning 360° view, including the impressive Fort St Angelo.

Day 4 – Discovering Blue Grotto and Marsaxlokk (Half Day)

Sleep in and enjoy a wholesome breakfast. Our tour starting at 11 a.m. will take us to the Blue Grotto with its series of caves. Weather permitting, we will take a 20-minute boat trip. This is the best way to experience the true beauty of the area, and the massive main arch, which is about 30 metres in height. Next is Marsaxlokk, only a stone's throw away. This picturesque, fishing village is popular for its colourful fishing boats. You can walk

along the promenade and if you wish, grab an ice cream or enjoy a delicious meal of fresh fish at one of the restaurants that line the seafront.

Day 5 - Off to the island of Gozo (Full Day)

Today we will take the ferry and visit the island of Gozo. Only 25 minutes away by ferry, Gozo is greener than Malta and has beautiful rolling hills. During this excursion, we will visit the old and former capital city of the island, the Citadel, and the megalithic Ġgantija temples. There will be free time for shopping in the afternoon, and if you want a special souvenir, we highly recommend the famous Gozitan handmade lace. Later, we will go down the winding road to Dwejra - the perfect place to watch the sun set.

Day 6 - Village feast and fireworks (Half Day)

On this night tour, we will visit a village feast. This is an opportunity to meet and mix with the locals and become part of the celebration. A fireworks display will be the highlight of your holiday.

Day 7 - Departure

Straight after breakfast, you will head to the airport for your flight, which leaves at around 1 p.m.



SOURCE C: UNSEEN TEXT

Sarah and Tim live next door to Dr Crumbleton, a mysterious scientist who has a fully-equipped lab in his basement. He was known to be testing an invisible potion.

Tim: *[Whispering]* I'll pour a little into this flask, and we'll split it between us. Imagine all the pranks we would pull!

5 *[Sarah nods in agreement, as Tim carefully fills a flask with the mysterious potion, while Dr. Crumbleton, an old scientist, with receding hair and with a moustache, is unaware of their presence.]*

10 *[Whispering]* Ready, Sarah? On the count of three, we gulp it down! *[They both guzzled the liquid in the flask. There was a sound like a swarm of buzzing bumblebees having a dance party. Suddenly, they freeze and look at each other puzzled.]*

[Whispering] Uh, Sarah, I don't feel any different. Do you?

Sarah: Nope, not at all. Maybe we did something wrong. Perhaps we needed to say some magic words!

15 *[They exchange disappointed glances just as Dr. Crumbleton turns around, spotting them.]*

Dr. Crumbleton: *[Shocked]* Oh, my! What are you two doing here?

Tim: Uh, Dr. Crumbleton, we were just, um ...

Sarah: We were curious about your Invisi-Brew, Sir. We thought it would be fun to try.

20 Dr. Crumbleton: Ah, the Invisi-Brew! You see, my young friends, there was a slight miscalculation in the formula. Instead of turning you invisible, it turns you into ... crumbly statues!

Tim: *[Wide-eyed]* Crumbly statues? You mean we're stuck like fragile porcelain dolls?

25 Sarah: This wasn't part of the plan!

Dr. Crumbleton: I'm terribly sorry but you were never meant to do this. It's like talking to a brick wall. Let me find the antidote before it starts to work. It should reverse the effects. *[Dr. Crumbleton rummages through his shelves, searching for the correct potion.]*

30 Tim: *[Whispering to Sarah]* I can't believe we were about to turn
 ourselves into crumbly statues! We'd be as brittle as a
 gingerbread house in a hurricane!

 Sarah: Well, at least we'll have an interesting story to tell.

35 Dr. Crumbleton: *[Dr. Crumbleton returns, holding a vibrant vial.]*
 I believe this is the antidote! Prepare yourselves. *[Tim and*
 Sarah take a deep breath as Dr. Crumbleton pours the antidote
 over them. They step back, covering their ears as the laboratory
 seems to go haywire with flashes of light, spewing sparks and
 sizzling sounds. Tim and Sarah reappear shaken but relieved.]

40 Tim: Today was definitely a rollercoaster of emotions! We've learnt
 our lesson!

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