SOLIHULL JUNIOR SCHOOL

8+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

SAMPLE PAPER 1

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SAMPLE PAPER

Time: 1 hour

The paper is divided into **TWO** sections, **SECTION A** and **SECTION B**. Answer each section on **SEPARATE** sheets of paper.

Read the passage carefully.

Please write your answers clearly in sentences. Try to use correct spelling, punctuation and neat writing.

SECTION A **(20 marks)**

COMPREHENSION

"Well I never! Did you ever?" said Farmer Tubbs.

He was leaning on the wall of the pigsty, looking down at a sow and her litter of piglets. The sow was asleep, lying on her side, and six of her seven piglets slept also, their heads pillowed on their mother's belly. But the seventh piglet was wide awake, and stood directly blow the farmer, ears cocked, staring up at the man with bright eyes that had in them a look of great intelligence.

"I've never seen one like you before," said Farmer Tubbs. "Matter of fact, I don't suppose there's ever been one like you, eh?"

In reply the pig gave a single grunt. Farmer Tubbs wasn't a fanciful man, but he did, just for a moment, fancy that the grunt sounded more like a 'No' than an 'Oink.' He half expected the piglet to shake its head.

Up till that time he had not noticed anything out of the ordinary about this litter. But what was now catching his attention was the seventh piglet's strange marking, clearly to be seen once he was standing apart from his brothers and sisters. On his left side there was an oddly-shaped black spot. It stood out clearly against the white background and it was almost exactly the shape of the symbol that stands for a club in a pack of playing cards.

"Will you look at that, said Farmer Tubbs. "It's a club, a single one. And a card with a single marking is called an ace, did you know that?"

In answer the piglet gave two quick grunts. Somehow they sounded different from the 'No' grunt, sharp, impatient, almost like "Yes! Yes!"

"Fancy!" said Farmer Tubbs. "I wonder you never nodded at me." He scratched with the point of his stick at the black marking on the piglet's side. "Your name is written on you. The Ace of Clubs, that's who you'll be."

For some while longer the farmer stood leaning on the pigsty wall, chatting to the piglet. Farmer Tubbs enjoyed a nice chat, and since he lived alone and saw few other people, he spent a good deal of time talking either to himself or to his animals.

"I'll tell you a funny thing, young Ace of Clubs. Are you listening?"

The piglet grunted twice.

"Farmer Hoggett once had a pig, a huge, old, white boar, and that boar could round up sheep, just like a dog. You wouldn't never think that were possible, would you?"

The piglet grunted once.

Farmer Tubbs' fat red face creased into a great smile and he shook his head and tapped his forehead with one finger.

"You're daft Ted Tubbs, you are!" he cried. "Who ever heard of a pig that could understand the Queen's English? Can you imagine such a thing Ace, can you?"

The piglet grunted twice.

Answer the following questions in full sentences.

1. How many piglets were in the pigsty? (1)

_____

2. What were most of the piglets doing? (1)

_____

3. What strange marking did the special piglet have? (2)

_____

_____

4. What name did Farmer Tubbs give to this special piglet? (2)

_____

_____

5. Why was the special piglet given this name? (2)

_____

_____

6. How do you know that Farmer Tubbs was lonely? (3)

_____

_____

7. How did the piglet answer "Yes"? (2)

_____

_____

8. What was special about Farmer Hoggett's old white boar? (2)

_____

_____

9. Why did Farmer Tubbs tap his forehead with his finger? (2)

_____

_____

10. What do you think Farmer Tubbs will do next to see if the piglet really does understand what he is saying? (3)

_____

_____

_____

SECTION B **(25 marks)**

STORY

Imagine you are given a new pet and you find out it can understand everything you say.

Write a story about an adventure or special day you have with your unusual pet.

Try to make your story as interesting and exciting as you can.

Try to write at least a page, remembering to use lots of 'wow' words, correct punctuation and neat handwriting.