

The King's (The Cathedral) School

English Paper **SAMPLE PAPER** - 35 questions | 35 minutes

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

Write your full name here;

- There are two passages of English on a separate sheet - line numbers are shown on the left of each passage.
- Read the passages, then answer the questions - for every question there are **four** answers to choose from; A, B, C or D.
- choose the answer that you think is better than the others, and colour in the circle of the appropriate letter **on the answer sheet** - here is an example;

In this question, you must find the missing number shown by #

7 9 # 13

Which of the following is the missing number ?

A	B	C	D
7	5	17	11

If you think 11 is the correct answer, you should colour in D on the answer sheet, as shown below;

A B C D

If you wish to change your answer, put a large cross through your first answer, and fill out your new answer;

A B C D

- When you are told to begin the test, answer the questions as quickly and carefully as you can
- Start at the beginning, and work your way through - you may do any rough work on your **question paper**.
- If you try a question, and find you cannot answer it, leave it and go on to the next question.
- Ask a teacher if you need another pencil.
- you **must not** speak to anyone else except for a teacher.

Turn over

Timur the Great Lame Man

'Everything I have heard about the beauty of Samarkand is correct, but actually it is more beautiful than I had imagined.'

These are the words of Alexander the Great when first he saw this ancient capital of Asia on his march to India in the fourth century before Christ.

Samarkand is in Central Asia, is over 2,500 years old, and has been called '*the gem of the world*', '*the shining point of the globe*', and '*the city of famous shadows*'. It has seen many conquerors like Alexander because of its beauty and its position on the Silk Road. This road was 8,000 miles long and ran from Spain to China. It was used by vast caravans
10 to bring back silk and spices from China in return for silver and gold.

One of the most terrible of Samarkand's conquerors was *Tamerlane* or *Timur the Great Lame Man* (1370-1405). He was a Turkish warlord who gathered men from all over Asia into one vast army with which he sacked most of Asia's cities and towns. He chose Samarkand as his capital and brought in artists and workmen who were given the job of making it the most beautiful city in the world.

Fabulous treasures were taken to the city and magnificent palaces, mosques and tombs were built. One of the great surviving buildings of Timur's reign is the majestic Gur-Emir Mausoleum. Timur built it as a tomb for his grandson the Mukhammed-Sultan, who died on a march to Turkey in 1403. The blue fluted dome of the tomb gleams amid the
20 trees. Its walls are decorated with mosaics in different shades of blue, and the entrance is painted in white, green, blue, yellow, black and gold. The inside of the dome rivals the outside in its beauty and blue colour scheme. Beneath it lie the tombs of Timur, his sons and grandsons. Timur's skeleton rests under a great slab of dark-green jade behind a marble railing.

The graves of Timur and his family were untouched for over five hundred years until, in 1941, they were looked at by scientists. According to legend Timur was called the '*great lame man*', and the watchers waited to see if the legend was true. When the last shovel of earth was removed from the grave a wooden coffin could be seen. It was in
30 good condition even though the nails had rusted away. When the boards of the lid were lifted the skeleton of Timur was revealed for the first time and everyone crowded forward. There were no weapons or armour of any kind in the coffin. All eyes were now on the skeleton, quickly checking the bones of each leg. Sure enough, one leg was shorter than the other. Timur had really been lame and the ancient manuscripts had spoken the truth.

Timur's favourite wife, *Bibi-Khanym*, was not buried with her husband. For her Timur had built what was then the largest mosque in the Islamic world. Of it was said that '*its dome would have been the only one in the universe, had not the sky been its replica, and its arch would have been unique had not the Milky Way been its*
40 *match*'. Unfortunately, the mosque was almost completely destroyed by an earthquake several centuries ago, but the majestic ruins that still rise above the city like golden rocks manage to give a hint of its former glory.

It seems that the artists and workmen brought to Samarkand by Timur were fascinated by the vivid blueness of its sky. They took the colour and repeated it in every building so that it shines on the tall stems of the minarets and on the huge domes of the mosques. These unknown workmen created a rhapsody in blue which the world has admired for the last five hundred years.

Reginald Hutchinson

We are indebted to Longman Group (UK) Ltd for permission to reproduce this passage which is from Longman English 2 by R B Heath & T M McSweeney

TURN OVER FOR PASSAGE 2

A Greek Story

This story was part of an advertisement for Greek holidays

Clive and his wife were driving in southern Crete, trying to find their way to a particular mountain village. Hopelessly lost, they stopped and asked a Cretan the way. Typically he spoke some English.

'Straight up the road,' he said. 'It is a bad road but you can make it.' They drove along the road for a few miles until they found the way blocked by a mountain of gravel. An old man standing on the gravel made circular motions with his hand, and Clive switched off the engine. The old man then leaped into a bulldozer and proceeded to carve a path through the gravel. Five minutes later he smilingly waved them through a billowing cloud of dust.

10 Driving on a few miles more our adventurers once again found themselves hopelessly lost and decided to call it a day. Pulling in at the first small taverna in the next village they came to, they wearily slumped into chairs at the solitary table on a small terrace in front of the taverna, and a waiter appeared.

'Two Greek coffees, please,' said Clive, and the waiter nodded and trotted off into the dim interior. Over coffee, Clive and his wife got down to the Greek national pastime of just sitting and watching the world go by, joined we might add, by the friendly waiter.

20 A little later, Clive ordered two Rakis (a potent Greek spirit), and being a generous soul bought the waiter a drink as well. Time rolled pleasantly on, as it usually does in Greece, and eventually Clive asked the waiter for the bill. 'There is no charge,' he said.

'Oh,' said Clive, 'that's very kind of you – do you own this taverna?' 'No,' said the Greek, poker faced, 'and this isn't a taverna, it's my house.'

Questions 1- 25

Read **PASSAGE 1** then answer the questions.

- 1 Alexander believed that Samarkand was
 - A as beautiful as he had heard
 - B more beautiful than he had heard
 - C exactly as people had described it
 - D not quite as beautiful as he had heard

- 2 Alexander first saw Samarkand
 - A over 2500 years ago
 - B in AD 1370
 - C in the 4th Century BC
 - D we are not told in the passage

- 3 Samarkand is in
 - A India
 - B Spain
 - C China
 - D Asia

- 4 Two reasons for Samarkand seeing conquerors were
 - A its silver and jade
 - B its silk and spices
 - C its beauty and its lack of defences
 - D its beauty and its position on the Silk Road

- 5 Tamerlane's home country was
 - A China
 - B Spain
 - C Turkey
 - D we are not told in the passage

- 6 Which of the following expressions is used in the passage to describe Samarkand?
 - A a rhapsody in blue
 - B the only one in the universe
 - C the Milky Way
 - D wonder of the East

- 7 All of the following were built by Tamerlane **EXCEPT**
 - A palaces
 - B mosques
 - C cathedrals
 - D tombs

- 8 Which of the following statements is untrue?
 - A Timur is buried under a slab of dark-green jade
 - B Timur is buried with his sons and grandsons
 - C Timur is buried with his wife
 - D Timur built the Gur-Emir Mausoleum as a tomb for his grandson

- 9 When Tamerlane built the tomb he was
 - A 35

- B 43
C an old man
D 33
- 10 The inside of the tomb's dome is
A less beautiful than the outside
B as beautiful as the outside
C more beautiful than the outside
D too dark to estimate its beauty
- 11 The entrance to the tomb is painted in all of the following **EXCEPT**
A red
B green
C yellow
D blue
- 12 Beneath the dome of the mausoleum lie the tombs of all of the following **EXCEPT**
A Timur
B his sons
C his favourite wife
D his grandsons
- 13 When Timur's coffin was opened, the skeleton was
A in perfect condition except that its nails had worn away
B in perfect condition except that someone had shortened the bones of one leg
C in poor condition
D in perfect condition
- 14 We are certain that Tamerlane was lame because
A his grandson wrote letters describing his limp
B when his skeleton was found the bones of one leg were shorter than the other
C ancient pictures show one leg shorter than the other
D stories passed down from generation to generation mention this
- 15 Which of the following is a woman?
A Bibi-Khanyim
B Gur-Emir
C Mukhammed-Sultan
D Tamerlene
- 16 The favourite colour of Samarkand's artists was
A gold
B green
C yellow
D blue
- 17 The mosque that Timur built for his favourite wife was
A small but beautiful
B the largest in the Islamic world
C unfinished
D large but plain
- 18 'mosaics' (line 20) means
A designs made of small coloured stones or pieces of glass
B wall-papers
C special kinds of moss
D wall hangings the colour of moss
- 19 The word 'replica' (line 38) means

- A replacement
B exact copy
C reflector
D reflection
- 20 'legend' (line 26) means
A story from the past which may not be true
B story from the past which is true
C story from the past which is not true
D ancient document
- 21 The word 'vivid' (line 43) means
A dark
B bright
C like a dome
D brought by artists and workmen
- 22 'minarets' (line 44) are
A strong columns
B artificial flowers
C small mines
D thin towers in a mosque
- 23 Which of the following is the correct spelling?
A fascinated
B fascanated
C fascenated
D fassinated
- 24 Which of the following is the correct spelling?
A skelleton
B skelliton
C skeleton
D skelaton
- 25 'unique' (line 38) means
A very rare
B magnificent
C one and one only
D perhaps the only one

Questions 26 to 35

Read **PASSAGE 2** then answer the questions.

- 26 The person Clive and his wife stopped to ask the way
- A was accurate in his description of the road
 - B misdirected them
 - C underestimated the difficulty of the route
 - D was unsure of the road's suitability
- 27 The old man's circular movements of his hand meant
- A 'Switch off your engine'
 - B 'Find another road'
 - C 'Go round the pile of gravel'
 - D 'Turn around and go back the way you came'
- 28 The old man
- A worked at his usual pace to carve a path through the gravel
 - B worked quickly but resentfully to carve a path
 - C worked quickly and happily to carve a path
 - D took a long time to carve a path
- 29 Clive and his wife thought that they had found a taverna because they saw
- A the table and chairs on the terrace
 - B the inn-sign
 - C the waiter
 - D the coffee
- 30 According to the passage, the Greek national pastime is
- A drinking coffee
 - B watching the world go by
 - C going to a taverna
 - D drinking Raki
- 31 The man whose house Clive and his wife visited was
- A a part-time waiter
 - B generous
 - C sarcastic
 - D foolish
- 32 Clive was
- A rude
 - B unobservant
 - C thoughtless
 - D misled
- 33 The point Clive's story is trying to make is that
- A British people are over-bearing
 - B Greek people are easily taken in
 - C Greek people are friendly and generous
 - D Foreign holidays are bound to raise problems

- 34 'solitary' (line 12) means
- A placed in the sun
 - B set out for a game of solitaire
 - C single, lonely
 - D solid, strongly constructed
- 35 'poker faced' (line 23) means
- A cross
 - B thin-faced
 - C firm
 - D an expression that hides someone's thoughts or feelings