11+ Verbal Reasoning

Hidden Letter Practice Papers

10 papers | 10 questions each | answer keys at the back

Easy	Papers 1 to 3
Moderate	Papers 4 to 7
Difficult	Papers 8 to 10

Tips for working through these papers

- Take your time. There is no timer. Stop for a break whenever you need one.
- Say each word out loud with the letter added, for example "post" then "tale".
- Try an option for BOTH word pairs. The letter must work in all four words.
- Use a finger or a ruler under the question you are working on.
- Tick one box per question. Cross out options you have ruled out.
- Print on cream or pastel paper if that makes reading more comfortable.

Practice Paper 1

Easy

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 pos [?] ale nes [?] ape

A p B s C t D k E h

2 par [?] ind bar [?] ite

A w B k C m D r E b

3 far [?] ark war [?] ore

A m B p C e D d E l

4 fil [?] ake bel [?] amp

A c B l C m D r E t

5 ow [?] ice su [?] ear

A n B l C m D e E r

Practice Paper 1

Easy

6 sho **?** ave gro **?** ell

A **s** B **t** C **h** D **p** E **w**

7 bu **?** ave ga **?** oup

A **c** B **g** C **y** D **s** E **n**

8 ban **?** ark fin **?** ish

A **w** B **l** C **k** D **e** E **d**

9 sto **?** ull sho **?** ink

A **w** B **l** C **h** D **p** E **f**

10 fou **?** ide ea **?** oad

A **s** B **l** C **r** D **t** E **w**

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 2

Easy

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 lov [?] arn hop [?] ast

A d B l C y D p E e

2 bo [?] ear pla [?] ard

A y B h C t D b E n

3 rin [?] irl son [?] ive

A l B g C s D k E d

4 bat [?] and wit [?] ill

A b B w C l D h E s

5 basi [?] ake topi [?] ool

A w B s C f D l E c

Practice Paper 2

Easy

6 lea **?** ish hal **?** ast

A k B p C f D e E l

7 clu **?** ird cra **?** ook

A b B c C p D t E l

8 pian **?** ver hell **?** pen

A k B f C o D e E m

9 are **?** live ide **?** cid

A u B m C o D a E c

10 sno **?** ish blo **?** ind

A f B w C k D t E b

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 3

Easy

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 plan [?] ruck smar [?] rain

A g B t C d D e E l

2 blac [?] eep thin [?] ind

A w B p C h D k E g

3 swar [?] ilk stor [?] ouse

A b B e C m D y E r

4 smal [?] ight smel [?] ake

A r B l C s D m E w

5 soun [?] ream boun [?] ance

A c B w C d D h E l

Practice Paper 3

Easy

6 clas **?** ame gras **?** oft

A **s** B **l** C **p** D **f** E **g**

7 clea **?** oom floo **?** ice

A **u** B **n** C **d** D **r** E **l**

8 shee **?** ark slee **?** lan

A **k** B **d** C **c** D **l** E **p**

9 ope **?** ose garde **?** ever

A **n** B **f** C **p** D **b** E **l**

10 happ **?** ellow stud **?** oung

A **r** B **f** C **h** D **m** E **y**

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 4

Moderate

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor **mil [?] ish** **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 **spor [?] rail** **wors [?] ale**

A **e** B **t** C **g** D **k** E **s**

2 **smoot [?] ealth** **clot [?] ouse**

A **h** B **w** C **m** D **e** E **r**

3 **trac [?] ettle** **blac [?] night**

A **s** B **k** C **e** D **t** E **w**

4 **lon [?] arden** **stron [?] host**

A **u** B **e** C **w** D **g** E **h**

5 **kne [?] ater** **thre [?] inter**

A **e** B **h** C **w** D **l** E **t**

Practice Paper 4

Moderate

6 thum **?** eauty clim **?** asket

A c B s C w D b E p

7 relie **?** amily chie **?** ollow

A k B h C f D c E b

8 publi **?** ottage musi **?** arpet

A l B f C u D i E c

9 fairl **?** esterday carr **?** ellow

A y B p C f D l E m

10 shin **?** ager whol **?** nough

A w B y C l D c E e

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 5

Moderate

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 **shiel [?] esert beyon [?] inner**

A **d** B **i** C **o** D **w** E **s**

2 **gree [?] ormal lesso [?] umber**

A **f** B **t** C **n** D **d** E **l**

3 **develo [?] ocket grou [?] roblem**

A **y** B **p** C **k** D **s** E **r**

4 **fina [?] ight tunne [?] eader**

A **r** B **f** C **h** D **l** E **e**

5 **victi [?] ixed custo [?] agic**

A **s** B **e** C **r** D **f** E **m**

Practice Paper 5

Moderate

6 winte **?** ibbon rive **?** oyal

A p B y C u D r E l

7 acros **?** uper witnes **?** tream

A e B l C h D y E s

8 sprin **?** ouch carro **?** rap

A o B t C c D w E p

9 cobr **?** round zebr **?** pple

A a B h C g D f E e

10 potat **?** range tomat **?** utside

A g B c C o D n E f

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 6

Moderate

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor **mil [?] ish** **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 shado [?] ander borro [?] ealth

A l B h C m D w E n

2 whis [?] nife bris [?] itten

A k B u C b D f E n

3 brus [?] onest finis [?] ammer

A p B o C i D g E h

4 wron [?] uitar belon [?] rand

A b B u C l D g E c

5 brie [?] ountain whar [?] ortune

A a B f C p D m E s

Practice Paper 6

Moderate

6 cur **?** reeze her **?** rave

A **e** B **c** C **b** D **t** E **f**

7 fabri **?** ircle classi **?** andle

A **w** B **c** C **h** D **f** E **l**

8 ange **?** eather jewe **?** ibrary

A **l** B **f** C **h** D **r** E **c**

9 certai **?** eighbour cabi **?** ecklace

A **f** B **g** C **n** D **c** E **h**

10 grou **?** uzzle jum **?** ainter

A **m** B **w** C **f** D **s** E **p**

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 7

Moderate

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor **mil [?] ish** **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 **pocke [?] ender** **baske [?] ennis**

A **g** B **f** C **t** D **l** E **b**

2 **teache [?] eward** **flowe [?] ainbow**

A **r** B **f** C **c** D **b** E **h**

3 **buil [?] ragon** **blin [?] elicious**

A **r** B **a** C **t** D **d** E **k**

4 **glas [?] ignal** **dres [?] ilent**

A **l** B **u** C **h** D **e** E **s**

5 **blan [?] eeper** **drin [?] ingdom**

A **c** B **g** C **o** D **k** E **d**

Practice Paper 7

Moderate

6 mediu **?** achine freedo **?** idnight

A i B m C t D y E g

7 schoo **?** ocation rebe **?** ightning

A l B e C n D a E p

8 captai **?** ecessary curtai **?** otebook

A e B r C n D f E y

9 mont **?** ospital bot **?** armony

A c B d C e D g E h

10 gentl **?** xplore puzzl **?** lephant

A d B e C y D a E u

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 8

Difficult

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish

Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)

1 journe [?] ellow chimne [?] ounger

A m B y C h D f E u

2 extr [?] ctive aren [?] mbition

A t B l C a D k E p

3 willo [?] ildlife windo [?] onder

A r B n C p D w E g

4 outbrea [?] eyboard backpac [?] angaroo

A y B p C i D g E k

5 broccol [?] nside spaghett [?] ncrease

A i B h C e D g E l

Practice Paper 8

Difficult

6 volcan **?** ffice tornad **?** bject

A t B a C o D b E m

7 envelop **?** ntire cottag **?** xhaust

A e B y C p D n E g

8 electri **?** onfident fantasti **?** orridor

A a B r C d D g E c

9 stron **?** rocery amon **?** overnment

A b B g C p D e E n

10 stretc **?** eadache sandwic **?** ospital

A m B l C i D h E e

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 9

Difficult

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor mil [?] ish

Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)

1 **thousan [?] iscover wizar [?] ifficult**

A **r** B **p** C **l** D **c** E **d**

2 **campaig [?] ewspaper reaso [?] ervous**

A **m** B **g** C **d** D **n** E **a**

3 **sherif [?] estival belie [?] ootball**

A **h** B **f** C **s** D **g** E **p**

4 **instan [?] elescope ancien [?] emperature**

A **n** B **k** C **o** D **i** E **t**

5 **thum [?] arrier clim [?] eneath**

A **h** B **c** C **b** D **t** E **l**

Practice Paper 9

Difficult

6 calenda **?** ecognise explore **?** esponsible

A **r** B **s** C **n** D **m** E **t**

7 squirre **?** ocation carame **?** ibrary

A **p** B **e** C **l** D **w** E **f**

8 compas **?** ensible harnes **?** urvive

A **i** B **w** C **m** D **s** E **o**

9 develo **?** erfect shi **?** erson

A **p** B **k** C **n** D **l** E **m**

10 progra **?** aterial wisdo **?** ystery

A **g** B **m** C **u** D **k** E **a**

My score: _____ out of 10

Practice Paper 10

Difficult

The same letter must fit into both sets of brackets. It finishes the word before the brackets and starts the word after the brackets. Tick the letter you choose.

Example

Options: k d m s t

han [?] oor **mil [?] ish** **Answer: d (hand, door, mild, dish)**

1 **banan [?] nswer** **umbrell [?] dventure**

A **p** B **u** C **e** D **i** E **a**

2 **knowledg [?] nvironment** **exercis [?] xcellent**

A **e** B **h** C **o** D **d** E **a**

3 **injur [?] oghurt** **librar [?] oungster**

A **e** B **y** C **s** D **n** E **k**

4 **eyebro [?] ithout** **narro [?] eather**

A **p** B **h** C **w** D **l** E **f**

5 **bookmar [?] eyboard** **framewor [?] indergarten**

A **o** B **k** C **r** D **a** E **t**

Practice Paper 10

Difficult

6 safar **?** nterrupt alumn **?** nterview

A **m** B **g** C **d** D **k** E **i**

7 avocad **?** ctopus buffal **?** bstacle

A **a** B **g** C **k** D **o** E **p**

8 acciden **?** riumph assis **?** elevision

A **t** B **y** C **h** D **n** E **b**

9 cartoo **?** ightmare balloo **?** eighbourhood

A **b** B **r** C **h** D **n** E **u**

10 acousti **?** hallenge tragi **?** ontinent

A **o** B **u** C **c** D **a** E **d**

My score: _____ out of 10

Answer Keys

Quick key

Paper	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
1	C	B	A	B	A	E	D	E	D	C
2	E	A	B	D	E	C	A	C	D	B
3	B	D	C	B	C	A	D	E	A	E
4	B	A	B	D	C	D	C	E	A	E
5	A	C	B	D	E	D	E	B	A	C
6	D	A	E	D	B	C	B	A	C	E
7	C	A	D	E	D	B	A	C	E	B
8	B	C	D	E	A	C	A	E	B	D
9	E	D	B	E	C	A	C	D	A	B
10	E	A	B	C	B	E	D	A	D	C

Paper 1 answers (Easy)

1.	**C (t)**	post, tale, nest, tape
2.	**B (k)**	park, kind, bark, kite
3.	**A (m)**	farm, mark, warm, more
4.	**B (l)**	fill, lake, bell, lamp
5.	**A (n)**	own, nice, sun, near
6.	**E (w)**	show, wave, grow, well
7.	**D (s)**	bus, save, gas, soup
8.	**E (d)**	band, dark, find, dish
9.	**D (p)**	stop, pull, shop, pink
10.	**C (r)**	four, ride, ear, road

Paper 2 answers (Easy)

1.	**E (e)**	love, earn, hope, east
2.	**A (y)**	boy, year, play, yard
3.	**B (g)**	ring, girl, song, give
4.	**D (h)**	bath, hand, with, hill
5.	**E (c)**	basic, cake, topic, cool
6.	**C (f)**	leaf, fish, half, fast
7.	**A (b)**	club, bird, crab, book
8.	**C (o)**	piano, over, hello, open
9.	**D (a)**	area, alive, idea, acid
10.	**B (w)**	snow, wish, blow, wind

Paper 3 answers (Easy)

1.	**B (t)**	plant, truck, smart, train
2.	**D (k)**	black, keep, think, kind
3.	**C (m)**	swarm, milk, storm, mouse
4.	**B (l)**	small, light, smell, lake
5.	**C (d)**	sound, dream, bound, dance
6.	**A (s)**	class, same, grass, soft
7.	**D (r)**	clear, room, floor, rice
8.	**E (p)**	sheep, park, sleep, plan
9.	**A (n)**	open, nose, garden, never
10.	**E (y)**	happy, yellow, study, young

Paper 4 answers (Moderate)

1.	**B (t)**	sport, trail, worst, tale
2.	**A (h)**	smooth, health, cloth, house
3.	**B (k)**	track, kettle, black, knight
4.	**D (g)**	long, garden, strong, ghost
5.	**C (w)**	knew, water, threw, winter
6.	**D (b)**	thumb, beauty, climb, basket
7.	**C (f)**	relief, family, chief, follow
8.	**E (c)**	public, cottage, music, carpet
9.	**A (y)**	fairly, yesterday, carry, yellow
10.	**E (e)**	shine, eager, whole, enough

Paper 5 answers (Moderate)

1.	**A (d)**	shield, desert, beyond, dinner
2.	**C (n)**	green, normal, lesson, number
3.	**B (p)**	develop, pocket, group, problem
4.	**D (l)**	final, light, tunnel, leader
5.	**E (m)**	victim, mixed, custom, magic
6.	**D (r)**	winter, ribbon, river, royal
7.	**E (s)**	across, super, witness, stream
8.	**B (t)**	sprint, touch, carrot, trap
9.	**A (a)**	cobra, around, zebra, apple
10.	**C (o)**	potato, orange, tomato, outside

Paper 6 answers (Moderate)

1.	**D (w)**	shadow, wander, borrow, wealth
2.	**A (k)**	whisk, knife, brisk, kitten
3.	**E (h)**	brush, honest, finish, hammer
4.	**D (g)**	wrong, guitar, belong, grand
5.	**B (f)**	brief, fountain, wharf, fortune
6.	**C (b)**	curb, breeze, herb, brave
7.	**B (c)**	fabric, circle, classic, candle
8.	**A (l)**	angel, leather, jewel, library
9.	**C (n)**	certain, neighbour, cabin, necklace
10.	**E (p)**	group, puzzle, jump, painter

Paper 7 answers (Moderate)

1.	**C (t)**	pocket, tender, basket, tennis
2.	**A (r)**	teacher, reward, flower, rainbow
3.	**D (d)**	build, dragon, blind, delicious
4.	**E (s)**	glass, signal, dress, silent
5.	**D (k)**	blank, keeper, drink, kingdom
6.	**B (m)**	medium, machine, freedom, midnight
7.	**A (l)**	school, location, rebel, lightning
8.	**C (n)**	captain, necessary, curtain, notebook
9.	**E (h)**	month, hospital, both, harmony
10.	**B (e)**	gentle, explore, puzzle, elephant

Paper 8 answers (Difficult)

1.	**B (y)**	journey, yellow, chimney, younger
2.	**C (a)**	extra, active, arena, ambition
3.	**D (w)**	willow, wildlife, window, wonder
4.	**E (k)**	outbreak, keyboard, backpack, kangaroo
5.	**A (i)**	broccoli, inside, spaghetti, increase
6.	**C (o)**	volcano, office, tornado, object
7.	**A (e)**	envelope, entire, cottage, exhaust
8.	**E (c)**	electric, confident, fantastic, corridor
9.	**B (g)**	strong, grocery, among, government
10.	**D (h)**	stretch, headache, sandwich, hospital

Paper 9 answers (Difficult)

1.	**E (d)**	thousand, discover, wizard, difficult
2.	**D (n)**	campaign, newspaper, reason, nervous
3.	**B (f)**	sheriff, festival, belief, football
4.	**E (t)**	instant, telescope, ancient, temperature
5.	**C (b)**	thumb, barrier, climb, beneath
6.	**A (r)**	calendar, recognise, explorer, responsible
7.	**C (l)**	squirrel, location, caramel, library
8.	**D (s)**	compass, sensible, harness, survive
9.	**A (p)**	develop, perfect, ship, person
10.	**B (m)**	program, material, wisdom, mystery

Paper 10 answers (Difficult)

1.	**E (a)**	banana, answer, umbrella, adventure
2.	**A (e)**	knowledge, environment, exercise, excellent
3.	**B (y)**	injury, yoghurt, library, youngster
4.	**C (w)**	eyebrow, without, narrow, weather
5.	**B (k)**	bookmark, keyboard, framework, kindergarten
6.	**E (i)**	safari, interrupt, alumni, interview
7.	**D (o)**	avocado, octopus, buffalo, obstacle
8.	**A (t)**	accident, triumph, assist, television
9.	**D (n)**	cartoon, nightmare, balloon, neighbourhood
10.	**C (c)**	acoustic, challenge, tragic, continent