

English

Stage 8

Paper 1 Non-fiction



2025

Cambridge Lower Secondary Progression Test

Name

Class

Date

1 hour 10 minutes

Additional materials: Insert

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- You should pay attention to punctuation, spelling and handwriting.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].
- Suggestions for how long to spend on each section are given in the booklet.

Section A: Reading

Spend 35 minutes on this section.

Read the **text**, a newspaper article describing the writer's experience of taking part in a mime workshop, in the insert, and answer Questions 1–8.

1 Look at the first paragraph (lines 3–8).

(a) Why is the phrase *brick wall* in inverted commas (' ')?

..... [1]

(b) What other meaning does 'hit a brick wall' have in this paragraph?

..... [1]

(c) Which adjective does the writer use to describe her embarrassment?

..... [1]

2 Look at the second and third paragraphs (lines 9–22).

(a) Rae's former career helped her to become a successful mime artist.
Explain why and give **one** quotation from the text to support your explanation.

Explanation:

Quotation:

[2]

(b) The mime classes are popular.
Explain how we know this.
Give a quotation from the text to support your explanation.

Explanation:

Quotation:

[2]

(c) Give **two** phrases which emphasise the strong emotion the writer feels.

•

•

[2]

- 3 Look at the fourth paragraph (lines 23–28).
How does the reader know that Eva is a confident child?

..... [1]

- 4 Look at the fifth paragraph (lines 29–39).

(a) Which word in the text could be replaced with the word 'actor'?

..... [1]

(b) Give a word or phrase in the text which means 'without restraint'.

..... [1]

(c) The writer uses similes in the text to describe action and movement.
What else does the writer describe using a simile?

..... [1]

- 5 Look at the sixth paragraph (lines 40–48). Give **three** words from the paragraph that the writer uses to connect contrasting ideas.

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-
-

[3]

- 6 Look at the fourth, fifth and sixth paragraphs (lines 23–48).
The list below gives the different types of punctuation the writer uses to present extra information in the text.
Draw a line to match each punctuation with its function.

**Punctuation presenting
extra information**

Function

colon (:)

joining one sentence to another when the information is closely related

brackets (())

emphasises or highlights the information

dashes (–)

showing the reader it is information / direct speech given by someone and repeated word for word

semi-colon (;)

reader knows that a list of items will follow

quotation marks /
inverted commas (‘ ’)

the information is purely
incidental/unimportant

[4]

- 7 Look at the seventh paragraph (lines 49–51).
Tick (✓) **one** box to complete this sentence.

In the final sentence the writer ...

has an accident as she leaves.

☐

has difficulty finding the exit.

☐

is about to go on a holiday.

☐

is practising what she has learnt.

☐

[1]

- 8 Look at the third, fourth, fifth and sixth paragraphs (lines 17–48).
 The structure of the text reflects the writer's feelings at different stages during the workshop.
 Complete the flow chart by choosing a word from the box which describes the writer's feelings in each paragraph.
 There are **two** extra words in the box you do **not** need to use.

rejection	reassurance	acceptance	release	dread	defeat
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Third paragraph feeling:
↓	
Fourth paragraph feeling:
↓	
Fifth paragraph feeling:
↓	
Sixth paragraph feeling:

[4]

Section B: Writing

Spend 35 minutes on this section.

- 9 In your English class you have had a discussion about non-verbal communication (communicating without spoken or written words). Now your teacher has asked you to write an essay with the title:

The role of non-verbal communication in the world today

You could think about:

- emojis and other digital images or icons
- how people communicate if they can't speak or hear a language
- universal symbols, for example road signs / advertising logos
- your own idea.

Use the box below to plan your answer.

Write your answer on the lines on the next page.

Space for your plan:

Write your essay on the next page.

[25 marks]

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