

## English Comprehension – Section One

### Passage 1

Folk music is often believed to be so called because it was the music of the common folk, but that is not totally accurate. See, the genre is something of a catchall: it is not a specific style of music so much as a collection of things that sound traditional and were not written by an actual composer. The term, then, is closer in meaning to the term “folklore,” which refers to a collection of tales and stories that are traditionally passed on from generation to generation but without a clear author. Folk music and folklore, then, both are really nothing more than collections of orphaned compositions.

Today, though, most people think they know what folk music is. At least in America, the term usually refers to things that sound older and, thus, more authentic than most recorded music. It is music, they argue, played on traditional instruments like banjos, acoustic guitars, harmonicas, and dobros, and music that sounds like something from the past, something from a simpler time when nothing had to be quite so polished to resonate.

### Passage 2

In the early 1960s, the baby boomers looked around and did not like what they saw. The world was dangerous, unjust, and artificial. Everything was made of plastic yet able to be destroyed instantly by nuclear bombs. People were not free, even though they were supposed to be. And the one outlet of the youth, rock and roll, had been commodified. Elvis was in the army, and the rock and roll music being released was sweet and melodic, polished, and no longer a valid avenue of expression because it was designed to turn a profit. It was a bleak time for a teenager or young adult. But instead of creating something new, some sought comfort in the past, because things from the past, by default, had to be more authentic than things in the present.

The result was the urban folk boom, a movement of young people trading electric guitars for acoustic ones and embracing the work songs of the 1930s and 1940s. Singers like Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Tom Rush, and Tim Buckley gathered in New York’s Washington Square Park and the emerging coffee shop scene surrounding it. There, they donned work-shirts and blue jeans and sang the songs of Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, and Odessa, singing of life in labor camps, hard times, hard traveling, and hard living. There, these mostly middle-class youth seemed to argue that real living could only be expressed through the past struggles of lower class individuals, regardless of how different from those individuals the middle-class youth were. Sure, they might have been complete phonies for singing the songs, but the songs themselves seemed authentic. If nothing else, the music’s nonelectric sound seemed an appropriate way to criticize a plastic and electric world.

Hajdu, David. *Positively 4th Street: The Lives and Times of Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Mimi Baez Farina, and Richard Farina*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2001. Book.  
Slobin, Mark. *Folk Music: A Very Short Introduction*. New York, Oxford University Press, 2010. Book.

Read the passage carefully, and then answer the questions below by circling the right letter for each one. Each question has only one right answer. You may look back at the passage as often as you like. You may also work in rough on this paper, or on the Question Paper, if it helps

1. In using the phrase “orphaned compositions” in paragraph 1, the author of Passage 1 means that both folklore and folk music.
  - A. have been passed down orally between generations
  - B. are genres that cannot accurately be defined because they are too vague
  - C. were written by someone who has not claimed them as his or her own work
  - D. have seemingly existed forever without anyone being able to pinpoint their origins
  - E. have not been properly understood by those who claim to like them
  
2. The main purpose of Passage 1 is to
  - A. analyze the history of a musical form
  - B. clarify a misunderstood musical term
  - C. explain why a generation would embrace folk music
  - D. argue that a well-known genre of music does not actually exist
  - E. suggest that folk music appears more authentic than other forms of music
  
3. Using the information in Passage 2, it can be understood that the folk revivalists were drawn to folk music because
  - A. rock and roll was not able to make money
  - B. rock and roll was no longer being produced
  - C. it had been taught to them by earlier generations
  - D. it seemed more authentic than rock and roll
  - E. it was easier to play on an acoustic guitar
  
4. Unlike the author of Passage 1, the author of Passage 2 associates folk music with
  - A. the past
  - B. finance
  - C. protest
  - D. tradition
  - E. authenticity
  
5. The author of Passage 1 would most likely suggest that “singers like Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Tom Rush, and Tim Buckley” (paragraph 2 of Passage 2)
  - A. could not really accurately define folk music
  - B. were phonies for pretending to be working class
  - C. did not use the right instrumentation for playing folk songs
  - D. had not thought of other forms of traditional music
  - E. should not have attempted to seek authenticity through music
  
6. In Passage 1, what does the author mean by the phrase “a collection of tales and stories that are traditionally passed on from generation to generation but without a clear author” in the context of folklore?
  - A. Folklore consists of stories that have been written by numerous authors over time.
  - B. Folklore includes stories that have no definitive source or author and are passed down through generations.
  - C. Folklore comprises stories written by well-known authors who remain anonymous.
  - D. Folklore is a collection of stories that have a clear, single author from each generation.
  - E. Folklore is a term used exclusively for fictional stories with unknown authors.
  
7. Based on the information provided in Passage 2, why did some young people in the 1960s turn to folk music during the urban folk boom?

- A. They believed that folk music was easier to play on acoustic instruments.
  - B. They thought that folk music had become more profitable than rock and roll.
  - C. They were inspired by the success of Elvis Presley in the army.
  - D. They found folk music to be a more authentic form of expression in a troubled world.
  - E. They wanted to revive the popularity of electric guitars.
8. In Passage 1, the author mentions that folk music is often associated with traditional instruments like banjos, acoustic guitars, harmonicas, and dobros. What is the significance of these instruments in the context of folk music?
- A. These instruments are exclusively used in folk music and not in any other genre.
  - B. These instruments are a recent addition to folk music, making it more modern.
  - C. These instruments are considered less authentic in folk music than electric guitars.
  - D. These instruments contribute to the perception of folk music as something from a simpler time.
  - E. These instruments are only used by professional folk musicians.
9. According to Passage 2, why did some people view the youth who embraced folk music during the urban folk boom as "phonies"?
- A. Because they dressed inappropriately for the folk music scene.
  - B. Because they were not skilled musicians and struggled to play folk songs.
  - C. Because they abandoned rock and roll, which was seen as more authentic.
  - D. Because they claimed to understand the struggles of working-class individuals.
  - E. Because they were critical of the plastic and electric world.

## English – Section Two (Part A)

### Hiraeth, Old Bombay

I would have taken you to the Naz Café  
if it had not shut down.

I would have taken you to the Naz Café  
for the best view and the worst food in town.

We would have drunk flat beer and cream soda  
and sweated on plastic chairs at the Naz Café.  
We would have looked down over the dusty trees  
at cars creeping along Marine Drive, round the bay  
to Eros Cinema and the Talk of the Town.

We would have held hands in the Naz Café  
over sticky rings on the table-top,  
knee locked on knee at the Naz Café,  
while we admired the distant Stock Exchange,  
Taj Mahal Hotel, Sassoon Dock, Gateway.

We would have nursed a drink at the Naz Café  
and you would have stolen a kiss from me.  
We would have lingered in the Naz Café  
till the day slid off the map into the Arabian sea.

I would have taken you to Bombay  
if its name had not slid into the sea.  
I would have taken you to the place called Bombay  
if it were still there and if you were still here,  
I would have taken you to the Naz café.

Read the poem carefully, at least twice.

1. Write a paragraph about the importance of the Naz Café to the poet.  
(You are advised to write one paragraph but no more than half a side of A4 for your answer.)
2. Explain carefully what you understand by the following quotations.  
(a) "till the day slid off the map into the Arabian sea."  
(b) "If its name had not slid into the sea"

(You are advised to write one paragraph but no more than a quarter of a side of A4 for your answer.)

## English Section Two (Part B)

Write about a time you, or someone you know, were lonely.

Your response could be real or imagined.

You can plan your work in any way that you find helpful (spidergram/brainstorm/bullet points) before you start writing.

Remember to check and correct your work before the end of the test.

(You are advised to write in pen at least two paragraphs but no more than one side of A4 for your answer.)

Optional prompts to practice at home:

1. Write a persuasive letter to your local MP about the litter in your area and what you want them to do about it.
2. Write a magazine article on the discussion topic on whether school uniform should be abolished.

## Mathematics Practice

1. Simon buys some candles.  
Each candle costs £2

Simon pays with a £20 note.  
He gets £6 change.

Work out the number of candles Simon buys.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2.

Write these numbers in order of size.  
Start with the smallest number.

$\frac{1}{2}$     0.55    45%

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. (a) Calculate  $549 \times 9$ .

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Hence find the value of  $549 \times 18$

[You must show how you have used your answer to part (a) to answer part (b)]

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4.

In Norway last year, the lowest temperature was  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

In Norway last year, the highest temperature was  $42^{\circ}\text{C}$  greater than the lowest temperature.

Work out the highest temperature in Norway last year.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5.

There are two drama groups in a school.

In one group there are 36 boys and 48 girls.

In the other group,  $\frac{3}{7}$  of the students are boys and the rest of the students are girls.

Ann says,

“The ratio of the number of boys to the number of girls is the same for both groups.”

Is Ann correct?

You must show how you get your answer.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6.

Savio leaves his home at 07 30 to drive to work.

He drives a distance of 50 miles.

Savio thinks he drives at an average speed of 40 miles per hour.

(a) If Savio is correct, at what time will he arrive at work?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

In fact, Savio's average speed was greater than 40 miles per hour.

(b) How does this affect your answer to part (a)?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7.

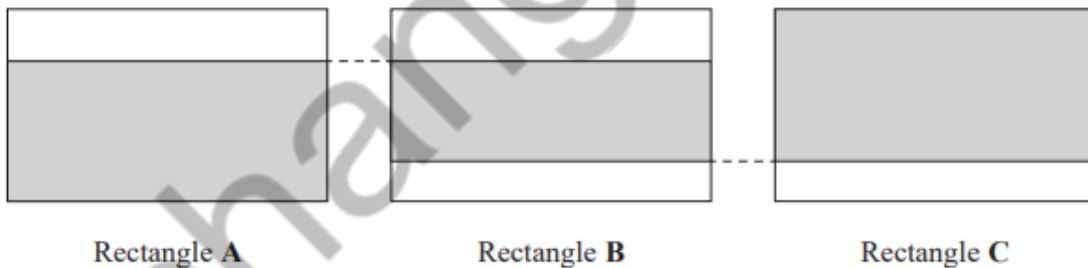
Here is a list of ingredients for making 10 scones.

Ingredients for 10 scones	
75 g	butter
350 g	self-raising flour
40 g	sugar
150 ml	milk
2	eggs

Mia wants to make 25 scones.  
Work out how much sugar she needs.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

The diagram shows three identical rectangles A, B and C.



$\frac{5}{8}$  of rectangle A is shaded.

$\frac{9}{11}$  of rectangle C is shaded.

Work out the fraction of rectangle B that is shaded.

8.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

9.



3 kg of carrots cost £1.80

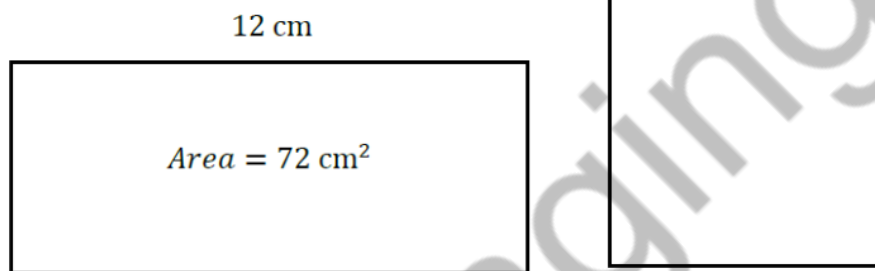
2 kg of carrots and 5 kg of potatoes cost a total of £3.45

Work out the total cost of 4 kg of carrots and 2 kg of potatoes.

You must show all your working.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Here are a rectangle and a square.



Diagrams **not**  
drawn accurately.

The rectangle has length 12 cm and area 72 cm<sup>2</sup>.

The perimeter of the square is the same as the perimeter of the rectangle.

Calculate the area of the square.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

In 2018 Mark, Julian and Neill all decided to take up running.  
The 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2018 was a Monday. 2018 was not a leap year.  
January has 31 days, February has 28 days.  
Mark went for a run every Wednesday.  
Julian first went running on the 4<sup>th</sup> of January and every 4 days after that.  
Neill only went running on dates in the month where the day was one greater than a prime number.

b) Which two men will not run on the same day as each other in February?  
11.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

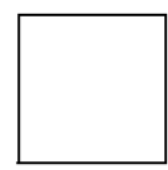
(a) How many different ways are there of ordering the letters M A T H S?  
(the letters do not need to form real words)

Answer .....

12.

Here is a set of numbers: 3, 2, 5, 1, 8, 3, 9, 5, \*, #. If the mode of the set of numbers is 3 and the range is 10, what is \* + #?

- A: 14      B: 15      C: 16      D: 17      E: 18



13.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

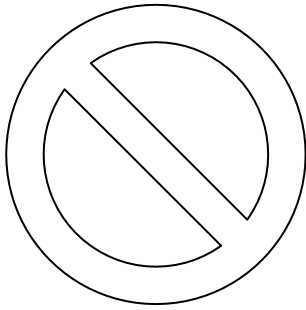
14. Put the following in order, starting with the smallest:

3.55, 53.5, 35.5, 5.35, 55.3, 5.53

.....

15. Draw any lines of symmetry on these shapes. Some may have none or more than one.

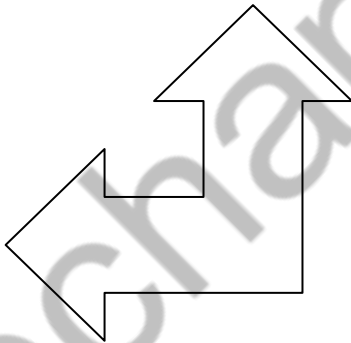
(a)



(b)



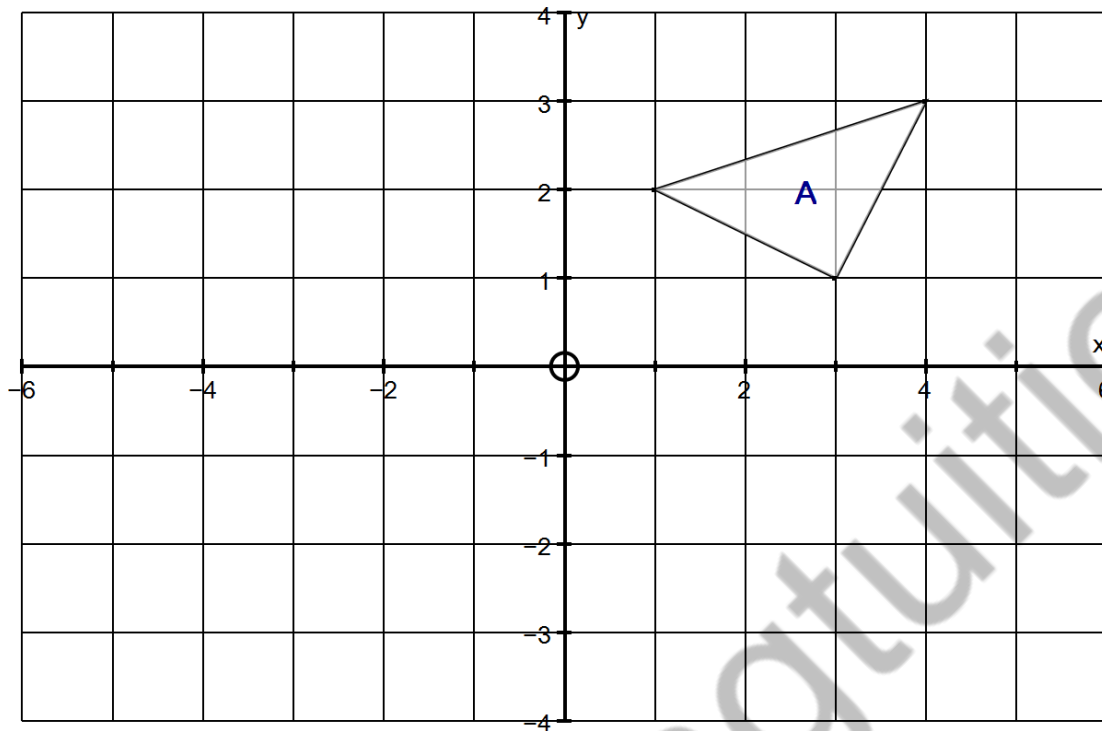
(c)



(d)



16.



- Reflect shape A in the x-axis and label the new shape B.
- Reflect shape B in the y-axis and label the new shape C.

17. Steve counts the number of goals he scores in six 5-a-side football games. The counts were:

3, 4, 2, 0, 1, 8

- What was the mean score for the games he counted?
- What was the range?
- In the next game he scored enough goals to increase his mean to 4. How many goals did he score in the seventh game?

**18.** (a) On a train there are 140 men and 200 women. What is the ratio of men to women written in its simplest form?

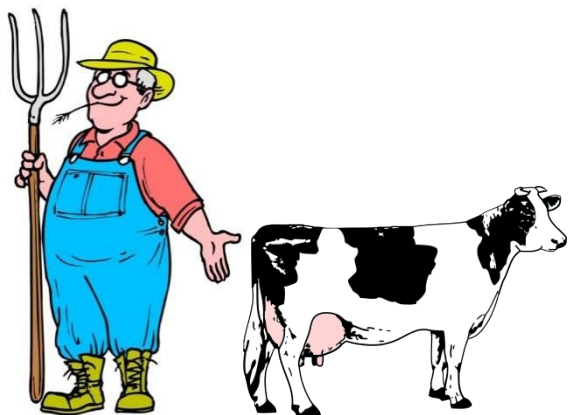
(b) I am making a scale model of The Eye-Full Tower, which is 120m tall. If the scale is 1:50, how long will the model be (in cm)?

(c) My friend Sanjay is making a scale model of the London Ear (a famous landmark in London). The London Ear is 80m tall and his model is 150cm tall. What is the scale of the model, in its simplest form?

**19.** (a) My other friend Minka was doing some gardening when she snapped a bamboo cane. The cane was 2.05m long and is now 156cm long. What length of cane snapped off?

(b) In her garden, Ying-Ge is sowing some grass seed. The garden has an area of  $158\text{m}^2$  and each packet has enough seed for  $12\text{m}^2$ . How many packets does Ying-Ge need to buy?

**20.** Farmer Giles has two legs and each of his cows have four legs. In the picture below, there are six legs in total. Fill in the table below for the total number of legs if Farmer Giles is always present, but the number of cows increases.



Number of Cows	1	2	3	4	10	100
Total Number of Legs	6		14			

Hillary is trying to find a formula that links the Number of Cows,  $C$ , to the number of Legs,  $L$ . Fill in the gaps to help her:

$$L = \dots\dots\dots C + \dots\dots\dots$$

**21.** On my wall I want to put some stickers of my favourite pop star Singing Steve. The space I have available is 55cm by 60cm and the stickers are each 15cm by 5cm. What is the maximum number of stickers I can fit on the wall?

**22.** Two runners are having a race. Gary starts running from the start line at 10m/s. Two seconds later Andy starts running from the start line at 12m/s.

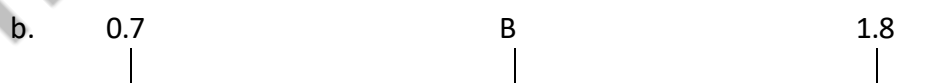
a. How long after Gary starts running does Andy catch up with him?

b. How far are they both from the start line when Andy catches up with Gary?

**23.** These pictures show parts of a scale with equal gaps between each marking. What number should replace each letter?

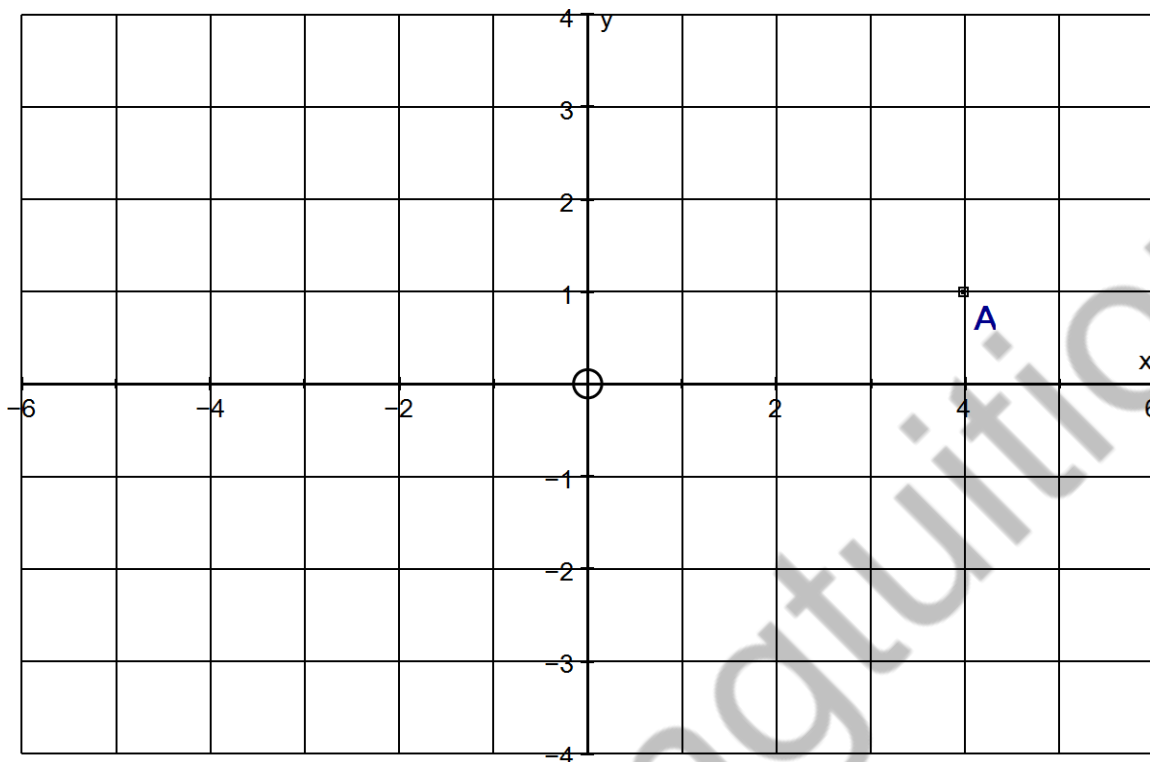


A = .....



B = .....

24.

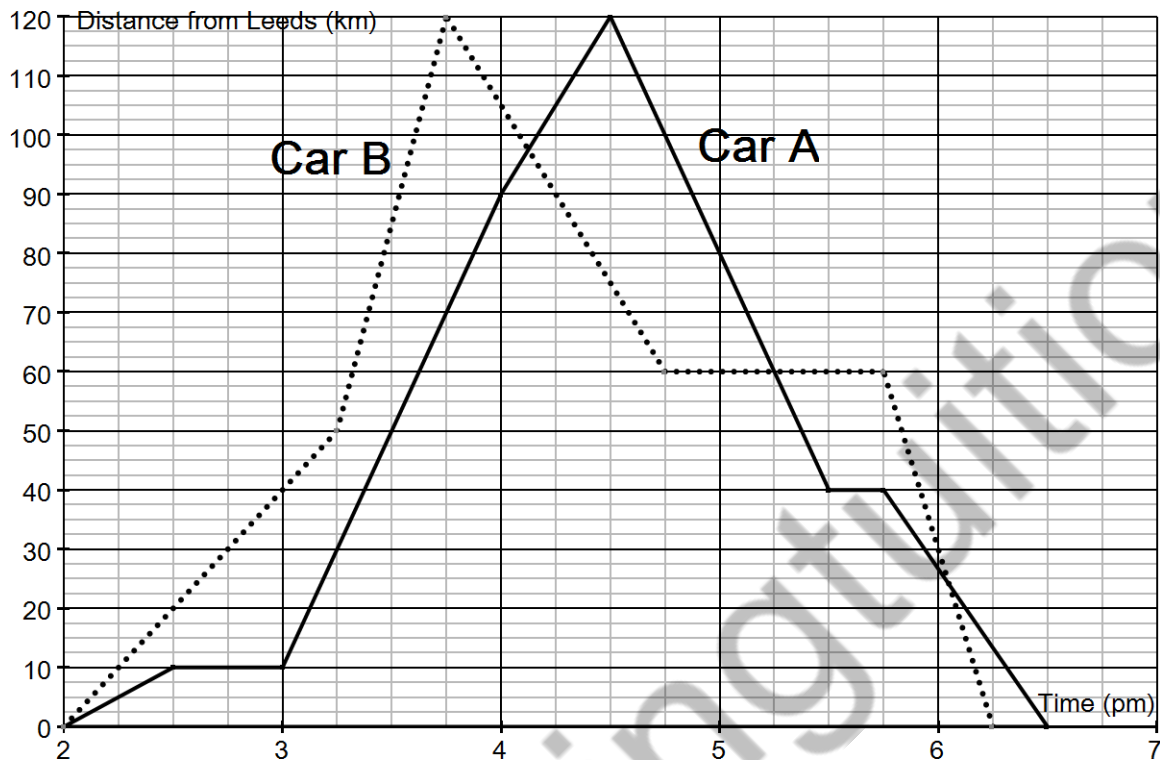


The point A (4,1) has been marked.

- a. Mark the point B with co-ordinates (0,4)
- b. Mark the point C with co-ordinates (-3,0)
- c. The point D forms a square 'ABCD'. Write down the coordinates of point D.
- d. What is the area of the square ABCD?



25. This graph shows the progress of two cars in a race from Leeds to Blackpool and back again. Car A is the bold line. Car B is the dotted line.



- How far is it from Leeds to Blackpool?
- Which car was winning at 3.30pm?
- Which car was winning at 4.15pm?
- What was the distance between the cars at 4.45pm?
- What happened just after 6pm?
- Which car achieved the highest speed, and between which times did this happen?
- Which car won the race?

26. (a) Can you find numbers to replace A, B and C in this sum? (A, B and C are all different numbers)

$$\begin{array}{r} A B C \\ + A B C \\ \hline B B B \end{array}$$

- (b) Can you find a four digit number which is reversed when multiplied by 9? (i.e.  $ABCD \times 9 = DCBA$ )