

Introduction

Verbal reasoning is language-based problem solving. It involves thinking about words, letters, patterns and **sequences**. Verbal reasoning skills are useful for school tests, such as the 11+. There are many types of verbal reasoning question – covering, for example, spelling, word meanings, maths and code-breaking. The question types in this book are among the most common. Verbal reasoning skills are important in other aspects of life too. Practising these skills expands your **vocabulary**, improves your spelling and develops your ability to use **logic**.

How to use this book

Before you start using this book, write your name in the box on the first page. Then decide how to begin. If you want a complete course on verbal reasoning, work right through the book. Another way to use the book is to dip into it when you want to find out about a particular type of question. The contents page or the index will help you to find the pages you need. Whichever way you choose, don't do too much at once – it's better to work in short bursts.

When you are ready to begin, find some scrap paper – or ask an adult for some. You may find this useful for your workings out. As you make a start, look out for these icons, which mark different parts of the text.



Explanation

This text explains key points about the question type and gives examples. Read it before you start the activities. Words shown like **this** appear in the combined index and glossary (page 88). The glossary focuses on terms used to explain reasoning questions. To understand other terms, you may need to refer to **Understanding English** or **Understanding Maths**.



Activities

These are the activities that you should complete. Usually you write your answer in the space provided. **After you have worked through all the activities on a page, turn to pages 70 to 86 to check your answers. Where appropriate, these pages explain how each correct answer is reached. Read them carefully.** When you are sure that you understand a question type, tick the box beside it on the Contents page.



Hint

Hint

This text gives you extra information on how you might tackle a particular activity.



Important

This text tells you something that you must remember if you want your answers to be correct.