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KEY STAGE

3

LEVELS

4–7

HIGHER TIERS

2006

MENTAL  
MATHEMATICS

# Mathematics tests

## Subject-specific guidance

### Mental mathematics (higher tiers)

Test A (higher tiers)	Test B (alternative higher tiers)
20 minutes	20 minutes

### Key points

- Each tape or CD includes both the instructions to the pupils and the questions. The full text of these instructions and the practice question are provided in the transcript.
- There are two occasions to stop the recording, which are indicated by a bleep:
  - the first point comes at the beginning of the recording once the instructions have been given;
  - the second comes after the practice question.

You should explain to pupils that these two occasions will be their only opportunity to ask any questions before the test starts.

**You must not stop the recording at any other point, or add any additional instructions of your own.**

If you are using the CD version of the test, you should use the pause button to stop the recording.

- The recorded test will tell pupils how long they have to answer each question. The test is in three sections and the time given increases from 5, to 10, to 15 seconds as the test progresses.
- You should ensure that pupils who were entered for tiers 4–6, 5–7 or 6–8 take mental mathematics test A or B. Pupils who were entered for tier 3–5 must be entered for test C.
- You should ensure that each pupil has a pen or pencil. They must not have rubbers, rulers, calculators or any other mathematical equipment. Pupils must not have access to paper for working out answers.
- You should ensure that pupils write their name and the name of the school in the spaces provided on their pupil answer sheet.

For information only: Some of the 2006 test papers have been printed with bar codes and computer recognition marks. This is for a trial in electronic marking, which will take place after the 2006 test series. You should administer the tests in the usual way.

### Transcript of audiotape/CD

The transcripts of tests A and B are provided in the *Key stage 3 Mental mathematics – transcript* booklets. The transcripts should only be used in the event of audiotape or CD failure.

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