

Brain Teaser – Paper 3

Can you solve the problems below – remember to think in as many different ways as you can and use your imagination!

1. The words in the list below all have the something in common. Write what you think the link is on the line below.

Can you add any words of your own which could belong to the group? Write them in the spaces.

a) splash

b) croak

c) helmet

d) first

e) spine

f) _____

g) _____

h) _____

2. Can you solve this problem? Explain the order in which each animal must cross the river, obeying all the rules.

‘Two ducks and a fox need to cross a river. There is a boat but only two animals can go in the boat at any one time. The fox must not be left with only one of the ducks anywhere since his appetite might get the better of him! The boat cannot move by itself. Explain the order in which each animal must cross the river.’

ANSWERS

1. All the words contain names of trees.

- a) splash
- b) croak
- c) helmet
- d) first
- e) spine

2. Since the fox can never be left alone with one duck and the boat cannot power itself, the order should be...

Duck A and duck B row across to the other side. Duck B stays on the bank whilst Duck A returns. Duck A now stays on the starting bank whilst the fox rows across. The fox stays on the far bank whilst duck B returns alone with the boat and picks up duck A. Now both ducks cross the river together and rejoin the fox.