



# Aris Academy

THE FUTURE OF SELECTIVE PREP

- **Expert Curriculum**

Built by USYD Head Tutors and high-achieving Selective graduates (99.55+ ATAR) to ensure every question mimics the real exam.

- **Instant Expert Marking**

Submit your writing and receive detailed feedback in seconds, calibrated to the official NSW Selective marking rubric.

- **Deliberate Practice**

We don't just give feedback; we isolate skills. Our "Writing Gym" method is proven to accelerate learning through active repetition.

*"Aris Academy turned my daughter's writing around. She went from struggling with structure to scoring 18/20 in weeks."*

— Parent of Year 6 Student



SCAN TO START

[aris-academy.com](https://aris-academy.com)

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# Aris Academy

2026 SELECTIVE WORKBOOK

ISSUE #5 · FEBRUARY 2026

# Practice *Reimagined.*

Experience the power of instant feedback. Scan any question inside to get marked by our our expert marker.

# Narrative Challenge



**NARRATIVE** **The Frozen Stairway**

*"Look at this mysterious spiral staircase covered in snow and ice. Write a narrative about discovering these stairs in an unexpected place. Where do they lead? What do you find at the top or bottom?"*

Audience: Young adult readers · 300–400 words

WRITING SPACE

Large dashed-line writing area with horizontal lines for text entry.

# Non-Fiction Challenge



**REPORT** **Young Inventor Report**

*"Write a formal report about a young inventor who has created something that could change the world. Describe the invention, how it works, and its potential impact on society."*

Audience: Science magazine readers · 300–350 words

WRITING SPACE

Large dashed-line writing area with horizontal lines for text entry.

MODULE 02

# Writing Gym: Skill Drills

Isolate. Practice. Master.



**ACTION + EMOTION**

**Skill: Double-Duty Verbs**

Use verbs that show action AND emotion/character at the same time.

**Weak:** "She looked at him angrily and walked away."

**Strong:** "She glared at him and stormed away."

YOUR TURN

"He took the book from the shelf and held it carefully."

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

**PRECISION**

**Skill: Looking Verbs**

Replace "looked" with specific verbs that show HOW someone looked.

MENTOR TEXT

"He squinted at the message on his phone."

"Squinted" tells us the character is either in bright light, has trouble seeing, or is suspicious.

**New Topic: Describe looking at a giant, beautiful painting.**

## Show, Don't Tell

The most important rule in writing. If you tell a reader a character is "nervous," they won't remember. If you show them "knees knocking," they'll feel it.

MODULE 02

# Descriptive Mastery Drills



**ATMOSPHERE**

**Skill: Five Senses**

Use the senses to paint a picture instead of stating facts.

TELLING (WEAK)

"The kitchen smelled nice because Grandma was cooking."

SHOWING (STRONG)

"Cinnamon and butter wafted from the kitchen, where Grandma's wooden spoon scraped against the pot."

**Your turn: Paint a picture of a rainy day without saying "bad weather."**

\_\_\_\_\_

**CHARACTER**

**Skill: Character Nouns**

Use specific nouns that reveal a character's personality or mood.

MENTOR TEXT

"His room overflowed with comic books, guitar picks, and half-finished model planes."

**New Topic: Describe a studious girl's desk.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Mathematics Mastery

Try the full booklet at [aris-academy.com/booklet/26-02-5](http://aris-academy.com/booklet/26-02-5)



## Q1. Magic Square

Each row, column and diagonal adds up to the same total.

20	15	16
18		?

What is the missing number at ?

A. 4

B. 14

C. 17

D. 18

E. 21

## Q2. Spinner Logic

A spinner has four equal sections numbered 5, 2, 4, 3. Chen spins and gets a 4. Emily is going to spin once.

X. Probability Emily gets a 4 is  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Y. Probability Emily is LESS than Chen is  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Z. Probability their scores add to  $> 5$  is  $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Which statements are correct?

A. None

B. X &amp; Y

C. X &amp; Z

D. Y &amp; Z

E. X, Y &amp; Z

## Q3. Calibration Error

A scale starts at 9 kg instead of 0. When two identical blocks are placed on it, the scale shows 37 kg.

What is the mass of ONE block?

A. 13 kg

B. 14 kg

C. 18 kg

D. 19 kg

E. 22 kg

## Q4. Rounding Differences

Alinta rounds 4,850,000 to the nearest million. Tau rounds it to the nearest hundred thousand.

What is the difference between their answers?

A. 0

B. 50,000

C. 100,000

D. 150,000

E. 200,000

## Q5. Graph Interpretation

A outdoor temperature graph shows:

- The temperature was  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$  at four different times.
- The change from 1h to 3h was  $>$  change from 4h to 6h.
- The lowest temperature was  $5^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Which statements are true?

A. None

B. 1 &amp; 2

C. 1 &amp; 3

D. 2 &amp; 3

E. All 3



### Ready for the real thing?

Scan to join our weekly mock exam simulations and get ranked against students across NSW.