Bij dit examen hoort een uitwerkbijlage.

Beantwoord alle vragen in de uitwerkbijlage.

Achter het correctievoorschrift is een aanvulling op het correctievoorschrift opgenomen.

Dit examen bestaat uit 39 vragen. Voor dit examen zijn maximaal 43 punten te behalen. Voor elk vraagnummer staat hoeveel punten met een goed antwoord behaald kunnen worden.
Let op: beantwoord een open vraag altijd in het Nederlands, behalve als het anders is aangegeven. Als je in het Engels antwoordt, levert dat 0 punten op.

**film guide**

Our pick of the week’s best movies

**Monday**

*The Good Die Young* (Channel 4, 1.40pm)
Laurence Harvey, Richard Basehart and Joan Collins star in this crime drama, which follows a group of edgy crooks as they attempt a robbery. ★★★

**Tuesday**

*The Drowning Pool* (TCM, 9pm)
Paul Newman’s blue eyes twinkle just enough to give this crime drama some charm. His wife Joanne Woodward also stars. ★★★

**Wednesday**

*Here on Earth* (five, 3.25pm)
Josh Hartnett and Chris Klein compete for the attentions of LeeLee Sobieski in this cute romantic drama. ★★★

**Thursday**

*Fade to Black* (Sky Movies 2, 10.05pm)
PREMIERE Rap fans will not want to miss this fascinating insight into the world of hip-hop as Jay-Z lets a documentary team capture his preparations for a highprofile concert. ★★★

**Friday**

*Saving Grace* (Sky Movies 1, 8pm)
When widow Brenda Blethyn realises she’s been left with mounting debts she takes the not-so-obvious decision to start a marijuana farm. But thanks to the wacky locals her dreams of wealth soon go up in smoke. ★★★

**Saturday**

*Wrong Turn* (Channel 4, 10pm)
PREMIERE Eliza Dushku is one of six travellers who go off the map and into the menu in this jumpy horror. If only they’d had satellite navigation they wouldn’t have had to worry about the cannibalistic locals on their tail. ★★★

**Sunday**

*Rob Roy* (BBC 1, 10.35pm)
Liam Neeson stars in this swashbuckling tale as the strong but silent Scottish hero, who stands up to the sinister Tim Roth. Unfairly overshadowed by Braveheart, which was released in the same year, this adventure is just as captivating. ★★★
MIKE JACKSON RECALLS DAYS - AND NIGHTS - WHEN HE HIMSELF WAS IN CHARGE OF A BOARDING HOUSE OF YOUNG SHE-DEVILS.

1 The new St Trinian’s movie brings back memories of two traumatic years when I was in charge of a boarding house of 30 teenage girls. They tormented me with constant rows, escape attempts, smoking in the lavatories, alcoholic dazes, flooded bathrooms and out-all-hours excursions.

2 When I took the job in 1965, it looked like a piece of cake. I had run a boys’ boarding house before and girls were supposed to be sweet, charming and much more persuadable. My wife looked at me knowingly: “Just you wait and see.” And I swiftly discovered that real teenage girls were even more alarming than the girls in the movie St Trinian’s. The first hurdle I faced was trying to get them in at 10pm. It seemed a simple instruction but each night there would be a row. “It’s only two minutes past. Your watch must be fast, sir.” These rows were all the more embarrassing because they usually took place in front of their boyfriends who, having walked them home, would be listening to every word with amusement. As if that wasn’t bad enough, I often needed the skill of a diplomat, coughing tactfully to catch the attention of latecomers still engrossed in each other on the doorstep.

3 There was also the issue of trying to control the way they 4, so that they looked smart for school. There was no set uniform, but they were supposed to wear ‘sensible’ clothes, with skirts that were not too short. Naturally they wanted to bend the rules as much as possible. Sadly for my peace of mind, my time running the boarding house coincided with the craze for slit skirts, which looked a
normal length but were open up on one side. A girl could seem perfectly neat but, once out of sight of authority, with one quick hitch she would suddenly transform herself into a Britney Spears look-alike.

4 The next task was to stop them smoking in the lavatories and showers. This sounds easy enough, but trying to catch them in the act meant hiding outside the lavatories, which was highly embarrassing. I was surprised how shamelessly they would lie to me too. Teenage boys, caught smoking, will come clean. Teenage girls, even while stinking of cigarette smoke, tend to bat their eyelids and deny everything.

5 Security was my top priority. The windows would only open a mere three inches to stop anyone getting out (or in) and the doors were set with alarms overnight. From time to time I got up to check that all was well. One night, I spotted a girl dangling dangerously from an upstairs window, about to drop down 15 feet and drive off with her waiting boyfriend. I was horrified. From then on, my vague suspicions turned into full-blown nightmares about alarms going off and girls escaping.

6 The more rebellious teenage girls enjoyed giving any male the run-around. Pretty soon, I began to feel like poor old Alastair Sim in his role as the original St Trinian’s headmistress. Sniggers and knowing looks would follow me wherever I went. Once I was embarrassed to overhear one girl telling another it was ‘such fun’ giving me a ‘tough time’. No wonder this new film has brought me out in a cold sweat. It reminds me of my stormy times at a true-life St Trinian’s.

noot 1 boarding house = kostschool / een huis, waar jongens of meisjes onder toezicht wonen
Why does Mike Jackson write about the movie St Trinian’s? (paragraph 1)
A He plays a leading role in the film.
B The film is based on his life.
C The film reminds him of the work he used to do.

"it looked like a piece of cake." (alinea 2)
→ Waarom dacht Mike dat zijn baan heel gemakkelijk zou zijn?

Kies bij in alinea 3 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
A behaved
B dressed
C studied

Wat is volgens Mike het verschil tussen jongens en meisjes als ze ergens op betrapt worden? (alinea 4)
Maak de zin af in je uitwerkbijlage: Jongens … en meisjes …

What does Mike want to make clear in paragraph 5?
A He had no idea that the girls were up at night.
B The girls kept on setting off the alarms deliberately.
C The safety measures at the boarding house were insufficient.

‘enjoyed giving any male the run-around.’ (alinea 6)
→ Hoe wordt dit op een andere manier beschreven in alinea 6?
Citeer (= schrijf over uit de tekst) een deel van een zin uit alinea 6 waarin die andere manier gebruikt wordt.
Keeping up with the Family

1 A care home is giving its elderly residents the chance to see and hear relatives thousands of miles away using the Internet. Staff at The Elms in Lowgate, Sutton, UK, will encourage the residents to use the webcam facility two or three times a week. The residents can now easily stay in contact with close family members as far afield as North America and Saudi Arabia using what is a pioneering project in the region.

2 Its aim is to improve the quality of life for the elderly in care homes, which has certainly been the case for Betty Carlton. The 83-year-old uses the facility to speak to her son in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, and also when he is away on business in Canada. Betty said: “It is definitely a better way of speaking to my son and daughter-in-law than using the phone. It’s lovely to see them on screen as well as being able to hear them.”

3 Son Ian Carlton was also enthusiastic about the project. He was able to give his mother a virtual tour of his Canadian home, complete with black bears playing in the garden. He said: “Whether we are in the UK or abroad, the ability to see mum – and for her to see us – while talking on the phone is really nice and I know my mum likes doing this more than making a ‘normal’ phone call. It makes communication and conversation so much more 10 . We feel mum could be in the next room.”

4 Susan Rollinson, manager at The Elms, believes it is the only home in the region to offer residents the facility. She said: “Like Betty, most of the residents wouldn’t have made use of a computer before, but she enjoys using it. We hope all our guests will book time-slots and it can be something they will look forward to.”
8. What special facility does The Elms offer its residents, according to paragraph 1?
   A  computer courses
   B  laptops for personal use
   C  modern means of communication

9. What can be concluded from paragraph 2?
   A  Teaching the elderly computer skills is easier than many people think.
   B  The elderly can enjoy life more when they are able to see relatives far away.
   C  The elderly dislike spending money on long-distance phone calls.

10. Kies bij in alinea 3 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
    A  difficult
    B  expensive
    C  official
    D  personal

11. What becomes clear from paragraph 4? Susan Rollinson would like
    A  all care homes in the UK to offer internet to the elderly.
    B  more people in her home to use the webcam system.
    C  to work together with other homes to improve the system.
Can she fix it?

Yes she can! As Julie Bindel discovers, female builders are in huge demand – but can they ever compete with the tea-slurping boys?

1 Of all the construction workers employed at London’s Wembley Stadium, what percentage would you guess are women? Five? Ten? Twenty at a push? How about 0.05%? “Out of 10,000,” notes Karen Procter, director of the national organisation, Women and Manual Trades (WAMT), “between three and five are women.”

2 It’s a statistic that seems even more shocking when you consider that, in the run-up to the 2012 Olympics in London, Britain is short of 350,000 builders. Across the building trade, women account for fewer than 1% of workers, making the building site still very much a man’s domain – what Procter describes as ‘the last bastion of sexist discrimination in the workplace’.

3 The government belatedly seems to have taken notice. Education Secretary Alan Johnson recently reserved £20m for training women in construction. Whether this will be enough remains to be seen.

4 Amid all this bad news, though, there are a few success stories. Plasterer Janet Shelley says that she has always wanted to “do things that people think are impossible”, and so set up Women Builders, a company that now employs the UK’s largest female construction workforce – 14 full-time builders. “We have no problems filling vacancies,” says Shelley. “There are lots more women wanting to work in the trade than there are jobs.”

5 So I set off for Milton Keynes, where Women Builders set up three years ago. Women Builders are renovating a local village school, ripping out kitchens and rebuilding walls. I meet Louise Horwood, a 20-year-old carpenter. “I always wanted to be a builder,” she tells me, “but my dad, who is in the trade, was dead against it.” After leaving school, Horwood briefly tried hairdressing college, but hated it. “I had never been so bored in all my life,” she says, “and my dad’s pressure on me only made me more determined.” She entered the world of construction aged just 16 and at first struggled to cope. “Men would harassingly say, ‘Don’t break your nails on that, love, it’s too heavy.’ But I kept going and now I’m one of them.”

6 Janet Shelley works closely with WAMT – which represents and supports women working and training in skilled manual and craft occupations – to try to establish better working practices and reduce discrimination. When WAMT
began in 1975, small numbers of middle-class, white, educated women entered the trade partly to protest at women’s exclusion. Today, however, 60% of members are black, and have similar class backgrounds to their male counterparts. “Most of these women are moving out of manual jobs like cleaning and catering into trades where they can earn four times as much,” says Procter.

Women Builders is never short of work, but there is still the occasional customer who does not understand the kind of firm they are. “Sometimes you turn up for a job at someone’s house, or business, and the highly surprised client will say to us, ‘Oh, you really are women!’”

Shelley and Horwood say that when they are on a building site, people will stop and openly stare at them. Some will shout and ask what they are doing. “We are at the stage with women construction workers today that we were 25 years ago with male nurses,” Procter believes. “In a few years, it will be far more common to see women in hard hats up on scaffolding.”

If women in building are to really flourish, organisations such as WAMT say, it is crucial that the opportunity offered by the 2012 Olympics isn’t wasted. “We will see how keen the government is to end the extreme levels of sexism and discrimination in the building trade,” says Procter, “and we expect to see many more women encouraged and trained to work on building sites, alongside men who treat them as equals.” A tall order, maybe, but these women certainly know how to stand up to the big boys.

12 According to paragraphs 1 and 2, what is meant by “‘the last bastion of sexist discrimination’”? (end paragraph 2)
A London’s Wembley Stadium
B the building site
C the Olympics
D the WAMT

13 Which of the following is true for Janet Shelley according to paragraph 4?
A She has to put great effort into finding suitable workers.
B She herself also works in the building trade.
C She is not a very enterprising person.
D She is struggling to make her company profitable.

14 What becomes clear about Louise Horwood from paragraph 5?
A She had to work very hard to be seen as equal by her male colleagues.
B She had worked as a hairdresser for years before she took up building.
C She only started on a building course after the death of her father.
D She still has a problem with some of the remarks made at work.
Geef van elk van de volgende beweringen over de organisatie WAMT aan of deze juist of onjuist is op grond van alinea 6. Omcirkel ‘juist’ of ‘onjuist’ in je uitwerkbijlage.

De organisatie
1 zet zich ook in tegen discriminatie van vrouwen in de bouw.
2 ondersteunde helemaal in het begin alleen laagopgeleide vrouwen.
3 vertegenwoordigt op dit moment voor het grootste deel zwarte vrouwen.
4 helpt vrouwen meer te verdienen dan ze in de schoonmaak of horeca doen.

“Oh, you really are women!” (end of paragraph 7)

What does this reaction point out about the customers of ‘Women Builders’?
A Not all of them realise that ‘Women Builders’ employs only women.
B Some of them refuse to believe that women can build houses.
C They have made clear they strongly prefer men to do the job.
D They think the female builders employed by ‘Women Builders’ look a lot like men.

‘…can they ever compete with the tea-slurping boys?’ (introduction)

Karen Procter answers this question in paragraph 9. What does her answer come down to?
A In future men and women will definitely work together as equals on building sites.
B The 2012 Olympics will hopefully function as a positive turning point.
C The government is unwilling to change its policy to achieve this equality.
D Women will always be discriminated against in construction work.
You share your chilling - and true! - stories
Be afraid - be very afraid!

“A ghost stole my mom’s watch!”

“My family had just moved into a new house, and I had heard all these creepy stories about it. Supposedly a 12-year-old boy named Fred had died there years ago, and he still haunts the house. But why would I believe those stories? I convinced myself that people were just trying to freak me out.

Then, one day, my mom went out for a few hours and left me home alone. When she got back, she came into my room and asked, “Katie, did you borrow my watch?” “No,” I said. She looked confused. “I left it on my bureau, and it’s gone,” she said. We searched everywhere, but the watch was nowhere to be found. But I knew no one had been in the house but me - so where did it go?

Exactly a year later, Mom walked into her bedroom - and the watch was sitting on her bureau! There was a note beside it that said, “Sorry about your watch. I never learned to tell time.” Here’s the scariest part: it was signed, “Fred.” Now I know all those scary stories about my house are true!”

Katie, 17, Ontario
Big Kids on the Block

Johnny Dee

1 Last Saturday, an account manager from south-east London spent seven hours sitting in her Vauxhall Zafira parked outside the house of a stranger she knew only as the Giraffe. "It was," she says, "one of the most exciting things I've ever done." The woman, who would like to be known as Agent Squirtel, in order to protect her identity from rogue commandos, was taking part in StreetWars Killer, a water-pistol assassin game that has turned 150 Londoners into paranoid snipers with super-soakers. At about 8am her target emerged from his house and she gave chase down the street, successfully aiming her gun at his upper torso. It was only then that she realised she had squirted the wrong man: it was the Giraffe's flatmate, Dave. "He was OK about it," she says. "It was a hot day, he said he would dry out."

2 StreetWars is just one of many large-scale urban games being played in cities all across the world. All of them are similar in that information spreads via the internet. To anyone who chances upon them on the street, they seem like surreal, random events. All of them also utilise wireless technology such as GPRS, use real streets rather than boards or computer screens as their game's grid, and all resemble childhood games in their simplicity.

3 "They definitely appeal to people with a Peter Pan complex," says Yutai Liao, a San Francisco graphics designer whose alter ego, the Mustache Commander, is behind the StreetWars craze. "Where's the law that states that once you get to a set age you can only have fun by going to dinner parties with other adult friends?" The average age of competitors, says Liao, is 25.

4 Frank Lantz, a US college lecturer who encouraged his students to play a human game of Pac-Man, believes the social aspect is the main reason why urban games are becoming a trend. "A lot of these games use new technology but they're also about a return to the classic values of pre-computer gaming: face-to-face social interaction," he says.

noot 1 GPRS: General Packet Radio Service, used by GSM mobile phones
noot 2 Peter Pan complex: when you suffer from this, you don't want to grow up
“I also think there's something appealing about ___23___ to run around public space creating a spectacle.”

Indeed, not everyone can be good at football or kung fu, ___24___ we're all pretty good at hide and seek.

### Games:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Games</th>
<th>StreetWars Killer</th>
<th>Botfighters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pac-Manhattan Human-sized Pac-Man game</td>
<td>Water-pistol assassination</td>
<td>Robots in disguise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Players: 10</td>
<td>Players: 150</td>
<td>Players: 40,000+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1p 19** Which of the following is true of paragraph 1?
- A a day out for office workers.
- B Agent Squirrel’s job.
- C an appointment with Dave.
- D a police squad’s exercise.
- E a specific part of a reality game.

**1p 20** Which of the following is **not** true about StreetWars according to paragraph 2?
- A It is a city outdoor event.
- B It is played worldwide.
- C It started out as a children’s game.
- D You need the internet to take part in it.
- E You play it with the help of technical appliances.

**1p 21** What is true about Yutai Liao according to paragraph 3?
- A He dislikes dinner parties for grown-ups.
- B He is the initiator of the StreetWars games.
- C He says that people under 25 do not like playing this game.
- D He would like to be known as Peter Pan.

**1p 22** ‘urban games are becoming a trend’ (alinea 4)

> Wat is hier volgens Frank Lantz de belangrijkste reden voor?

**1p 23** Kies bij ___23___ in alinea 4 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
- A being forced
- B having an excuse
- C pretending
- D refusing

**1p 24** Kies bij ___24___ in alinea 5 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
- A because
- B but
- C therefore
- D unless
It’s Sunday lunchtime and Sam Stern is doing something with a Dover sole. “Cooking is fun,” he says. “I use my intuition and see where the ingredients take me.” Sam is a ‘chuck it all in and see what happens’ kind of cook like Jamie Oliver. At just 17 and still at school in his home town of York, his work rate puts his older rivals to shame. He published his first book, *Cooking Up A Storm*, when he was just 14, closely followed by *Real Food, Real Fast*. Both shot off the shelves and were translated into 14 languages to keep up with the worldwide demand. His third book, *Get Cooking*, has just been published and he is already well on with the fourth. And, unlike Jamie, Sam still has to do his homework too.

He started cooking with his mum, Susan, when he was just four years old. She was, and still is, his inspiration. “We started off doing the usual simple little buns,” says Sam, “but then I moved on to more challenging aspects of cooking, like baking my own bread. I was learning all the time. Learning what ingredients worked together and learning to trust my own instincts.”

Sam first started putting his recipe ideas down on paper for his elder brother who went to university. He also noticed that a lot of his own friends were not eating well and wondered whether he could do something about it. “My approach is that if you can get kids into the kitchen, get them involved in preparing food, they’ll become more interested and actually start eating better,” he explains. “It’s not about preaching, it’s about providing good food and letting them make their own minds up about what they want to eat.”

His latest book was actually inspired by his friends. They challenged him to come up with tasty, healthy recipes based on their own favourite foods: tomatoes, cheese, pasta, vegetables, potatoes, meat, chocolate and other sweet stuff. Once again, he delivered in fine style, producing a glossy, easy-to-follow recipe book packed with interesting new ideas and photographs of him and his mates. His methods have certainly worked on his friends. They were all dedicated fast food fans until he showed them how much tastier – and healthier – homemade burgers and chicken could be. Now when they’re all out and about in town, it’s not a Mac-meal they choose, it’s a good curry or a Chinese.

Sam, who writes a weekly column in the children’s newspaper, *First News*, is at the forefront of a whole new generation of cooks. But who does he rate from the old guard? “If I cook like anyone, it’s Jamie,” he says. “I admire Jamie Oliver because he made it cool for boys...”
to love cooking and for his passion for food. I want my food to be accessible. If you haven’t got exactly the right ingredients, chuck in whatever you have got. Experiment, innovate and enjoy what you eat.”

Sam’s books have proved massively successful – his fourth, he reveals, will concentrate on leaving home and the culinary challenges that can pose – and a

noot 1 sole = a kind of sea fish

1p 25 How is Sam Stern’s cooking described in paragraph 1?
A Sam copies recipes from famous television cooks.
B Sam follows the cooking instructions he learned at school.
C Sam likes to experiment when he is preparing food.

1p 26 What becomes clear about Sam’s mother in paragraph 2?
A She is a professional cook.
B She triggered his interest in cooking.
C She writes cookery books.

1p 27 What does Sam explain about children and food in paragraph 3?
A Children have to be warned of the dangers of unhealthy eating habits.
B Children should be talked into eating healthier food.
C Children will appreciate healthy food when they can cook it themselves.

1p 28 What did Sam’s latest book bring about according to paragraph 4?
A It changed his friends’ eating habits.
B It inspired Sam and his friends to write a book about foreign food.
C It stimulated his friends to start cooking.

2p 29 Sam bewondert Jamie Oliver.
   → Waardoor komt dat volgens alinea 5?
   Noem twee redenen waardoor dat komt, door de zin in je uitwerkbijlage af te maken.
   Sam bewondert Jamie, omdat .... en ook omdat ...

1p 30 What will Sam’s fourth book be about according to paragraph 6?
A eating habits from different countries around the world
B meals for young people living on their own
C new ideas for healthy school dinners
D recipes suitable for TV cookery programmes
Laptop lessons

1 The days of the pen and paper are numbered. Pupils in the second year at Queenswood School in Hertfordshire are to abandon their copybooks in favour of portable computers, carrying them to classes like satchels. They will compose their English essays, do their geography projects and work out mathematical problems with the aid of their laptops. The work will then be presented in printed-out form, or emailed to their teachers to mark.

2 The machines cost between 500 and 800 pounds each but the school has arranged with a local company for the pupils to hire the laptops for 50 pounds a term. Queenswood may be innovative, but others are not far behind. Two other independent schools are making use of laptops and a growing number of state schools are undertaking pilot schemes.

3 Clarissa Farr, principal of Queenswood said: “I don’t believe that handwriting will completely disappear, but it could become as unusual as illuminated script from the Middle Ages. We could end up teaching it as a special subject.” If the experiment among the second-year students is successful, it will be extended to the whole school.

4 The school’s newly appointed Director of Learning Systems, Jonathan Renaudon-Smith, said: “Our hope is that the laptop will become as natural as the pencil case. Once children will become familiar with them, we will see things evolving quickly. Access to information is going to open up dramatically. Typing notes on your laptop during classes is infinitely better than trying to read your illegible scribble.”

5 Heads are hoping that pupils will be allowed to take their laptops into examination halls. Ms Farr said one way to counter cheating would be to change the nature of exams, removing the need for pupils to memorise information. But George Turnbull, a spokesman for the exam boards, has his doubts. He said: “You can’t examine spelling if you have a spell check. I can’t see laptops being allowed into exams in the short term because employers will complain that young people can’t spell and their handwriting is illegible.”

6 Sir Rhodes Boyson, the former education minister, is even more. "If people expect everything to be done by computer, their brains will wither away."
1p  31 Met welke grote verandering zullen de tweedeklassers op Queenswood School te maken krijgen volgens alinea 1?

1p  32 How has Queenswood seen to it that every pupil has his/her own computer according to paragraph 2?
   A Parents receive a tax reduction if they buy one for their kids.
   B Pupils can lease one for a reasonable amount of money.
   C The school has been able to buy a large number for a low price.

1p  33 What does Ms Farr say about handwriting in paragraph 3?
   A In the long run it will no longer be used at schools.
   B It might become a rather rare skill.
   C It should always remain an important part of school education.

2p  34 Welke twee voordelen van het gebruik van laptops noemt Jonathan Renaudon-Smith in alinea 4?

1p  35 What is George Turnbull’s main objection to the use of laptops in examinations according to paragraph 5?
   Using laptops in examinations would make it
   A harder for students to find a good job.
   B impossible to test one of the important skills.
   C more time-consuming to organise the exams.
   D very difficult to prevent cheating among students.

1p  36 Kies bij _36_ in alinea 6 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
   A critical
   B enthusiastic
   C positive
   D supportive
Je leest in een krant een test van allerlei babyartikelen.

→ Geef bij elk artikel aan of de schrijver positief of negatief is over het artikel.

Omcirkel ‘positief’ of ‘negatief’ in je uitwerkbijlage.

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**SWIVEL BATH SEAT**

£11.99 Perfectly Happy People: Great Little Trading Company

Washing your baby in the bath can be a challenge. If you’ve ever wished you had an extra pair of hands at bathtime, the Swivel Bath Seat sounds ideal.

But the four suction pads to secure it to the bottom of the bath don’t always stay put and you can end up chasing baby round the tub. It’s also quite tricky to get your child in and out of the seat, especially if the child is struggling. Provided they can sit unaided, a cheaper rubber bath mat would be just as good.

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**BABYCOOK STEAMER AND BLENDER**

£55 Blooming Marvellous: JoJo Maman Bebe

Preparing baby food can be tedious and time-consuming, so anything that makes it less of a hassle gets the thumbs up. The Babycook is a blender, steamer, defroster and reheater all in one.

Speaking as someone who thinks knocking together a cheese toastie is cooking, it is perfect. The steam function is amazingly fast, retains all the vitamins and minerals and reheating frozen food is dead easy.

It comes with a range of ultra-quick menu planners, according to your child’s age. Long after your little one is refusing to eat anything but fish fingers, you’ll still be using this to cook up family meals.
MUSICAL POTTY

£24.99 Mini Marvellous

My toddler is a big fan of potties - sitting on them, while watching a DVD. He also loves music. Put the two together and I had high hopes for this gadget. Would it finally make him part company with his beloved nappies?

Once I’d fitted the batteries, I poured a cup of water into the bowl to demonstrate the terrific reward he’d get. Silence. Turns out the music only plays when you ‘flush’ after. D’oh!

On the plus side, with the lid down, the potty acts as a step and the soft seat can be used as a trainer seat on an adult toilet. But you could buy both of those things for a lot less than £25. We’ll stick with our £5 easy-clean white plastic number for now.

SHAMPOO GOGGLES

£4.95 Perfectly Happy People

Hair-washing in our house involves tears and tantrums of seismic proportions, and that’s just me … so shampoo goggles sounded just perfect. Would they turn my water-phobic boy into a water babe? Hmmm, in a word no. Worn like sunglasses, the thin elastic strap was uncomfortable and made him more stressed than ever. It also got in the way when it came to rinsing his hair, defeating the whole object.

While the goggles might come in handy when you’re introducing an older child to the shower, we gave up and bought a nice big jug instead.
Hieronder lees je wat een aantal jongens vindt van het sms’en met meisjes.
→ Welke jongen adviseert een meisje om niet meteen een sms-bericht van een jongen te beantwoorden?

**Tekst 2 flrt**

Follow these guys’ texting dos and don’ts and you’ll have him in the palm of your hand (literally)!

**Why I text:** “If I text a girl, it means I’m kind of into her. If I’m taking the time to text her, it’s because I want to hang out and get to know her better.”

**Text tip:** “Let the guy lead it. He should be the one to mention meeting up later. Also, I’m not a big fan of when girls send multiple messages in a row. It looks too anxious!”

→ **Luke**, 19, Greenville

**Why I text:** “I usually text girls I want to just hook up with. It’s not as personal as a call, so it’s an easier way to communicate with a girl I’m not really serious about. If I actually want her to be my girlfriend, I’ll call her - then I’ll only text when I’m in a class or a noisy club and can’t call her at that moment.”

**Text tip:** “The best thing a girl can send me is a short message telling me what she’s doing. Long conversations over text irritate me. Just call!”

→ **Donavan**, 22, Oxford

**Why I text:** “Sending a girl a text shows you care. When you’re sitting in class, texting her means you can’t wait to talk to her. Plus, if you’re usually nervous around girls, telling someone she’s beautiful is a little easier in a text than in person.”

**Text tip:** “It’s good to make a guy wait and wonder, so don’t text back right away.”

→ **Casey**, 19, Pendleton
Why I text: “If I like a girl, I’ll ask what she’s up to and stuff to make sure there aren't any other guys in the picture before I start texting her a lot and look stupid! Also, the more I like a girl, the more often I’ll text her.”
Text tip: “Keep it simple. Don’t try to be over the top or someone you aren’t in person. And start with one-liners at first - you can move on to longer texts if things progress.”
– Chris, 18, Danbury

Why I text: “I send girls jokey texts when I’m bored. But if it’s someone I like, I’ll send a flirty text - which means I want to spend time with her.”
Text tip: “If you have something important to say, don’t text me five times and make me guess!”
– Dusty, 19, London

Why I text: “Unless I like her, if a girl texts me I’ll pretend I never got it. If she gets an answer, it means I like her.”
Text tip: “If a guy doesn’t respond to you, don’t keep texting him!”
– Matt, 20, Elmwood Park

Why I text: “I do a lot of text messaging. It’s easy to flirt with girls via text. You throw in the little x’s, the little smiley faces … You can be charming without coming across as too forceful.”
Text tip: “But if the texts continue for more than three or four trades, you’ve got to make the phone call.”
– Chris Evans, actor starring in Fantastic Four (2004); Rise of the Silver Surfer (2007), The Avengers (2012)

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