**How to Prepare for the Victorian Selective School Test by a Former MacRobertson Girl**

[I just found this article online and thought that it might help a bit – Mr Carl]

Having helped students prepare for the Selective School test with high success since 2010 (last year all students received an offer), below are my top tips organized by test area in terms of test preparation for this year’s Victorian Selective School Test.

**READING COMPREHENSION:**  Read a **range of articles** up to the exam, for example, **autobiographies, newspaper articles, non-fiction texts, narratives** and for each paragraph you read, think about **what the reader is trying to convey**. What’s the **overall tone**?  How is this shown through **key words**?

**VERBAL REASONING (and Numerical Reasoning)**: Again, it’s about doing **in depth** **practice** and **understanding** of the **logical links** **within reasoning**.  This test presumes that all “smart” children will also be **adept** at **speed.** Preparation and effort before the exam can help students to do better in the test as **time limits** play an important part.

**ANALYTICAL/PERSUASIVE WRITING:** Read articles on the **editorial/opinion** section of ***The Age*** or the ***Herald Sun*** newspaper [these can easily be found online].  You’ll probably find **5-10 new vocabulary words** that will add to your language skills. **Re-write** some of them and **identify** the **position** of the **writer** and the i**ssue** at **hand** (eg. euthanasia or change). Reading **editorial articles** is powerful because you’ll be able to **model your own writing** on **excellent persuasive writing** plus you’ll be **up to date** with issues in the exam, because the test usually examines **current issues.** Also, you’ll grow your **vocabulary.**