



Entrance Examination

11+ (Year 7)

SAMPLE

English

Paper 2: Composition

Your name:

Date of birth:

Today's date:

Age:

YEARS

MONTHS

Please read the following information before the examination starts.

You have 5 minutes' reading time.

After 5 minutes you may start writing. You have 30 minutes for writing but you are advised to plan your composition before you write it and to allow yourself 5 minutes to proofread your work when you have finished writing. Write on the lined paper provided.

Use your best handwriting and take care with spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Number of marks available: 25.

This is an extract from *Anne of Green Gables* by L. M. Montgomery. In the extract, Anne, who is an orphan, has arrived by train at Bright River Station. She is waiting to be collected by the people she believes are going to adopt her.

When Matthew Cuthbert reached Bright River there was no sign of any train; he thought he was too early, so he tied his horse in the yard of the small Bright River Hotel and went over to the station house. The long platform was almost deserted; the only living creature in sight being a girl who was sitting on a bench at the extreme end.

Matthew encountered the stationmaster locking up the ticket office before going home for supper, and asked him if the five-thirty train would soon be along.

"The five-thirty train has been in and gone half an hour ago," answered that brisk official. "But there was a passenger dropped off for you - a little girl. She's sitting out there on the bench. I asked her to go into the ladies' waiting room, but she informed me gravely that she preferred to stay outside. 'There was more scope for imagination,' she said. She's an odd one, I should say."

"I'm not expecting a girl," said Matthew blankly. "It's a boy I've come for. He should be here. Mrs Spencer was to send him over for me. We need a boy to help on the farm."

The stationmaster whistled.

"Guess there's some mistake," he said. "Mrs Spencer came off the train with that girl and gave her into my charge. Said you and your sister were adopting her from an orphanage and that you would be along for her presently. That's all I know about it - and I haven't got any more orphans concealed hereabouts."

"I don't understand," said Matthew helplessly, wishing that Marilla was at hand to cope with the situation.

"Well, you'd better question the girl," said the station-master carelessly. "I dare say she'll be able to explain - she's got a tongue of her own, that's certain."

The girl had been watching Matthew ever since he had passed her, and she had her eyes on him now. If Matthew had been looking at her, he would have seen a child of about eleven, garbed in a very short, very tight, very ugly dress of yellowish-grey material. She wore a faded brown sailor hat and beneath the hat, extending down her back, were two braids of very thick, decidedly red hair. Her face was small, white and thin, also much freckled; her mouth was large and so were her eyes, which looked green in some lights and moods and grey in others.

Matthew was spared the ordeal of speaking first, for as soon as she concluded that he was coming to her she stood up, grasping with one thin brown hand the handle of a shabby, old-fashioned bag; the other she held out to him.

"I suppose you are Mr. Matthew Cuthbert of Green Gables?" she said in a peculiarly clear, sweet voice. "I'm very glad to see you. I was beginning to be afraid you weren't coming for

me and I was imagining all the things that might have happened to prevent you. I had made up my mind that if you didn't come for me tonight I'd go down the track to that big wild cherry-tree at the bend, and climb up into it to stay all night. I wouldn't be a bit afraid, and it would be lovely to sleep in a wild cherry-tree all white with bloom in the moonshine, don't you think?"

Questions on *Anne of Green Gables*

[first four paragraphs]

1. **Explain the misunderstanding that has happened. How do you think Matthew might feel about it?** [5]

[section from 'The stationmaster whistled.' to 'she's got a tongue of her own, that's certain.']

2. **List the five characters who are mentioned here.** [5]

[section from 'The girl had been watching Matthew' to 'green in some lights and moods and grey in others'.]

3. **The writer gives us a lot of detail about Anne's appearance. What do you find interesting about this description, and why?** [5]

[last paragraph]

4. **What impressions of Anne does the last paragraph give you? Explain your ideas.** [5]
5. **Thinking about the whole extract, do you think Matthew and his sister should adopt Anne? Explain your ideas.** [5]

TOTAL MARKS 25