



ExamNinja

11+ English

Ages 10-11

For GL Assessment



50 minutes

Instructions

- Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
- This is a multiple-choice test.
- You should use a pencil to complete this test.
- Mark your answer to each question within the separate answer sheet.
- To mark your answer, draw a neat horizontal line through the correct box.
- If you make a mistake, rub it out and mark your new answer clearly.
- Attempt as many questions as you can.
- If you get stuck, mark the answer that you think is most likely to be correct and move on to the next question.
- All workings and notes should be completed on a separate piece of paper.
- Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.

Comprehension 1: The Metal Chamber of Intrigue

Although she had been warned, Hayley still wanted to look inside. She knew that the risks were high, and that others had fallen foul to the perils that lay within, yet she couldn't help herself. The mystery of its contents was far too alluring for her, and Hayley had spent many an hour lying awake in bed wondering what was to be found. All she longed for was to open the door. The desire to do so was overwhelming and Hayley was struggling to ignore the urges any longer.

There had been a few opportunities earlier in the day, but others had been around and there was a strong sense of watchful eyes when she plucked up the courage to do it. So the plans had been abandoned, and now Hayley's decision was whether to go through with it in darkness. She thought it through:

What if she needed help, but there was no one there?

What if she called and was heard but no one could see her in the blackness?

What if she froze with horror and couldn't escape?

Hayley continued her considerations, and suppressed her concerns. She would do it; yes.

And so out of the house Hayley crept, taking light footsteps across the wooden floor so as not to wake anyone from their slumber. She closed the front door slowly enough to stop it creaking, touched her pocket to feel the key inside, and closed it gently until the lock clicked in place.

The air was chilly with a slight breeze against her. If she'd read into the metaphor, she might have thought that even the wind was trying to persuade her not to go, just as her conscience was doing. Hayley continued to ignore them both, and walked up the hill toward the great magnet which had occupied her mind.

There it was: a large, grey, metal chamber of intrigue. The warning sign on the door had been faded by the sun, but its message was clear enough. Yet Hayley tightly grasped her hand around the handle and pulled it towards her.

A loud grinding sound echoed through the houses, but Hayley - startled and anxious - looked around. Only a cat could be seen several houses away in the dimly-lit street. She was truly alone now.

Hayley continued to pull the door open, and inside a dead and shrivelled spider hung off a dusty thread of yesteryear. She looked beyond the dangling corpse and onto a large panel covered in plugs and cables and switches. She secretly gasped in delight and took out the little torch from her pocket.

"If I'm to truly be secretive, I mustn't let the torch light shine out," she thought. And so, without hesitation, Hayley stepped inside the danger zone and as she did, the wind suddenly whipped up to a great speed, slamming the door shut behind her.

- 1 At the start of the story, Hayley was:
- A deflated
 - B curious
 - C adjacent
 - D troubled
- 2 What was Hayley interested in?
- A Looking inside the box
 - B Having a key to the box
 - C Making sure no one could take the contents of the box
 - D Trying to find the box
- 3 Which of these statements is false?
- A Hayley had trouble sleeping
 - B Hayley did not think there were any risks
 - C Hayley saw the warning signs
 - D Hayley didn't want anyone to see her
- 4 Does Hayley believe she is good in a difficult situation?
- A Yes
 - B No
 - C We cannot tell from the information given
 - D The text does not give any information at all
- 5 'A strong sense of watchful eyes' means:
- A There are lots of cats' eyes along the road
 - B The people there are wearing glasses
 - C A number of people have spoken to her
 - D She thinks people are observing
- 6 At what point in the day does Hayley take action?
- A Early morning
 - B Early afternoon
 - C Before bedtime
 - D After dusk

- 7 What is the weather like when she leaves the house?
- A Warm and sunny
 - B Cold and still
 - C Cool with unsettled air
 - D Raining and blustery
- 8 'The great magnet which had occupied her mind' uses which language technique?
- A alliteration
 - B hyperbole
 - C simile
 - D metaphor
- 9 Why did Hayley leave the house quietly?
- A She didn't want anyone to notice her
 - B The family were snoring
 - C So the door would creak more quietly
 - D The wooden floor had just been polished
- 10 'A large, grey, metal chamber' is:
- A A main clause
 - B An adverbial phrase
 - C A subordinate clause
 - D A noun phrase
- 11 Why is the dead spider important in the story?
- A It shows how deadly the chamber was
 - B It indicates how long it has been since the door was opened
 - C The spider had died after eating its last victim
 - D There were lots of spiders but only one was dead
- 12 Why did Hayley go inside?
- A She wanted to see the spider close up
 - B She didn't want to startle the cat several houses away
 - C She didn't want the torchlight to shine in the darkness
 - D She was mesmerised by the shiny electrical switches

Comprehension 2: The Navy-Blue Pinstriped Suit

The doors were almost closing, and a beeping sound could be heard, when a head of greying hair became visible in the lower part of the window. It was bobbing up and down as it travelled from right to left, hair flapping with each landing on his feet. I rose a little from my seat and realised the man was trying to get through the doors in time. One of the passengers near the open door was doing her best to hold one side back; with a little bit of luck and a huge leap, he boarded just in time and gave a huge sigh of relief.

The woman smiled at him, and he smiled back. There was no exchange of words but her friendly eyes gave much admiration for his gymnastic-like routine. She wondered how often he had almost made it, and whether there had ever been a disaster such as person – in, but briefcase – out.

The man glanced around, looking for a seat. There happened to be one opposite me, on the other side of the table. So I signalled with one hand by pointing above the open space, and he gave an acknowledging nod in return. As he approached, I realised he was wearing a navy-blue pinstriped suit. It reminded me of the day my brother took his vows, although this gentleman was not wearing a top hat to match. His shoes were very shiny though, and it seemed to me as though he had never strayed from the concrete paths, and always taken the ‘Keep off the Grass’ signs quite literally.

He lifted his briefcase onto the edge of the seat, unwound the scarf from his neck, unbuttoned the top of his jacket, and sat down in a way which indicated he could finally now relax.

I knew that the accepted etiquette on public transport was to say very little to your fellow passengers, and if you did, it should only last a short time. ‘Not everyone wants to hear your endless monologue,’ my mother would say whenever I wanted to be sociable, and so I decided to return to my book and leave the man alone with his own thoughts.

However, it was not long before his mobile rang and he answered with a warm Scottish accent. I could see he was listening intently, giving occasional ‘Aye,’ and ‘Aye ok,’ responses, but in retort he said very little. It wasn’t long until his phone call had finished, and the carriage was quiet again. I was dying to ask him, but as my mother’s voice echoed around my head once more, I decided to keep schtum.

- 13 Where is the narrator?
- A Waiting for a bus
 - B Sitting on a train
 - C Hailing a taxi
 - D Registering at reception
- 14 What time of year is it?
- A Winter
 - B Spring
 - C Summer
 - D We cannot tell from the text
- 15 What do we know about the narrator?
- A She has a sister
 - B She is friendly
 - C She likes to write books
 - D She is quite shy
- 16 To what does 'took his vows' refer?
- A Getting engaged
 - B Joining the army
 - C Giving evidence in court
 - D Getting married
- 17 What do the man's shoes infer?
- A He does not like grass
 - B He does not like concrete paths
 - C He thinks that grass is not for walking on
 - D He has no patience for walking on grass
- 18 Why did the narrator rise from her seat?
- A To let the man sit down
 - B To make herself look taller
 - C To observe more clearly
 - D She needed to stretch her legs

- 19 What is significant about the description of the man's hair
- A It shows his intentions
 - B It shows his movements
 - C It shows his age
 - D It shows his style
- 20 'Her friendly eyes gave much admiration for his gymnastic-like routine' contains:
- A A metaphor then a simile
 - B Two metaphors
 - C Personification then a metaphor
 - D Only one metaphor
- 21 What is meant by 'accepted etiquette'?
- A The way we think we should behave
 - B The way we expect others to speak
 - C The way that some people sound more posh
 - D The way that we want to behave but cannot
- 22 What do we learn about the narrator's mother?
- A She does not like listening
 - B She thinks that others do not like listening
 - C She thinks that her daughter is ill-behaved
 - D She assumes that only she has something interesting to say
- 23 Which word means to remain mute?
- A retort
 - B monologue
 - C schtum
 - D acknowledge
- 24 Which word is a synonym of 'signal' as used in the text?
- A indicated
 - B indication
 - C indicative
 - D indicatory

Questions 25 – 40

Choose one of the five options in bold which completes the sentence in the most sensible way. Write the answer on your answer sheet.

For example,

The cat ate its **bed / dinner / sleep / laptop / fingers**.

A B C D E

Answer: B

I have a baby brother (25) **who had / who has / whose / who will / who be** just turned

A B C D E

one year old. He is quite big (26) **because / on / for / yet / so** his age and is very

A B C D E

healthy – it must be (27) **due to / because / resulting / leading to / linked** all of the

A B C D E

high-quality food he is fed.

Last week, we (28) **encored / devoted / postponed / condemned / celebrated** his first

A B C D E

birthday by having a small and (29) **intimate / hostile / sauntering / rogue / repugnant**

A B C D E

party with our close family and friends. There were three other toddlers: our cousin,

the neighbour's daughter and my mum's friend's son. They were crawling on the play

mat together, enjoying themselves, until two of them wanted the same musical toy

(30) **observantly / reserved by / simultaneously / compellingly / punctually**. At that

A B C D E

point it (31) **couldn't / shouldn't / want / won't / wasn't** a happy party any longer.

A B C D E

My mum had to quickly get an (32) **erosive / similar / obliging / identical / approving**

A B C D E

musical toy from my room and put it on the play mat (33) **to / aswell / indeed / too / two,**

A B C D E

so they both had one (34) **away / behind / within / until / each**. The crying soon stopped

A B C D E

and calm fell on the room once more. I didn't (35) **estimate / forget / knowledge / realise / translate**

A B C D E

looking after toddlers took so much care and attention.

The party food mum prepared (36) **will be / was / won't / were / where** so delicious.

A B C D E

We had sandwiches in star shapes, cheesy crisps, cucumber sticks and rainbow drinks.

For afters, we had banana chunks (37) **drizzled / dunked / clouded / gripped / denied**

A B C D E

with chocolate.

Party games (38) **would of / must be / would have / might of / were** been a little bit

A B C D E

tricky with such small children, so we sang happy songs sitting on the floor in a

(39) **patterned / oval / linear / circle / dimension**. My mum takes my baby brother to a

A B C D E

singing group (40) **regularly / occasionally / every / sometimes / twice** week and he

A B C D E

loves it. Maybe he will play a musical instrument when he is older.

Questions 41 – 45

Find one punctuation error in each line. Give the letter whose box is under the error.

41 "I'm not so keen on snakes," Alice explained to her dad "They don't look very cuddly."

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

42 "Are you sure you dont like them? Look at their fantastic colours shimmering in the light."

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

43 Wouldn't you prefer to go and see the fluffy rabbits and guinea pigs?" Alice asked, with

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

44 optimism in her voice. Those were the animals she was really looking forward to seeing,

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

45 "Okay, you've persuaded me Alice. Let's go."

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

Questions 46 – 50

Find one spelling error in each line. Give the letter whose box is under the error.

46 The children sat at their desks squinting towards the board. It was necessary to look in

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

47 that direction as the demonstration of great scientific importance would be commencing

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

48 imminently. Their faces grimaced as Mr Boxton moved the delapidated equipment, but

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

49 to their horror, it slid down onto the floor and shattered into shards of disappointment.

A	B	C	D
---	---	---	---

50 What had gone wrong? Mr Boxton realised the mistake. The block was entirely detached.

A	B	C	D
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