



# 11+ Practice Papers

## 11+ English - Multiple Choice (Test 8)



Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow.

## Beezus and Ramona

Beatrice Quimby's biggest problem was her little sister Ramona. Beatrice, or Beezus (as everyone called her, because that was what Ramona had called her when she first learned to talk), knew other nine-year-old girls who had little sisters who went to nursery school, but she did not know anyone with a little sister like Ramona.

5

Beezus felt that the biggest trouble with four-year-old Ramona was that she was just plain exasperating. If Ramona drank lemonade through a straw, she blew into the straw as hard as she could to see what would happen. If she played with her finger paints in the front yard, she wiped her hands on the neighbour's cat. That was the exasperating sort of thing Ramona did. And then there was the way she behaved about her favourite book.

10

It all began one afternoon after school when Beezus was sitting in her father's big chair embroidering a laughing teakettle on a pot holder for one of her aunts for Christmas. She was trying to embroider this one neatly, because she planned to give it to Aunt Beatrice, who was Mother's younger sister and Beezus's most special aunt.

15

With grey thread Beezus carefully outlined the steam coming from the teakettle's spout and thought about her pretty young aunt, who was always so gay and so understanding. No wonder she was Mother's favourite sister. Beezus hoped to be exactly like Aunt Beatrice when she grew up. She wanted to be a fourth-grade teacher and drive a yellow convertible and live in an apartment house with an elevator and a buzzer that opened the front door. Because she was named after Aunt Beatrice, Beezus felt she might be like her in other ways, too.

20

While Beezus was sewing, Ramona, holding a mouth organ in her teeth, was riding around the living room on her tricycle. Since she needed both hands to steer the tricycle, she could blow in and out on only one note. This made the harmonica sound as if it were groaning *oh dear, oh dear* over and over again.

25

Beezus tried to pay no attention. She tied a small knot in the end of a piece of red thread to embroider the tea kettle's laughing mouth. "Conceal a knot as you would a secret," Grandmother always said.

30

Inhaling and exhaling into her mouth organ, Ramona closed her eyes and tried to pedal around the coffee table without looking.

35

"Ramona!" cried Beezus. "Watch where you're going!"

When Ramona crashed into the coffee table, she opened her eyes again. *Oh dear, oh dear*, moaned the harmonica. Around and around pedalled Ramona, inhaling and exhaling.

Beezus looked up from her pot holder. "Ramona, why don't you play with Bendix for a while?" Bendix was Ramona's favourite doll. Ramona thought Bendix was the most beautiful name in the world.

40

Ramona took the harmonica out of her mouth. "No," she said. "Read my Scoopy book to me."

45

"Oh, Ramona, not Scoopy," protested Beezus. "We've read Scoopy so many times."



Instead of answering, Ramona put her harmonica between her teeth again and pedalled around the room, inhaling and exhaling. Beezus had to lift her feet every time Ramona rode by.

50 The knot in Beezus's thread pulled through the material of her pot holder, and she gave up trying to conceal it as she would a secret and tied a bigger knot. Finally, tired of trying to keep her feet out of Ramona's way, she put down her embroidery. "All right, Ramona," she said. "If I read about Scoopy, will you stop riding your tricycle around the living room and making so much noise?"

55 "Yes," said Ramona, and climbed off her tricycle. She ran into the bedroom she shared with Beezus and returned with a battered, dog-eared, sticky book, which she handed to Beezus. Then she climbed into the big chair beside Beezus and waited expectantly.

60 Reflecting that Ramona always managed to get her own way, Beezus gingerly took the book and looked at it with a feeling of great dislike. It was called *The Littlest Steam Shovel*. On the cover was a picture of a steam shovel with big tears coming out of its eyes. How could a steam shovel have eyes, Beezus thought and, scarcely looking at the words, began for what seemed like the hundredth or maybe the thousandth time, "Once there was a little steam shovel named Scoopy. One day Scoopy said, 'I do not want to be a steam shovel. I want to be a bulldozer.'"

65 "You skipped," interrupted Ramona.

"No, I didn't," said Beezus.

70 "Yes, you did," insisted Ramona. "You're supposed to say, 'I want to be a *big* bulldozer.'"

"Oh, all right," said Beezus crossly. "I want to be a big bulldozer."

75 Ramona smiled contentedly and Beezus continued reading. "'G-r-r-r,' said Scoopy, doing his best to sound like a bulldozer."

Beezus read on through Scoopy's failure to be a bulldozer. She read about Scoopy's wanting to be a trolley bus ("Beep-beep," honked Ramona), a locomotive ("A-hooey, a-hooey," wailed Ramona), and a pile driver ("Clunk! Clunk!" shouted Ramona). Beezus was glad when she finally reached the end of the story and Scoopy learned it was best for little steam shovels to be steam shovels. "There!" she said with relief, and closed the book. She always felt foolish trying to make noises like machinery.

80 "Clunk! Clunk!" yelled Ramona, jumping down from the chair. She pulled her harmonica out of the pocket of her overalls and climbed on her tricycle. *Oh dear, oh dear*, she inhaled and exhaled.

85 "Ramona!" cried Beezus. "You promised you'd stop if I read Scoopy to you."

"I did stop," said Ramona, when she had taken the harmonica out of her mouth.

90 "Now read it again."

"Ramona Geraldine Quimby!" Beezus began, and stopped. It was useless to argue with Ramona. She wouldn't pay any attention. "Why do you like that story anyway?" Beezus asked. "Steam shovels can't talk, and I feel silly trying to make all those noises."

95 "I don't," said Ramona, and wailed, "A-hooey, a-hooey," with great feeling before she put her harmonica back in her mouth.



100 Beezus watched her little sister pedal furiously around the living room, inhaling and exhaling. Why did she have to like a book about a steam shovel anyway? Girls weren't supposed to like machinery. Why couldn't she like something quiet, like *Peter Rabbit*?

105 Mother, who had bought *The Littlest Steam Shovel* at the Supermarket to keep Ramona quiet while she shopped one afternoon, was so tired of Scoopy that she always managed to be too busy to read to Ramona. Father came right out and said he was fed up with frustrated steam shovels and he would not read that book to Ramona and, furthermore, no one else was to read it to her while he was in the house. And that was that.

110 So only Beezus was left to read Scoopy to Ramona. Plainly something had to be done and it was up to Beezus to do it. But what? Arguing with Ramona was a waste of time. So was appealing to her better nature. The best thing to do with Ramona, Beezus had learned, was to think up something to take the place of whatever her mind was fixed upon. And what could take the place of *The Littlest Steam Shovel*? Another book, of course, a better book, and the place to find it was certainly the library.

115 "Ramona, how would you like me to take you to the library to find a different book?" Beezus asked. She really enjoyed taking Ramona places, which, of course, was quite different from wanting to go someplace herself and having Ramona insist on tagging along.

120 For a moment Ramona was undecided. Plainly she was torn between wanting *The Littlest Steam Shovel* read aloud again and the pleasure of going out with Beezus. "O.K.," she agreed at last.

"Get your sweater while I tell Mother," said Beezus.

"Clunk! Clunk!" shouted Ramona happily.

125 When Ramona appeared with her sweater, Beezus stared at her in dismay. Oh, no, she thought. She can't wear those to the library.

130 On her head Ramona wore a circle of cardboard with two long paper ears attached. The insides of the ears were coloured with pink crayon, Ramona's work at nursery school. "I'm the Easter bunny," announced Ramona.

"Mother," wailed Beezus. "You aren't going to let her wear those awful ears to the library!"

"Why, I don't see why not." Mother sounded surprised that Beezus should object to Ramona's ears.



## SECTION A

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.)

You should choose the *best* answer.

Write your answer (**A, B, C, D or E**) on the line below.

**[1]** What is Beezus' real name?

- A. Ramona
- B. Bendix
- C. Zelena
- D. Beatrice
- E. Beezus

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

**[2]** What was Beezus' biggest problem?

- A. Reading
- B. Ramona
- C. Embroidery
- D. Concealing knots
- E. Loud noise

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

**[3]** How old is Ramona?

- A. Four years old.
- B. Five years old.
- C. Six years old.
- D. Eight years old.
- E. Nine years old.

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



**[4]** What relationship do Beezus and Ramona share?

- A. Beezus and Ramona are cousins.
- B. Ramona and Beatrice are step-sisters.
- C. Ramona is Beatrice's older sister.
- D. Beatrice is Ramona's younger sister.
- E. Ramona is Beatrice's younger sister.

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

**[5]** Where did Ramona wipe her hands when finger painting?

- A. On her clothes.
- B. On the neighbour's cat.
- C. On the walls on the house.
- D. On the bushes.
- E. On Beezus.

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

**[6]** Who was Aunt Beatrice?

- A. Mother's younger sister.
- B. Mother's older sister.
- C. Father's younger sister.
- D. Father's older sister.
- E. Beezus' godmother.

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



**[7]** Why did Beezus feel that she had more things in common with Aunt Beatrice?

- A. Beezus enjoyed teaching.
- B. Aunt Beatrice was her favourite aunt.
- C. Beezus was named after her.
- D. Aunt Beatrice had a good lifestyle.
- E. Aunt Beatrice was Beezus' hero.

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

**[8]** What was Ramona doing at the same time as riding her tricycle?

- A. Humming to herself.
- B. Repeating the words *oh dear* out loud.
- C. Blowing into a harmonica.
- D. Knocking things down in the living room.
- E. Talking to Beezus.

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

**[9]** According to the text, what was Aunt Beatrice's profession?

- A. Principal
- B. Police Officer
- C. Teacher
- D. Seamstress
- E. Accountant

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



**[10]** Why did Ramona crash into the coffee table?

- A. She lost control of her tricycle.
- B. She was cycling with her eyes closed.
- C. She wanted to disturb Beezus.
- D. She was cycling using only one hand to steer.
- E. She was cycling using no hands to steer.

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

**[11]** Who is Bendix?

- A. A character in Ramona's book.
- B. Ramona's best friend.
- C. The neighbour's cat.
- D. Ramona's favourite doll.
- E. Ramona's harmonica.

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

**[12]** How else can a harmonica be described?

- A. Ukulele
- B. Pocket guitar
- C. Recorder
- D. Clarinet
- E. Mouth organ

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





**[13]** What was the state of Ramona's favourite book?

- A. Battered and used.
- B. Intact and pristine.
- C. In mint condition.
- D. Brand new and untouched.
- E. Crumbling into pieces.

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

**[14]** What was Beezus doing before she decided to read to Ramona?

- A. Reading
- B. Embroidery
- C. Watching TV
- D. Napping
- E. Riding her bike

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

**[15]** What did Scopy from The Littlest Steam Shovel learn at the end?

- A. That he was the littlest shovel in all the land.
- B. He could be a bulldozer if he believed.
- C. It was best to remain what he already was.
- D. He and Bendix the bulldozer were best friends.
- E. He was always ready to be a bulldozer.

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



**[16]** According to Beezus, what was the best course of action to take when Ramona became overwhelming?

- A. Think of a way to distract Ramona.
- B. Take Ramona to the library.
- C. Give in to whatever Ramona wants.
- D. Read Ramona a book.
- E. Take Ramona to the supermarket.

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

**[17]** When did Beezus dislike taking Ramona places?

- A. When Ramona had homework.
- B. When Ramona would be asleep.
- C. When Beezus had to tag along.
- D. When Ramona tagged along.
- E. When Beezus would read to Ramona.

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

**[18]** Why did Beezus protest about taking Ramona to the library?

- A. Beezus wanted to continue doing her embroidery.
- B. Ramona was making a fuss once again.
- C. Ramona was dressed as the Easter Bunny.
- D. Beezus wanted to go by herself.
- E. Beezus wanted to only go with her mother.

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



**[19]** What word is closest in meaning to 'exasperating'?

- A. Mollifying
- B. Pacifying
- C. Sedative
- D. Palliative
- E. Vexing

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

**[20]** 'I want to be a big bulldozer.'

Identify the literary device used.

- A. Hyperbole
- B. Paradox
- C. Oxymoron
- D. Alliteration
- E. Simile

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

**[21]** '...beside Beatrice and waited expectantly...'

Identify the adverb.

- A. Beside
- B. Beatrice
- C. And
- D. Waited
- E. Expectantly

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



**[22]** 'Clunk! Clunk!'

Identify the literary device used.

- A. Metaphor
- B. Irony
- C. Onomatopoeia
- D. Idiom
- E. Personification

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

**[23]** '...her little sister pedal furiously...'

Identify the verb.

- A. Her
- B. Little
- C. Sister
- D. Pedal
- E. Furiously

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

**[24]** In which of these would you be most likely to read this text?

- A. Magazine
- B. Biography
- C. Manual
- D. Novel
- E. Encyclopaedia

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



**[25]** What word is furthest in meaning to 'dismay'?

- A. Shock
- B. Melancholy
- C. Desolation
- D. Anguish
- E. Solace

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



## SECTION B

In this passage there are some *spelling mistakes*. On each numbered line there is either *one* or *no* mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark the right answer on the line below. If there is *no* mistake, mark **N**.

### The Child's Story

[26] So he learnd with that boy about Jupiter and Juno, and the Greeks and the

A

B

C

D

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

[27] Romans, and I don't know what, and learned moar than I could tell - or he either, for

A

B

C

D

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

[28] he soon forgot a grate deal of it. But, they were not always learning; they had the

A

B

C

D

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



[29] merryest games that ever were played. They rowed upon the river in summer, and

A

B

C

D

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

[30] skated on the ice in winter; they where active afoot, and active on horseback; at

A

B

C

D

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

[31] cricket, and all games at ball; at prisoner's base, hare and hounds, folow my leader,

A

B

C

D

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

[32] and more sports than I can think of; nobody could beat them. They had holidays too,

A

B

C

D

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

[33] and Twelfth cakes, and partys where they danced till midnight.

A

B

C

D

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



## SECTION C

In this passage there are some mistakes in the use of *capital letters* and *punctuation*. On each numbered line there is either *one* or *no* mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark the right answer on the line below. If there is *no* mistake, mark **N**.

### A Pair of Silk Stockings

[34] A dollar or two should be added to the price usually paid for janie's shoes, which

A

B

C

D

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

[35] would insure their lasting an appreciable time longer than they usually did She would

A

B

C

D

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

[36] buy so and so many Yards of percale for new shirt waists for the boys and Janie and

A

B

C

D

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





[37] and mag. She had intended to make the old ones do by skilful patching. Mag should have

A

B

C

D

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

[38] another gown She had seen some beautiful patterns, veritable bargains in the shop

A

B

C

D

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

[39] windows. and still there would be left enough for new stockings - two pairs apiece -

A

B

C

D

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

[40] and what darning that would save for a while!

A

B

C

D

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

[41] She would get caps for the boys and sailor-hats for the Girls.

A

B

C

D

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



## SECTION D

In each question you have to choose the *best word*, or *group of words*, to complete this passage so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. You should choose one of the five answers and mark it on the line below.

### The Furnished Room

[42] One evening after dark a young man prowled among these crumbling red mansions,

A. ringing their bells.	B. hitting their bells.	C. scratching their doors.	D. calling them names.	E. climbing their doors.
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

At the twelfth he rested his lean hand-baggage upon the step

[43] and wiped the dust from his hatband and

A. scalp.	B. forehead.	C. vertebrae.	D. cranium.	E. mantelpiece.
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

The bell sounded faint and far away in some remote, hollow depths.

[44] To the door of this, the twelfth house whose bell he had

A. sprung,	B. ringed,	C. rung,	D. rang,	E. ring,
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



came a housekeeper who made him think of an unwholesome, surfeited worm that had eaten its nut to a hollow shell and now sought to fill the vacancy with edible lodgers.

[45] He asked if there was a room

A. to lend.	B. to keep.	C. to return.	D. to borrow.	E. to let.
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

"Come in," said the housekeeper. Her voice came from her throat; her throat seemed lined with fur. "I have the third floor back, vacant since a week back. Should you wish to look at it?"

[46] The young man followed her up

A. the slant.	B. the rise.	C. the incline.	D. the stairs.	E. the slate.
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

A faint light from no particular source mitigated the shadows of the halls. They trod noiselessly upon a stair carpet that its own loom would have forsworn.

[47] It seemed to have become vegetable; to have

A. degenerated	B. regenerated	C. generated	D. generation	E. generate
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

in that rank, sunless air to lush lichen or spreading moss that grew in patches to the staircase



[48] and was viscid under the foot like

A. origami matter.	B. organic matter.	C. oregano matter.	D. oracle matter.	E. oriental matter.
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

At each turn of the stairs were vacant niches in the wall. Perhaps plants had once been set within them.

[49] If so they had died in that foul and

A. tainted	B. tender	C. tented	D. painted	E. tattered
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

air. It may be that statues of the saints had stood there, but it was not difficult to conceive

[50] that imps and devils had dragged them forth in

A. the dimness	B. the likeness	C. the brightness	D. the darkness	E. the lightness
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Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

and down to the unholy depths of some furnished pit below.