English 2

Familiarisation

Read the following with your child:

1. You have to read a passage and then answer some questions about it. You can look back at the passage to check your answers as many times as you want. There are also some spelling, punctuation and grammar exercises to do.
2. This is a multiple-choice paper in which you have to mark your answer to each question on the separate answer sheet.
3. Draw a firm line clearly through the rectangle next to your answer like this . If you make a mistake, rub it out as completely as you can and put in your new answer.
4. Be sure to keep your place on the answer sheet. Mark your answer in the box that has the same number as the question in the booklet.
5. You may find some of the questions difficult. If you cannot do a question, **do not waste time on it but go on to the next**. If you are not sure of an answer, choose the one you think is best.
6. **Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.**

GL Assessment

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

The Secret Garden

by Frances Hodgson Burnett

While walking in the garden Mary watched a robin and, after following it, discovered a key on the ground.

She looked at the key quite a long time. She turned it over and over, and thought about it. All she thought about the key was that if it was the key to the closed garden, and she could find out where the door was, she could perhaps open it and see what was inside the walls, and what had happened to the old rose-trees. It was because it had been shut up so long that she wanted to see it. It seemed as if it must be different from other places and that something strange must have happened to it during ten years. Besides that, if she liked it she could go into it every day and shut the door behind her, and she could make up some play of her own and play it quite alone, because nobody would ever know where she was, but would think the door was still locked and the key buried in the earth. The thought of that pleased her very much.

Living in a house with a hundred mysteriously closed rooms and having nothing whatever to do to amuse herself, had set her inactive brain to working and was actually awakening her imagination.

She put the key in her pocket and walked up and down her path. No one but herself ever seemed to come there, so she could walk slowly and look at the wall, or, rather, at the ivy growing on it. The ivy was the baffling thing. Howsoever carefully she looked she could see nothing but thickly growing, glossy, dark green leaves. She was very much disappointed as she paced the path and looked over it at the tree-tops inside. It seemed so silly, she said to herself, to be near it and not be able to get in. She took the key in her pocket when she went back to the house, and she made up her mind that she would always carry it with her when she went out, so that if she ever should find the hidden door she would be ready.

* * *

The skipping-rope was a wonderful thing. The sun was shining and a little wind was blowing – not a rough wind, but one which came in delightful little gusts and brought a fresh scent of newly turned earth with it.

Mary skipped round all the gardens and round the orchard, resting every few minutes. At length she went to her own special path and made up her mind to try if she could skip the whole length of it. It was a good long skip and she began slowly, but before she had gone half-way down the path she was so hot and breathless that she was obliged to stop. She

did not mind much, because she had already counted up to thirty. She stopped with a little laugh of pleasure, and there, lo and behold, was the robin swaying on a long branch of ivy. He had followed her and he greeted her with a chirp. As Mary had skipped toward him she felt something heavy in her pocket strike against her at each jump, and when she saw the robin she laughed again.

"You showed me where the key was yesterday," she said. "You ought to show me the door today; but I don't believe you know!"

The robin flew from his swinging spray of ivy on to the top of the wall and he opened his beak and sang a loud, lovely trill, merely to show off. Nothing in the world is quite as adorably lovely as a robin when he shows off – and they are nearly always doing it.

One of the nice little gusts of wind rushed down the path, and it was a stronger one than the rest. It was strong enough to wave the branches of the trees, and it was more than strong enough to sway the trailing sprays of untrimmed ivy hanging from the wall. Mary had stepped close to the robin, and suddenly the gust of wind swung aside some loose ivy trails, and more suddenly still she jumped toward it and caught it in her hand. This she did because she had seen something under it – a round knob which had been covered by the leaves hanging over it. It was the knob of a door.

She put her hands under the leaves and began to pull and push them aside. Thick as the ivy hung, it nearly all was a loose and swinging curtain, though some had crept over wood and iron. Mary's heart began to thump and her hands to shake a little in her delight and excitement. The robin kept singing and twittering away and tilting his head on one side, as if he were as excited as she was. What was this under her hands which was square and made of iron and which her fingers found a hole in?

It was the lock of the door which had been closed ten years and she put her hand in her pocket, drew out the key and found it fitted the keyhole. She put the key in and turned it. It took two hands to do it, but it did turn.

And then she took a long breath and looked behind her up the long path to see if anyone was coming. No one was coming. No one ever did come, it seemed, and she took another long breath, because she could not help it, and she held back the swinging curtain of ivy and pushed back the door which opened slowly – slowly.

Then she slipped through it, and shut it behind her, and stood with her back against it, looking about her and breathing quite fast with excitement, and wonder, and delight.

She was standing inside the secret garden.

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.)
You should choose the **best** answer and mark its letter on your answer sheet.

1 **For how many years had the secret garden been locked?**

A seven
B eight
C nine
D ten
E eleven

2 **Which of the following facts do we know about the secret garden from the passage?**

A It receives a lot of sunlight.
B There is lots of space for playing.
C There is a pond.
D There are trees inside.
E There is a gardener.

3 **What word best describes Mary as she 'turned it [the key] over and over'?**

A regretful
B frustrated
C pensive
D frightened
E ecstatic

4 **What made Mary especially keen to see the secret garden?**

A It had been inaccessible for so long.
B People had been saying how beautiful it was inside.
C She could see a bit of it through the wall and it looked very tempting.
D She was bored of playing in the rest of the garden.
E Her parents had encouraged her to play outside.

5 **Mary was keen to keep the garden a secret even if she found the entrance. Why?**

A Mary didn't like spending time with other people.
B People had warned her that she shouldn't go into the garden.
C Mary wanted to play by herself.
D Mary found it thrilling to keep secrets.
E Mary had promised a friend that she would keep it a secret.

6 **What did Mary plan to do in the secret garden?**

A play with her skipping rope
B invite her friends over to play
C tend to the plants
D read her books
E play her own games

7 **According to the first paragraph, where had the key been hidden? (line 9)**

A on the wall
B next to a flower pot
C in the earth
D in a bird's nest
E on the window-sill

8 **According to the passage, what accounted for Mary's particularly strong imagination?**

A Mary had been brought up with no toys.
B Mary had always been a very creative child.
C Mary's school encouraged imaginative activities.
D Mary had nothing to entertain her at home.
E Mary's parents had instilled in Mary a love of imaginative games.

9 **According to the passage, what impression do we get of the house in which Mary lived?**

A It was an inviting place.
B The house contained many secrets.
C The house was an old, dilapidated building.
D The people who lived there were very posh.
E All the neighbours were in awe of the house.

10 **Why was it particularly hard to see if there was a door to the garden?**

A The garden walls were covered in thick ivy.
B The garden was so large it was hard to get all the way around it.
C There were trees obscuring the garden walls.
D Mary only ever looked for the door after dark, when no one was around.
E The house towered over the garden so the walls were in shadow.

11 **Why did Mary decide to keep the key on her at all times?**

A She didn't trust anyone else to keep it safe.
B She had nowhere to store it in her house.
C She wanted to be able to open the door whenever she found it.
D She often lost things, even if they were important.
E It might get lost amongst the other keys.

12 **What best describes the wind that blew along the path?**

A gentle gust
B strong wind
C stiff breeze
D gale-force
E high wind

13 **What else did Mary skip around other than the gardens?**

A the old rose trees
B the summerhouse
C the stables
D the orchard
E the boating lake

14 **What challenge did Mary set herself as she played in the gardens?**

A Mary decided to run from one side to the other.
B Mary wanted to skip all the way down the path.
C Mary aimed to do more than thirty skips.
D Mary aimed to exercise for thirty minutes without getting out of breath.
E Mary wanted to run up and down the path to find her friend, the robin.

15 **What happened just before Mary's discovery of the key AND the hidden door?**

A Mary came across the robin.
B Mary played with her skipping rope.
C The winds increased.
D Mary felt breathless.
E Mary started laughing.

16 **Which of the following quotations from the passage suggests that the gardens in which Mary played were neglected?**

A "thickly growing, glossy, dark green leaves" (line 17)
B "fresh scent of newly turned earth" (line 25)
C "skipped round all the gardens and round the orchard" (line 26)
D "the robin swaying on a long branch of ivy" (line 31)
E "trailing sprays of untrimmed ivy" (line 42)

17 **What was the significance of the wind in the story?**

A The wind filled the silence.
B The wind stopped Mary doing what she wanted to do.
C The wind brushed aside the earth to uncover the key.
D The wind propelled the robin to Mary.
E The wind blew the ivy to reveal the doorknob.

18 **What metaphor is used when describing the ivy?**

A It is a curtain.
B It is thick.
C It is untrimmed hair.
D It is like a swing.
E It is glossy.

19 **What suggests that the robin was as excited as Mary at finding the door to the garden?**

A The robin was silent as Mary uncovered the door.
B The robin flew around frantically.
C The robin made lots of noise.
D The robin started pecking at the doorknob.
E The robin came and sat on Mary's shoulder.

20 **Why is "no one" repeated in line 57?**

A The author couldn't think of anything else to write.
B Repetition can build suspense.
C Mary's actions were repetitive.
D Mary was feeling lonely at that moment.
E It reflects Mary's muddled thoughts.

21 **Why is there an emphasis on Mary's breathing in the last seven lines of the passage?**

A Mary had been skipping a lot and was out of breath.
B The key was very hard to turn so Mary had to breathe deeply to give her strength.
C Mary was being dramatic so she was exaggerating her breathing.
D Mary was breathless with excitement and anticipation.
E Mary was inhaling deeply before calling to her friends.

22 **What type of words are the following?**

mysteriously (line 11) **carefully** (line 16) **thickly** (line 17) **adorably** (line 39)

A nouns
B verbs
C adjectives
D adverbs
E prepositions

23 **Which of these words is an adjective?**

A swaying (line 31)
B trailing (line 42)
C singing (line 50)
D tilting (line 50)
E standing (line 62)

Punctuation

In these sentences there are some **punctuation** mistakes. On each numbered line there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. **If there is no mistake, mark N.**

24 'Why don't you play outside today,' suggested Tom's aunt.



25 Even the best, most expensive detergent, couldn't remove the mud stains.



26 The recipe had two simple stages: finely chop the ingredients and then blend together.



27 Caitlin had carelessly lost Asaf's charger (his brand new one)



28 'I'd book first because the restaurant is so popular especially on Fridays.'



29 Looking through my parents music collection, I was amazed to see so many CDs!



30 If we hadnt seen the road sign, we would have ended up in Wales.



31 We were lucky to win tickets to see The Nutcracker this Winter.



A Ghostly Encounter

In these sentences there are some **spelling** mistakes. On each numbered line there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. **If there is no mistake, mark N.**

There was something different about the school playground today: not the usual lull

32 before exams or antisipation before sports day. This was a one-off, whatever it



was. One thing you couldn't fail to notice on entering the school gates was a sea of

33 hats, as far as the eye could see: not the usual peeked caps but wide-brimmed



hats with feathers. There were also helmets (not the bicycle kind) and even some

crowns. No-one was wearing modern clothes either; the usual sportswear

34 were knowhere in sight. The vast majority of children wore robes, some adorned



35 with jewels and others very plane. You could say it was an attempt by the school



36 to bring the past to life. In spite of their altered appearence, pupils lined up



as normal and Class 5B waited for Mr Holterson to take the register. The only

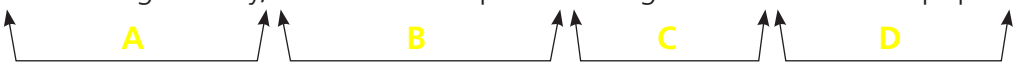
37 differance on this morning, however, was that pupils answered to the name of



their chosen person from history.

'Cleopatra! Gandhi! Einstein!… Einstein?'

38 After a slight delay, a mumbled response emerged from the line of pupils.



39 'Wow, Jimmy, that's a really good impersonatian. You even sound German!'



'That's because I am Albert Einstein.'

'Very good, Johnny!' the teacher laughed.

But Einstein did not laugh and, instead, started to cough: an old-man's cough that couldn't possibly come from a ten-year-old – could it?

40 Mr Holterson looked worried for a moment, then sheperded the pupils, or rather



the phantoms of the past, inside.

Caught Out?

In this passage you have to choose the **best** word, or **group of words**, to complete each numbered line so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. Choose the **best** answer and mark its letter on your answer sheet.

Ellie launched the ball into the air and watched it for

41 [the] [an] [this] [a] [that] split-second before racing to first base. It was
A B C D E

summer and that meant rounders: a game which not all pupils enjoyed,

42 [least] [most] [top] [less] [more] of all the green team because they
A B C D E

always seemed to lose. Perhaps the other teams had velcro attached to their hands or super-human vision even in bright sunlight

43 [unless] [because] [whereas] [although] [while] they never failed to pull
A B C D E

off miraculous catches and thunderous strikes of the ball.

44 The green team [were finishing] [will finish] [finish] [are finishing]
A B C D

[had finished] their previous round of batting feeling disheartened, having only
E

managed to score three-and-a-half rounders compared to the yellow team's six.

45 What they needed now was a moment [to] [at] [of] [with] [in]
A B C D E

inspiration and maybe – just maybe – Ellie could provide that.

'Go, Ellie, go – YES – you can do it - all the way!'

The encouragement lifted Ellie's spirits as she sprinted from first to second base,

46 hardly

dared	daring	to dare	having dared	without daring
A	B	C	D	E

to believe that she might get all the way round.

47 The ball

takes	is taking	took	has taken	will take
A	B	C	D	E

a long time to finally descend but, when it did, the green team's expressions of excitement turned to horror as they spotted the tallest boy in

48

their	they're	there	them	his
A	B	C	D	E

year standing directly underneath it, watching, waiting. However, the tension soon gave way to laughter: not cruel, mocking laughter but genuine disbelief. As soon as Ellie reached fourth base, she turned and looked to see what was going on. And there it was: a bird with the ball in its beak.

'Rounder!' the umpire shouted.

When the yellow team protested, the umpire simply smiled and said, 'Well, the

49 bird's not officially on your team,

isn't it	won't it	will it	is it	could it
A	B	C	D	E

?'

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