

Level 1

Class One

Skill: Reading (Skimming to find the paragraph pattern and the main ideas)

The Reading Text

“Where do you come in your family?” According to Frank Sulloway, a US sociologist, the order in which we came into this world -first-born, middle or last-born- can not only help shape our personality, it could affect the success of our relationships, too. Sulloway has interviewed more than 6000 people over the past 26 years in an attempt to prove this theory: “Children compete for a place in the family”, he says, “and if one role has already been taken, later-born children have to choose from what’s left”. Because firstborns begin life with exclusive parental attention, they are often more open to accepting their parents' values, while later-born children, forced to compete for a place in the family, may grow into rebellious adults. 10 So if birth order has such a significant impact on our behavior, does it affect our interactions with other people? Can we, for example, judge the suitability of our partners by their birth order? Absolutely, says Sulloway, “Birth order is an excellent way of telling whether a relationship will survive. For example, a marriage between a typical first-born husband who's dominating and assertive, and a later-born wife who likes being looked after, is very likely to work out”. According to Kevin Leman, A psychologist, parents often try very hard to make sure that everything is perfect for their first born son or daughter, which leads first born children to be perfectionist. He also claims that the middle child will often excel at i.e. be good at something that the first born child is not as good at. For example, a first born may be very good in school, while the second child is gifted in athletics. Middle children often play the role of peacekeeper in the family, mediating between the older and younger siblings. Unlike first and middle born children, last born children, who are very social and outgoing, take fewer responsibilities and have more freedom, which makes them free-spirited and creative.

Word –guessing activity

Task: Put a tick mark if you think that the word might be in the text, or a cross (X) if you think that is not in the text.

Rebellious
Teenager
Mediate
Relationship
Careful
Parental Theory

Husband
Determine
Independent
Survive
Compete

Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct.

1. The order in which we are born affects

- a. both our personality and our relationships.
- b. only our personality.
- c. neither our personality nor our relationships.

2. The writer's purpose is to

- a. persuade people that birth order is important just for our personality.
- b. give information about how birth order affects our personality and relationships.
- c. criticize people who don't believe that birth order has an effect in our lives.

3. Are the following statements true or false?

- a. Later-born children usually agree with their family values.
- b. Birth order is a good way of knowing whether a relationship will be successful.
- c. A last-born child tends to be more creative as s/he has more freedom.

Skill: Writing

A message to say you're late

Learn how to write text messages to tell a friend you're going to be late.

Use phrases like:

Sorry I can't make it at the fixed time.

I apologies for standing you up.

Please pardon me for being late.

I am just there.

Skill: Speaking

A brief speech on Introduction of self, using simple sentences.

Skill: Listening

Questions 1-5

Complete the information below. Write **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

Apartment for rent	
Street	<u>Bridge</u> street
Street №	(1) <input type="text"/>
Included utilities	Gas, heat, water, (2) <input type="text"/> , phone
Not included utilities	(3) <input type="text"/>
Public transport	Underground, (4) <input type="text"/>
Tenant's name	John (5) <input type="text"/>

Questions 6-8

Choose **THREE** letters, **A-F**.

Which **THREE** things should the caller bring to the meeting?

- ☐ A. Driving license
- ☐ B. Passport
- ☐ C. Tax bill
- ☐ D. Employment contract
- ☐ E. Reference from a friend or colleague
- ☐ F. Reference from an employer

Questions 9-10

Choose the correct letters, **A, B, or C**.

9. What time do the caller and apartment manager decide to meet?

- ☐ A. 5:30 PM
- ☐ B. 6:00 PM
- ☐ C. 6:30 PM

10. Where do they decide to meet?

- ☐ A. Near the manager's apartment
- ☐ B. At the caller's future apartment
- ☐ C. At the office