

READING COMPREHENSION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

My Family and Birth Order

Hi, I'm Alex, and I come from a family of five. I'm the middle child, and if you've ever heard about "middle child syndrome," I can assure you there's some truth to it! Let me tell you a bit about my family and how our birth order seems to shape who we are.

First, there's my older sister, Emma. She's the classic eldest child—responsible, organized, and sometimes a bit bossy (but in a loving way). She's always been the one setting an example for us. I admire her leadership skills and how she always seems to know what to do, even in tough situations.

Then, there's me. As the middle child, I often feel like the peacemaker. I'm good at understanding different perspectives, which probably comes from being in the middle of family disagreements! I've learned to be more flexible and independent since I've never had all the attention like Emma or my younger brother, Liam.

Speaking of Liam, he's the baby of the family, and oh boy, does he live up to the role! He's fun, outgoing, and knows how to charm everyone, especially our parents. Sometimes, I think he gets away with more than Emma and I ever did, but I guess that's the perk of being the youngest.

Our birth order influences our personalities in many ways. Emma is the leader, I'm the mediator, and Liam is the entertainer. Even though we have our differences, we balance each other out and make a pretty great team.

What about you? Do you think your birth order has shaped your personality?

1. How many members are in Alex's family?

- a) Four people in total
- b) Five people in total
- c) Six people in total
- d) Seven people in total

2. What personality trait does Alex attribute to being a middle child?

- a) Being very organized
- b) Being a peacemaker
- c) Being really flexible
- d) Being very charming

3. What is the name of Alex's older sister?

- a) Her name is Emma
- b) Her name is Anna
- c) Her name is Emily
- d) Her name is Sarah

4. Who is described as being "fun and outgoing"?

- a) That person is Alex
- b) That person is Emma
- c) That person is Liam
- d) That person is Parents

5. What does Alex say Liam gets away with?

- a) Doing fewer chores
- b) Breaking some rules
- c) Avoiding hard tasks
- d) More than others do

6. Why might Alex feel more independent than Emma or Liam?

- a) Because middle children are less noticed by others
- b) Because middle children are usually more confident than others
- c) Because middle children naturally take charge of most situations
- d) Because middle children are often older than their younger siblings

7. What can we infer about Emma's relationship with her siblings?

- a) She likely sees herself as their rival or competitor in many things.
- b) She likely acts as a leader or role model for them in most situations.
- c) She likely behaves like their critic and points out their mistakes often.
- d) She likely acts like a fan who cheers them on in everything they do.

8. Why might Liam be called the "entertainer" of the family?

- a) Because Liam is outgoing and charming when he interacts with others
- b) Because Liam is responsible for organizing fun activities for everyone
- c) Because Liam is hardworking and enjoys spending time entertaining others
- d) Because Liam is creative and likes to tell stories and make people laugh

9. How does Alex's role as a peacemaker help the family?

- a) By solving family conflicts and understanding different perspectives
- b) By leading decisions and helping the family make plans together
- c) By entertaining others during family events and making people laugh
- d) By organizing schedules and keeping everyone on the right track

10. What does the text suggest about birth order and personality?

- a) Birth order has no role in shaping someone's personality traits at all
- b) Birth order helps influence personality traits and family dynamics a lot
- c) Birth order only causes rivalry between siblings as they grow older
- d) Birth order might shape someone's personality but not in every family