

SECONDARY SCHOOL ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2001

Educational Assessment Unit – Education Division

FORM 3

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 minutes

Almost every country celebrates the New Year, but the celebration is not the same everywhere. In Britain and America most people celebrate the New Year on January 1st. They usually have parties on New Year's Eve, December 31st, to 'see in' the new year with a group of friends.

In Britain and America it is traditional for everybody to sing *Auld Lang Syne* to wish each other 'Happy New Year'. In large cities many people gather in public places on New Year's Eve, such as Trafalgar Square in London or George Square in Glasgow. In Scotland the celebration of the New Year is called Hogmanay.

In many countries good luck is an important part of New Year celebrations. China celebrates the New Year for eight days in February. They have fireworks and parades with huge lions or dragons because they are symbols of good luck. Children are lucky on this day because adults give them money. In Iran, Iranians prepare a tray with seven special things. The names of all the things begin with 's'. This is also for good luck. In Thailand, the New Year is in April. Thais throw water on their friends and family to wish them good luck in the coming year.

People celebrate in different ways, but one thing is the same – people in every country want to have a happy new year.

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TIME: 15 minutes

Name: _____

Class: _____

1. **Mark these sentences True (T) or False (F).** (5 marks)

- a. Every country has a New Year celebration. _____
- b. Parties are normally held on the 31st December. _____
- c. In America the New Year is celebrated in February. _____
- d. Lions and tigers are symbols of good luck for the Chinese. _____
- e. Chinese children are given money on New Year's Day. _____

2. **Choose the best answer.** (1 mark)

In Britain and America everybody

- a. sings Happy New Year.
- b. sings at Trafalgar Square.
- c. sings the Hogmanay.
- d. sings Auld Lang Syne.

3. **Match by drawing lines.** (3 marks)

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. China | i. throw water on friends and family |
| b. Thailand | ii. fireworks and parades |
| c. Iran | iii. tray with special things |

4. **Fill in the blank in this sentence:** (1 mark)

Although people celebrate the New Year in _____ ways, they all hope for a happy new year.

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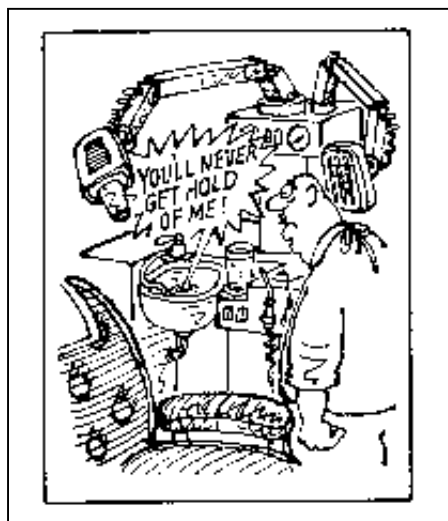
ENGLISH

TIME: 2 hours

Name: _____

Class: _____

A. Fill in the blanks with the prepositions from, of, to, in and at. (5 marks)



A dentist (1)_____ Germany has been haunted by a voice which swears (2)_____ him all the time. The voice comes (3)_____ light sockets, washbasins and the telephone. It is a sharp, deep voice which laughs (4)_____ the dentist. The poor dentist is suffering (5)_____ a bad case of nerves. People who don't believe (6)_____ ghosts think it is just a joke. The voice always shouts (7)_____ the dentist, but speaks sweetly

(8)_____ his 17-year-old assistant, Claudia. Engineers don't know what to make (9)_____ it. The ghost always speaks in a strong German accent saying, "You'll never get hold (10)_____ me!"

B. Complete the following questions by adding when, where, which, whose, how, why or who. (10 marks)

1. _____ film did you watch yesterday?
2. _____ does this pen belong to?
3. _____ is your birthday?
4. _____ is the cheapest car?
5. _____ are you late for your appointment?
6. _____ are these socks on the floor?
7. _____ have all these people come from?
8. _____ many students were present yesterday?
9. _____ will lend the new student a book?
10. _____ do I have to catch the bus from?

C. Complete the following story using the linking phrases in the box. (10 marks)

because,	immediately,	therefore,	because,
before,	after,	when,	after an hour,
although,	but.		

Sandra started a new job. She had only left school a few weeks (1)_____. Everything worked better than expected (2)_____ soon she was gaining confidence (3)_____ her friends were all very helpful. One morning her boss sent her to the bank. There was a long queue (4)_____ it was only 7.45a.m. (5)_____ Sandra got tired of waiting, she decided to go for a coffee. To her surprise, she saw her boss in the coffee shop and decided to return to the bank (6)_____. (7)_____ or so she reached the beginning of the queue (8)_____ unfortunately the cashier moved away from his place. (9)_____ a while he returned and (10)_____ Sandra was very relieved.

D. COMPREHENSION (25 marks)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions below:

Special request to Education Minister

When the senior class of Gardane School heard that it might not get a new teacher for their elementary school (6 to 14 year olds), the pupils wrote to the Minister of Education. They live in or near a village 200 kilometres south of the capital in a mountainous district of Martonia where it is difficult to recruit doctors and teachers. Their request was published in a national paper, the Martonia Gazette, and has become a common topic of conversation in a country where there is great concern about people leaving rural areas for the cities. This is the letter:

Dear Minister,

We are writing to ask for your help. We need a new teacher for the senior class in our school, and we are worried because our parents have been told that the Ministry cannot find one. Our school is very important to us and we like coming here to learn.

Gardane is a small village, with two shops, the school and several houses. Most of our parents are farmers, and we live in the valley near the village. We keep sheep and have nut trees as well as growing some maize and potatoes. Every visitor from the city says our valley is very beautiful and that we are lucky to live here. So why isn't there a new teacher who wants to come here?

20 *We don't mind how old the new teacher is, nor whether it's a man or a woman. They should like the country and outdoor life, and be healthy. We would like someone who is patient, happy and does not shout. The teacher should be clever and know how to help us understand things. We'd like our teacher to be properly dressed and to come on time. They should be kind, make us feel happy in the school, and help us make our classroom nice.*

25 *We would like someone who thinks of exciting things to do, inside and outside school. For example, our last teacher got us to:*

- *write down the history of the village which our grandparents knew – we didn't realise how much the village had changed;*
- *make a nature calendar so we learned more about farming and about*
30 *the animals and plants in our valley;*
- *read all sorts of books and write a newspaper about our village.*

We keep rabbits and grow our own plants at school, so they should be good at that too.

35 *If the Ministry does not send us a teacher we will have to leave our families and our valley to go to school. We don't think we should have to do that; they don't know about valley life in the city schools.*

Please help us; we're not asking too much, are we?

Yours sincerely,

The pupils of Gardane school.

40 The pupils have not had a reply yet, and so far the Ministry has refused to comment on the situation.

Underline the best answer in questions (1) and (2).

1. The letter was written by **(1 mark)**

- a. 6 year olds.
- b. the whole school.
- c. one class.
- d. the Minister's secretary.

2. The pupils want to **(1 mark)**

- a. be supplied with a teacher.
- b. leave school at 14.
- c. leave the village.
- d. have more holidays.

3. Why was the letter published in a national paper? **(2 marks)**

4. Do you think that the Ministry of Education was trying to find a new teacher? How do you know? **(2 marks)**

5. What will happen if the school does not get a new teacher? **(2 marks)**

6. Mention three things that the students most like to do at school. **(3 marks)**

- a.

- b.

- c.

7. Mention five qualities they would like their teacher to have. **(5 marks)**

- a.

- b.

- c.

- d.

- e.

8. Explain the meaning of the following: **(3 marks)**

- a. district

- b. request

- c. rural

9. Say whether these statements are True (T) or False (F). **(5 marks)**

- a. The pupils of Gardane School enjoy learning and living in their village.

- b. They would prefer a young, male teacher.

- c. They are looking forward to going to city schools.

- d. They feel that their request is reasonable.

- e. The Minister has assured the pupils that he will help them.

10. Would you like to go to school in Gardane? Give a reason for your answer. (1 mark)

E. LITERATURE (10 marks)

1. Prose (5 marks)

a. Which story did you enjoy reading most in class this year? (1 mark)

Title: _____

b. Write four interesting sentences about it. (4 marks)

2. Poetry. (5 marks)

Read the poem and answer the questions below.

Indifferent to crowds
indifferent to weather
he goes about arrested.

Arms open, legs apart
a stare and a grin on his face
he roars and beckons.

Schooled on chasms unbridgeable
he uses pain of traps
to communicate.

He embraces a towering wave, falls
in a shawl of mist and tightens shut eyes
to keep out faces looking down on him.

Own jury own court
he waves and gestures
at his own cross-questioning.

Drifting again this evening
he searches
for another bed.

Drifting this morning
he arrives and gazes
at the city's river.

One shadowy thought
stays and absorbs
his entire volition –

It becomes a shore like a dream
where his is lost
and the sea lashes monstrous rocks.

Somehow
somewhere
someone must have wronged him.

And he's confused
with suggestions of travel
going and coming and being.

James Berry

a. What is the title of the poem? (1 mark)

Title: _____

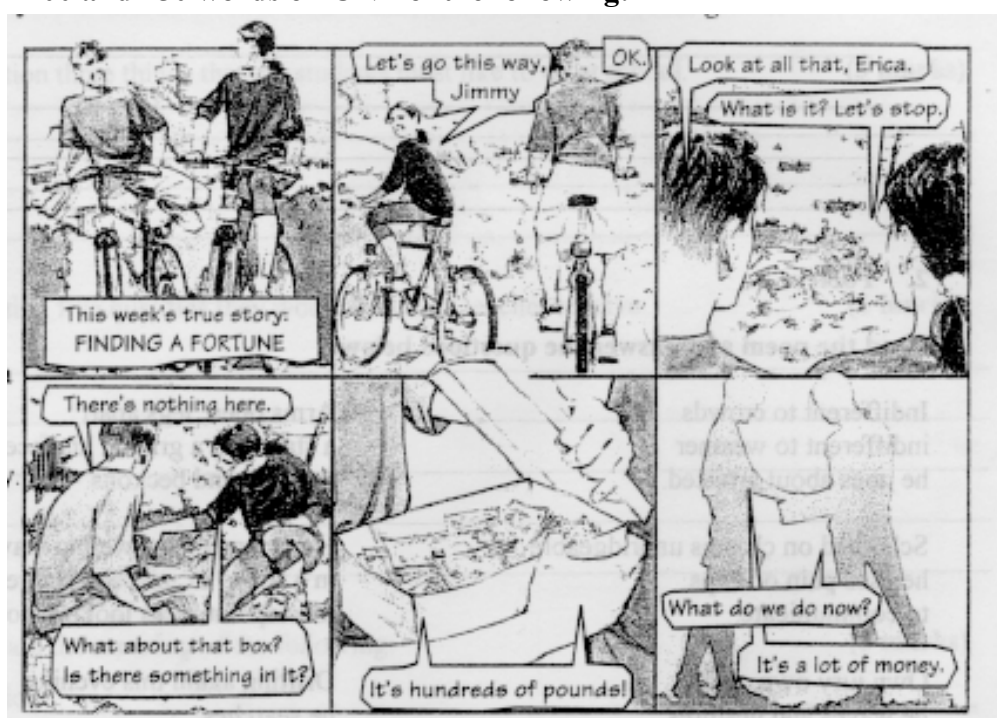
b. What is the poem about? (4 marks)

F. COMPOSITION

(30 marks)

Write an essay of between 200 and 250 words on ONE of the following:

1. Look at the pictures and continue the story saying what Jimmy and Erica did after their discovery.



2. Continue this letter:

Dear Sam,

I'd like to thank you for your letter. It was really great to hear all your news. I'm sorry about not writing sooner, but I've been a bit busy lately.....

3. Write a description of somebody you don't like and say why.
4. Write about a hobby or a sport that you are interested in. Here are some questions to help you:
 - a. What does it involve?
 - b. What equipment do you need?
 - c. How long have you been doing it?
 - d. Where do you do it?
 - e. Why do you like it?
5. Write about one of your grandparent's favourite memories.

