

SECONDARY SCHOOL ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2002

Educational Assessment Unit – Education Division

FORM 5

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Teacher's Paper

Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

You have been given a sheet containing the Listening Comprehension questions. You will be given two minutes to read the questions based on the passage. I shall first read through the questions and then read the passage at normal reading speed. You may take notes during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. The passage will be read a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of answers.

- a. 2 minutes - Students read questions
- b. 1 minute - Teacher reads out the questions
- c. 3 minutes - First reading aloud of passage while students take notes
- d. 3 minutes - Students may answer questions
- e. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility of answering questions
- f. 3 minutes - Final revision

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Educational Assessment Unit – Education Division

FORM 5

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 minutes

THE GREATEST

Michael Jordan was born in New York in February 1963, but he grew up in Wilmington, North Carolina. He wasn't a brilliant student at school. "I sometimes got into trouble," he says, "because I didn't do my schoolwork." But he loved sports. He first played basketball in the family's back garden. When Michael was six years old, his father built two basketball rings, and Michael played there with his brothers and his friends.

He played basketball at school, and when he went to the University of North Carolina in 1981 he joined the basketball team. By this time he was 1.98 metres tall. In 1984 he won a gold medal as a member of the United States Olympic basketball team. A few weeks later he left university and became a professional player with the Chicago Bulls. But he didn't forget his education. He returned to the university for two summers and finished his degree in 1986.

Although he is an international star, Michael Jordan leads a simple life. He lives in Chicago with his wife, Juanita, and their three children. He likes to play golf and to cook. He also does a lot to help children from poor homes. He tells them: "Stay away from drugs and alcohol and get the best education you can."

Educational Assessment Unit – Education Division

TIME: 15 minutes

Class: _____

e. His advice to children is to stay away from drugs and alcohol and get the . (1 mark)

SECONDARY SCHOOL ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2002

Educational Assessment Unit – Education Division

FORM 5
hours

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TIME: 2

Name: _____

Class:

A. Underline the best word from the given words in brackets to complete the sentences below. (10 marks)

1. I will never buy a (box, packet, container) of cigarettes in my life.
2. Men and women should always be given (equal, equivalent, comparable) opportunities.
3. The car (raced, crawled, roared) slowly round the corner.
4. I should like to make this point (glass, ice, crystal) clear.
5. Did you (take, have, do) a good holiday?
6. The film kept us in (suspense, anticipation, expectation) right to the end.
7. He (took, made, did) a fortune in business before he was thirty.
8. There's a (present, news, current) affairs programme on at nine o'clock.
9. He's been (very, bad, absolutely) depressed since he heard the news.
10. She sneered at him (smilingly, encouragingly, contemptuously).

B. Rewrite the following sentences beginning with the word or words given below. (10 marks)

1. We missed the train so we had to walk.

Having

2. They made me learn spelling rules by heart.

I

—

3. Not having an alarm clock, he overslept.

As

4. It is difficult working with you.

You

5. "The session has begun," announced the judge.

The judge announced that

C. Use the best form of the verb in brackets to complete the text. (10 marks)

I (0) will never forget (NEVER FORGET) the hut by the Blue Lake. It (1)_____ (HAPPEN) twenty-five years ago and I (2)_____ (NEVER BE) back in all this time. But even now, on occasions, when, for example I (3)_____ (CLIMB) a mountain with friends, the memory of that southern lake and its little hut (4)_____ (FILL) my heart with longing. Twenty-five years ago Paul and I (5)_____ (HIKE) for three or four days before we finally (6)_____ (REACH) it. We (7)_____ (CROSS) at least two mountain passes, each of them knee-deep in snow. The Blue Lake (8)_____ (BE) our last stop. Then we (9)_____ (DESCEND) into the valley that (10)_____ (LEAD) us back to the township and civilization.

D. Comprehension. (25 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions below.

Understanding sex differences

A lot of nonsense has been written about the inherent mental differences between men and women. In the 19th century, for example, some scientists believed that women weren't capable of intellectual thought, and that their brains were only large enough for doing household chores. This small-brain theory soon bit the dust when it was proved that animals such as elephants had far bigger brains than men, but were less intelligent. Scientists then spent a long time trying to find other biological explanations for the superiority of men, but the attempt was fruitless. By the 1960s some socio-biologists had come to the conclusion

that it was mainly history and tradition that had predisposed men to become leaders and chiefs, and women to being childminders.

More recent research indicates that there may, in fact, be some inherent mental differences between men and women; and since we have different body parts and body chemicals, it would perhaps be more of a surprise if we discovered that our brains were identical. The important issue is not whether there are mental differences, but what they mean for men and women in terms of power, opportunity, and social roles.

There is no point in looking at history for solutions, because life is very different today. Many sex differences, such as the superior strength of men, no longer matter because of technology. Moreover, if men were the explorers of the past, it may be that women are the more natural explorers of the future. Women are lighter and use less oxygen than men, so they are better suited to being astronauts.

Even if it is true that boys are better at some mathematical tasks than girls, this is not an argument for restricting girls to learning how to cook and clean. After all, in the same way that some girls are heavier than boys, some are better at maths.

So, what should we do about possible mental differences between men and women? The evidence that women are better at understanding emotions could lead to the conclusion that men should not be allowed to become psychiatrists - or it could be interpreted to mean that men need extra coaching. Similarly, if boys really are better than girls at maths, we could decide not to give girls any maths lessons, or we could compensate the girls by providing extra maths lessons.

In the end, whichever way science defines the differences between men and women, we are basically social animals, and we are responsible for choosing what social arrangements we make. The differences between the sexes can be increased or decreased depending on our social arrangements. It is up to us, as human beings, to make the right choice.

Underline the correct answer in questions 1 - 3.

1. The passage is about (1
mark)

- a. the difference between men and women in space.
- b. trying to understand the differences between the sexes.
- c. astronauts and explorers in today's world.
- d. biological explanations for the superiority of men.
- e. the history of solutions for sexual discrimination.

2. Household chores are (1
mark)

- a. unpleasant or boring tasks that must be done.
- b. interesting tasks that you want to do.
- c. people who do housework.

- d. singing housewives.
- e. husbands who refuse to do the housework.

3. "... bit the dust ..." (line 4) means (1 mark)

- a. fell down dead.
- b. was rejected.
- c. ate some lunch.
- d. killed an elephant.
- e. was accepted as true.

4. Which word or words in the passage do the following refer to? (3 marks)

- | | | | | |
|------------|-------|-----|--------|----|
| a. "their" | (line | 3) | refers | to |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| b. "our" | (line | 12) | refers | to |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| c. "some" | (line | 22) | refers | to |
| <hr/> | | | | |

5. Answer TRUE (T) or FALSE (F) giving reasons for your answer. (10 marks)

Example: In the past, scientists thought that women's brains were not able to think as well as men's brains.

TRUE Reason: **"women weren't capable of intellectual thought"**
(lines 2-3)

- a. Scientists tried very hard to prove that men were superior to women but they did not succeed.

_____ Reason: _____

- b. There may be no differences between the brains of men and women.

_____ Reason: _____

c. Technology has made the superior physical strength of men more important.

_____ Reason:

d. There is no proof that women understand feelings better than men.

_____ Reason:

e. The differences between men and women can never change.

_____ Reason:

6. From paragraph ONE copy a part sentence that shows that brain size does not affect intelligence. (2

marks)

7. Why are women said to be probably more natural explorers of the future? (2 marks)

8. Continue these sentences from information in the passage.

a. It is useless to look at history to try to solve the problem because

_____ . (1
mark)

- b. Boys are better at maths therefore girls should either not be

_____, which is wrong; or they should
be _____ ,
which is the best solution. (2

marks)

9. (2
marks)

- a. Which word in the second paragraph means "*exactly the same*"?

b. Which word in the fifth paragraph means "*make it up to*"?

**E. Composition. (35
marks)**

Write a composition of about 250 words on ONE of the following:

1. A memorable party you attended.
2. My greatest disappointment.
3. Write a letter to the Editor of your local newspaper suggesting how Tourism could be improved in Malta.
4. Continue this dialogue.
You: Mum, I found this dog in the street. Can I keep it?
Mum: . . .
5. Write a description of Valletta on a busy Saturday morning and/or Valletta after 7 o'clock in the evening.

TITLE: _____

