

JUNIOR LYCEUM ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2009

Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education
Educational Assessment Unit

FORM 3

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 mins

ECLIPSE DARKENS CHINA A WEEK BEFORE OLYMPICS

Friday 1st August 2008

Darkness fell over the last outpost of the Great Wall of China, where a rare total solar eclipse ended its journey across the earth, delighting sky watchers one week before the Olympics opened in Beijing.

The stellar spectacle – when the moon passes between the sun and the earth – began in Canada, tracked across Greenland and crept into Siberia before ringing in the momentous month of August in China when it was to host the Games.

In northwest China, cheers went up from the Jiayuguan Fort as hordes of tourists welcomed the eclipse. “It’s doubly special, because I’m standing here on the Great Wall and watching it,” said one young Chinese backpacker, who was on his way to the Games.

In Russia thousands had flocked from around the world to Novosibirsk, mixing awe with excitement as day turned into night. All gazed in wonder as an eerie silence descended in the Siberian city and gusts of unusually strong winds tore through the crowd of skywatchers. Birds stopped chirping and temperatures dropped, a Reuters tv reporter there said. In Russia’s city of Petersburg, people shouted, “Look! Look!” and pointed as the sun’s corona appeared in the sky.

Several thousand people turned out at a park in Norway’s capital, Oslo, to peer up at the sun through dark glasses in cardboard frames and see pictures of the total eclipse beamed onto a large screen from a plane tracking the phenomena from the Arctic. Many in the Oslo crowd, which included families with small children, tried photographing the eclipse with their mobile phones pressed against their eclipse sunglasses. In China, where the eclipse ended, planeloads of foreigners converged to watch the sky go dark.

More than 10 centuries ago, Chinese astronomers were among the world’s best scientists. Chinese astronomers in the state of Lu carefully recorded solar eclipses that can be dated as far back as 720 BC.

Superstitious Chinese once banged drums to scare away the dragon they thought was eating the sun. These days, people still believe their lives can be touched by an eclipse, but the modern view is more philosophical. “I was born during an eclipse and I have always felt that has made my life more fortunate,” said a driver. “But I didn’t turn out to have any special genius, so I can’t say the eclipse left any mark on me.”

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Time 15 mins

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 three minutes to read the questions based on the passage. I shall 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 the answers.

- a. 3 minutes - Read questions
- b. 3 minutes - First reading aloud of passage while students take notes
- c. 3 minutes - Answer questions
- d. 3 minutes - Second reading of passage and possibility to answer questions
- e. 3 minutes - Final revision

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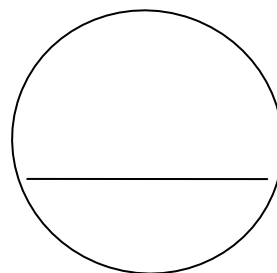
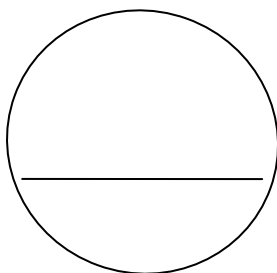
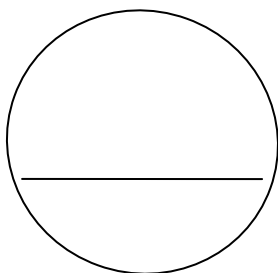
FORM 3

ENGLISH
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

TIME: 15 mins

Name: _____ Index Number _____ Class: _____

1. Fill in the blank spaces with the words earth, sun and moon to show their position during a solar eclipse: 1 ½ marks _____



2. Underline the correct answer.

1 mark _____

A total eclipse

- a) takes place every four years.
- b) occurs regularly before the Olympic Games.
- c) is an unusual event.
- d) takes place in August.

3. Fill in the blanks with a suitable word.

1½ marks _____

- a) The solar eclipse started in Canada and ended in _____.
- b) In Siberia birds stopped singing and it became very _____, cold and _____.

4. Put a tick (✓) in the correct box according to whether the statement is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F). 6 marks _____

- a) People standing on the Great Wall of China missed all the fun.
- b) Sky watchers used special spectacles to peer at the sun.
- c) In Oslo children were not allowed to watch the spectacle.
- d) Hundreds of tourists flew to China to watch the last stages of the eclipse.
- e) A solar eclipse is not a modern phenomenon.
- f) Nowadays people are less superstitious than they were centuries ago.

T	F

JUNIOR LYCEUM ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS 2009

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FORM 3

ENGLISH

TIME: 2 hours

Name: _____ Index Number _____ Class: _____

Oral Assessment	Listening Comprehension	Written Paper	Total

A. Fill in the blanks with a suitable word. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Star, a (0) faithful puppy, saved his master's (1) _____ when he fell down in a coma, on a lonely stretch of sand. Police were called (2) _____ Mr Robert Parvass did not come back in time for tea after leaving his holiday caravan to take the puppy for a walk on Tuesday evening.

Star stayed by his (3) _____ for five hours (4) _____ everyone hunted for Mr Parvass. They used torches to try and find him in the (5) _____. In the end, the puppy's (6) _____ led the searchers to the spot (7) _____ Mr Parvass lay. He is now in hospital recovering. Mr Alan Davies, (8) _____ found him said, "He is a very (9) _____ man. The dog saved his life."

Mr Parvass was staying in his holiday caravan with his wife Sophie and his three children, (10) _____ 16, 12 and 10.

(5 marks)

B. Fill in the blanks with a suitable preposition. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Anyone who has been (0) to the British Museum (1) _____ London, will be familiar (2) _____ the Elgin Marbles. They are one of the key exhibits (3) _____ display in the Duveen Gallery. This grand extension was specially built (4) _____ the insistence of the curator. The Elgin Marbles mainly came (5) _____ the Parthenon in Athens. (6) _____ that reason they are also referred (7) _____ as The Parthenon Marbles. They are a collection (8) _____ sculptures, considered (9) _____ many artists and critics to be the finest examples (10) _____ Ancient Greek art.

(5 marks)

C. Read the following dialogue, then fill in the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Guest: I'm not going to stay in that room any (0) longer (long). It's (1) _____ (noisy) than a train station. Last night I couldn't sleep at all. It was the (2) _____ (bad) night of my life. Could you find me somewhere else?

Receptionist: Well, it's not as (3) _____ (easy) as it seems. We have (4) _____ (practical) no vacancies. The only room I can offer you is on the top floor. There it's much (5) _____ (peaceful) but unfortunately the rooms are (6) _____ (comfortable).

Guest: Anything is (7) _____ (good) than what I went through last night! I assume it will be (8) _____ (significant) lower....

Receptionist: (9) _____ (certain)! Our top floor rooms are slightly (10) _____ (expensive). Also, I would like to offer you a complimentary meal in our restaurant tonight.

(5marks)

D. Read Tom's letter to his friend Sue, then put the verbs in brackets in the correct form. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Dear Sue,

Here I (0) am (be) at last. Now that I (1) _____ (be) here for a few days, I thought I (2) _____ (write) and let you know how I am getting on in this beautiful country.

What (3) _____ (strike) me when I first (4) _____ (arrive) was the slow pace of life. However, I (5) _____ (learn) to take things easy and (6) _____ (begin) to feel really at home. My first impression of the Irish is that they (7) _____ (be) really friendly and helpful people – and they certainly know how (8) _____ (enjoy) life.

The countryside round here is marvellous. I (9) _____ (make) friends with some young people in the village, and we (10) _____ (spend) most evenings together.

Well, I must rush to catch the post. Do drop me a line when you have time.

Love,

Tom

(5 marks)

E. Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully.

20 marks



LAST SUPPER WITH *GELATI*

I am the first to admit that Milan is not an obviously child-friendly destination. Associated in most people's minds with opera and fashion, it's a city geared to grown-up interests. It is notorious for its traffic and infamous for its pollution.

- 5 However, within minutes of our arrival at the Spadari Hotel, the patron saint of parents swung into action. Disguised as the hotel's front-desk manager, a tirelessly helpful young man named Matteo, he revealed that right next door to the hotel was nothing less than an ice cream heaven. It came in the shape of Peck, the city's grandest food hall, **founded in 1883** by a Czeck grocer. Ignoring the gleaming cheeses and jewel-like antipasti, Jessie and Sol made straight for the *gelati* counter, and with their first lick fell into reverential silence. This was ice cream such as
- 10 they had never tasted before.

Works were being carried out on the famous Duomo, so we headed straight for the Museo Poldi Pezzoli. Armed with audio guides the children spent the next hour gazing rapturously at the paintings on display.

- 15 Audio guides weren't necessary at the Museo Nazionale della Scienza e Tecnica, our first destination on day two. The children **took to it** straight away. The large gallery on the first floor was dedicated to Leonardo da Vinci. Covering the walls were magnified extracts from the great man's notebooks of birds, flowers and leaves, while glass cases along the room displayed models based on his designs for drills, looms, winches and guns.

- 20 Downstairs, in the education studio, the children were able to operate and dismantle full-size working models of Leonardo's astonishing prototypes for flying machines, helicopter propellers and winches. The "wow" factor was a model bridge made solely from interlocking sticks. Pull one out and the whole thing collapsed like a house of cards. Trying to put it back together was a challenge few of the children - and none of the fathers - could resist.

- 25 Next we went to the Castello Sforzesco, a massive red-brick castle, now converted into a series of museums, built around three huge courtyards. Children are usually more inclined to tolerate their parents' enthusiasm for apparently indistinguishable paintings if they have some idea of what they are looking at and why it is meant to be interesting. Fortunately, most gallery bookshops these days stock children's books on the great artists and these are a sound investment.

- 30 Day three began at the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, which against considerable odds still contains Leonardo's mural of *The Last Supper*. It is in such a perilous state that the room it graces, the former Refectory, is fiercely guarded and temperature controlled, and visitor numbers strictly monitored. Tickets must be booked 2 days ahead but the resourceful Matteo had managed to procure ours in under 24 hours. We were guided through a series of locked
- 35 antechambers on the way to the refectory. Jessie loved hearing about the painting's accident-prone past, particularly the German bomb **that reduced the chapel to rubble** except for that one wall.

After that it was time to return to the hotel to pack; but not before one last trip to Peck.

Adapted from Telegraph Travel Aug 2006

1. State whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

Quote a phrase or part sentence to support your answer.

a. The family did not visit the Duomo.

b. The children were indifferent to the paintings at the Museo Poldi Pezzoli.

c. Original models constructed by Leonardo da Vinci were on display.

d. Children were not allowed to touch any of the exhibits.

2. In your own words give four important facts found in paragraph one about Milan. 2 marks []

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

3. What important piece of information did Matteo give ?

1 mark []

4. Explain what the writer means by the expression “*with their first lick fell into reverential silence.*” (line 9)

1 mark []

5a. What is the main attraction at the Museo Nazionale della Scienza e Tecnica ?

1 mark []

5b. In your own words explain why this section is so popular.

2 marks []

6. What are museums doing to make visits for children more appealing?

2 marks []

i. _____

ii. _____

7. In which building is *The Last Supper* to be found? []

8. What precautions are taken to help preserve this mural? 1½marks []

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

9. Copy two consecutive words which show that the wall depicting the mural was not destroyed. ½ mark []

10. Find two adjectives the writer uses to describe Matteo. 1 mark []

- a. _____ b. _____

11. What do the following words refer to? 2 marks []

- a. It (line 7) _____
b. one (line 22) _____
c. these (line 28) _____
d. It (line 31) _____

12. Explain the meaning of the following words/phrases as used in the passage. 3 marks []

- a. founded in (line 7) _____
b. took to it (line 15) _____
c. that reduced the chapel to rubble (line 36) _____

F. LITERATURE Answer EVERY Section

20 marks

SECTION 1 - POETRY Answer *either* question 1 or question 2.

EITHER Question 1

(7 marks) []

i. Give the title of two poems you read in class and say who wrote them. 1 mark []

- a. _____ by _____
b. _____ by _____

ii. By referring to the theme, figures of speech and rhythm, say how each poet tried to make the poem interesting. 6 marks []

- a. _____

b. _____

OR Question 2

(7 marks) []

UNPREPARED TEXT

Tractor by John Rice

Dressed in a coat of mud
 and splattered with mud,
 the farm tractor coughs and rasps
 like a factory horn with a bad throat.

Huge tyres heave
 the plough through the soggy field
 churning the dark earth into
 shapes like frozen waves.
 Seagulls swoop and glide behind
 like wild ribbons flowing free
 in some great wind.

Up and down the valley, all day long –
 the tractor never tires.
 By evening its lights pierce
 the gathering dusk
 and its growl rolls over the fields
 like a tumbling echo.
 Slowly the star-filled night
 covers the countryside in a warm dark
 that brings its own plough.*

* *The Plough – a group of seven bright stars seen only in the northern part of the world.*

1. Pick out the following figures of speech:

2 marks []

a) personification	
b) simile	
c) onomatopoeia	
d) alliteration	

2. Choose **one** of the above figures of speech. Describe the image it creates in your mind. 2 marks []

3. Describe the contrast the poet makes in stanza 2. 2 marks []

4a. Is the rhythm slow or fast? _____

4b. Say why you think the poet chose this type of rhythm. 1 mark []

SECTION 2 **PROSE** (7 marks) []

1. Give the title of **a novel** you read in class this year and write a paragraph about your favourite character, describing what you admire in this character. 4 marks []

a. Title of novel _____

Author _____

b. Describe your favourite episode in this novel and give a reason for your choice. 3 marks []

SECTION 3 **DRAMA**

(6 marks) []

Title of play _____

Author _____ 1 mark []

Which character did you like least in the play? Give reasons for your choice. 5 marks []

G. Composition

20 marks

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

1. Write a letter to your school head complaining about a school outing that went wrong. You may mention the following points:

- ❖ bus came late
- ❖ tickets not booked
- ❖ long queue
- ❖ guide did not explain clearly
- ❖ no time for break

2. The advantages and disadvantages of being a member of a small family.

3. Things that make me happy.

END OF PAPER