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# SULTANATE OF OMAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



## Semester One – First Session English Language 'Core' adapted exam Dhofar Post Basic School (9-12)

ELEMENT	Marks		Red Marker	Green Marker Name	Blue Checker Name
LISTENING	15				
VOCABULARY/ GRAMMAR	10				
READING	25				
WRITING 1	10				
WRITING 2	10				
TOTAL					

Final Total in Numbers	
Final Total in Words	
Signature	

Prepared by Mr Fathalla Mohammed

Dhofar Post Basic School (9-12)

# LISTENING 1 (Items 1-7) 2013/2014 1st session

7 marks

You are going to hear a conversation between two people working on an energy project in Africa . Listen, and shade in the bubble  $\bigcirc$  next to the correct option.

1.	On her trip to Nambego, the	woma	an had some difficulty with	th the_	·
	o food	0	people	0	roads
2.	She visited	_•			
	a local factory	0	many homes	0	health centre
3.	She found that the		were not working prop	erly.	
	O Water pumps	0	generators	0	Street lights
4.	The man will go there next		·		
	O week	0	month	0	year
5.	The main advantage of the co	oker	she recommends is that	it is _	
	O locally made	0	solar powered	0	smokeless
6.	The main advantage of the co	oker	she recommends is that	it is	
	o write a proposal	0	go to London	0	contact India
7.	He knows about her birthday	beca	use		
	o she told him	0	he read her CV	0	a colleague told him

15

### LISTENING 2 (Items 8-15)

(8 marks)

You are going to heara teacher talking about how he began his career.

**Part One:** For each item, write a short answer (**not more than FOUR WORDS**). **8.** When did Peter start working at this school? **9.** What kind of work did most of his students' parents do? **10.** How many colleagues did he have at the school? **11.** How long did he stay there? **Part Two:** For each item, shade in the bubble next to the correct option. 12. During his stay, Peter \_\_\_\_\_\_. made a lot of friends felt lonely all the worked very hard time **13**. His school's TV sometimes didn't work because of \_\_\_ O lack of spare parts o bad weather o power cuts The school 14. odidn't have a had its own shared a computer computer computer with other schools **15.** He mostly used the video machine \_\_\_\_\_ o in the classroom on the sports field at assembly

VC	CAI	BULARY (Ite	ems 1	L-5)				(2½ marks)		
For	For each item, shade in the bubble onext to the correct option.									
1.	Anc	ient Egyptians		_•						
	0	parties	0	rituals	0	games	0	barbeques		
2.	Mar	ny young Oman	is are		a	bout leaving the	e wor	ld of school.		
	0	amazed	0	interested	0	apprehensive	0	confident		
3.					0	in France				
		destinations		positions		locations		sites		
4.	_	_				are				
	0	unliveable	O	unlovable	0	incapable	0	inedible		
5.	Son	ne adverts try t	0		peopl	e by saying frau	ıduler	nt things.		
	0	lead	0	mislead	0	lose	0	imbue		

Prepared by Mr Fathalla Mohammed Dhofar Post Basic School (9-12)

#### GRAMMAR (Items 6-10)

(2½ marks)

For each item, shade in the bubble ounder the correct option.

Speaker A: Are you coming to my new house tomorrow?

Speaker B: Oh, I forgot! Why (6) don't / didn't you remind me earlier?

Speaker A: I did! I sent (7) your / you an e-mail yesterday! Didn't you receive it?

Speaker B: Actually' my laptop is broken.

Speaker A: Oh, I see. Anyway, Could you (8) are / be able to join us?

Speaker B: Yes, I think so. (9) why / what else is coming?

Speaker A: I'm not sure. I've invited lots of people, (10) **however / but** most of them

haven't replied yet.

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**Dhofar Post Basic School (9-12)** 

## GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY (Items 11-15)

(5 marks)

С	Our world is marked by its changes in many aspects of our life including job (11)									
Hence comes the importance of lifelong learning (12) goes on for life the time you graduate until you retire. This is integral to job requirements, as (13) do not offer permanent jobs. We must go on learning the skills for different jobs. Companies pay a (14) to provide training for the employees. Lifelong learning helps us to acquire the knowledge and skills needed in (15) market.										
11.	0	opportunities	0	fields	0	skills	0	activities		
12.	0	who	0	that	0	which	0	where		
13.	0	employees	0	workers	0	employment	0	employers		
14.	0	much	0	lot of	0	lot	0	many		
15.	0	labour	0	liberty	0	local	0	super		
					(_			)		

#### READING 1 (Items 1-8)

(7 marks)

Read the texts. Are the statements which follow each text <u>True</u> or <u>False</u>? For each item, shade in the bubble ounder the correct option.

1. Dear Fatma, I'm feeling much better now after my heart surgery. I don't feel so tired and weak any more. The doctors say I can go home next week if I continue to improve. Thanks for the beautiful flowers you sent me yesterday.

#### **Statement**

True False

The writer is at home.

2. Are you interested in a career in fashion? If so, a full-time, eight-week course will be conducted at The Art Institute. Participants will learn how to design dresses for women, using different materials such as cotton, velvet and silk.

#### **Statement**



The course is about making clothes.

**3.** In the 1970s, both Nigerian cities Buguma and Katsina were about the same size. But since then, the economy in Buguma has grown and many people have moved there looking for jobs, while Katsina has been less successful. Both cities have, of course, a much larger population than the country's third city, Makurdi.

#### **Statement**



The city with the *largest* population is Buguma

**4.** I drove from Singapore to Langkawi in Malaysia, where I spent an enjoyable week. Then I decided to drive to Phuket Island in Thailand, but unfortunately I never got there. Before reaching the border, I crashed my car and spent the rest of my holiday in hospital!

#### **Statement**



The accident happened in Thailand.

#### **READING 1 (continued)**

In 1998, Nourredine left Algeria to join a French football club. He was quite successful until a knee injury ended his career. Then he spent some time training young players, but without success. Now, he is a businessman and runs a sports shop.

#### **Statement**

Nourredine plays football in France.



6. In Europe, many students do not go straight to college after school. Instead, they take a year off to travel or work. This is called a 'gap year'. Colleges find that these students are more independent and are able to do better on their courses.

#### **Statement**

The writer encourages students to take a gap year.



**7.** After a long delay, the construction of the National Museum finally began in May 2007. It took almost two years to complete the project. Then, they were able to hold the opening ceremony, which was attended by the Minister of Tourism.

#### **Statement**

The museum has been open since 2009.



#### READING 2 (Items 8-15)

(8 marks)

Read the text. Then for each item, shade in the bubble onext to the correct option.

11th January 2014 Dear Mr Lansdorp,

When a friend told me about your plan to set up a permanent colony on Mars, I thought it was a crazy idea — especially when he told me that the colonists would never be able to return to Earth! But then I saw an interview with you on TV, and your obvious enthusiasm for the project changed my mind completely. And when I heard you talk about the characteristics that you were looking for in potential colonists, I realised that I was a very suitable candidate — so I decided to apply! Let me tell you something about myself. I work for the University of Toronto in Canada. I have two qualifications that are essential for anyone who wishes to start life in space — a Master's degree in Biology and a PhD in Ecology. I have worked on several international projects in places as varied as China, Mexico, Egypt and Algeria. At the moment, I'm in Antarctica working with a research group on an agricultural experiment. Because of the extreme conditions found here — especially the freezing temperatures — there are obvious similarities with Mars. Even though the soil may be different, if we succeed in growing plants here , I'm sure that we can do the same on Mars. This kind of knowledge will, I believe , be crucial for the success of the mission. Another important characteristic that was mentioned in your interview is the ability to deal with stressful situations. I think I have proved that I can do this. For example, two months ago, a fire broke out in our lab, caused by an electrical fault. I didn't panic, and was able to rescue two injured colleagues and also to control the fire before it damaged any important equipment. You also mentioned the psychological strength needed for a one-way mission to Mars. Colonists will have to deal with the certainty that they will never see Earth or their loved ones again. However, I believe that I have learned to cope with this kind of isolation. Here in Antarctica, I see the same three faces every day — just as I would do on Mars — and we all get on very well together. In addition, I have no children, and five years ago, I lost both my parents in a car accident and my wife after a long battle with leukemia. Finally, I have one question. Since watching your interview, I have looked closely at your website, and I notice that it doesn't mention any kind of age-limit. What it says is that, after selection, there will be six years of training, starting later this year. I ask because, although I'm in excellent health, I am now thirty-five — which means that I shall be forty-one when the journey to Mars takes place. Will I still be considered? Yours, Mark Maxim

8.	Mark became interested i	n the	mission to Mars after _		
	reading the newspaper	0	watching an interview	0	talking to a friend
9.	He has specialized in stud Chemistry		Life science	0	Physics
10.	He thinks his experience in the Sahara		is especially rele	vant (	to his application. Antarctica
11.	He thinks the best way fo	r the o	colony to produce food	will l	be
	o from plants	0	artificially	0	from animals
12.	To show that he can hand	lle em	ergency situations, he	ment	tions
	O fire	0	an earthquake	0	a snow storm
13.	His	died b	pecause of an illness.		
	o mother	0	daughter	0	wife
14.	He is worried that he will	not be	e accepted because of	his	·
	o nationality	0	health	0	age
15.	They will leave Earth in _		<del>.</del>		
	O 2016	0	2020	0	2022

#### READING 3 (Items 16–25)

(10 marks)

*Read the text. Then complete the task.* 

Travelling to the North Pole is a unique experience. Unlike the South Pole, which lies on the continent of Antarctica, there is no land beneath your feet — only a floating sheet of ice that expands during colder months and shrinks again in the summer. The first human beings to reach the North Pole were two Americans, who in April 1909 walked across the Arctic ice sheet. The South Pole, which has a more extreme climate, was only reached three years later by five Norwegian explorers.

For a long time, tourism was considered totally impossible. Then, in 1977, the Soviet nuclear-powered warship 'Arktika' broke its way through the ice and reached the North Pole by sea. This changed everything and, by the late 1990s, cruise ships were following the same route, now also made easier by global warming. Going on a cruise to the North Pole is more like an expedition than a cruise! Like the 'Arktika', cruise ships have to be specially designed and strengthened as 'icebreakers'.

But it is still impossible for them to get through in winter. The best time for a cruise is, in fact, between April and June, when temperatures are relatively comfortable. Ships leave from the port of Murmansk on the northern Russian coast. The whole trip takes four to six days depending on ice conditions. It costs up to US \$28,000 per person. That's a lot of money, but luckily my magazine paid for me!

During the voyage, passengers have plenty of time to make friends and enjoy their time on deck, where facilities include a swimming pool and a basketball court. They can also listen to lectures about the Arctic environment, especially its wildlife — seals, walruses, beluga whales, and my own particular favourites, polar bears. Other more adventurous activities include dog-sledding trips, ice-fishing and cross-country skiing. I tried

all of these, but they were nothing compared with a fantastic helicopter ride that I took. The views of the packed ice were incredible! Reaching the North Pole is naturally a cause for celebration. Passengers can, if they wish, jump into the icy water. But most simply join hands with each other, form a circle and perform a special dance. On the way back to Murmansk, passengers can also step on land again when they explore Franz Josef Land, a group of islands lying within the Arctic Circle. A cruise to the North Pole offers you a once-in-a-lifetime experience and the chance to say that you have literally stood on top of the world, in the one spot on earth where every direction is south!

## **READING 3** (continued)

	DIM	a o (continuca)								
<u>Tas</u>	<u>k</u> On	e: For each item, write	a <u>sho</u>	<u>rt</u> answer ( <b>not more th</b> e	an F(	OUR WORDS).				
16.	Which one was reached first: the North or the South Pole?									
17.	Wh	en did cruise ships start								
18.	Wł									
19.	Н	ow do passengers get inf	format	ion about Arctic animals?	<u> </u>					
20.	W	hat can passengers do o	n the	way back to Murmansk?	_					
				te bubble onext to the	– corre	ct option.				
21.	O	writer suggests visiting		March	0	August				
22.	The	main disadvantage of th	e cruis	se is that it						
	0	takes a long time	0	can be dangerous	0	is rather expensive				
23.	Whe	en the ship reaches the N	lorth F	Pole, passengers	1	cogether.				
	0	dance	0	eat	0	sing				
24.	Duri	ing the cruise, the writer	espec	cially enjoyed	_•					
	0	fishing	0	flying	0	skiing				
25.	A or	nce in a lifetime experien	ce is c	offered by a cruise to the		ploe.				
	0	South	0	East	0	North				
				(		)				
				,		25				

WRITING 1 (10 marks)

Write at least **100 words** on the following topic:

"These days I rarely watch TV news. It only makes me depressed."

Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

our writing should be clear, interesting and well organised.	

DI	PLOMA, ENGLISH	i 'CORE', SEMES	TER ONE, 1st SE	SSION			2019/2020
W	RITING 1 (d	continued)					
	Marker A	Marker B	Average				
				-	(		10

WRITING 2	(10 marks)							
Complete the following task. Write at least 100 words.								
" She was a hard working girl. She led a very	hard life, but she became a							
	world known personality. Write the story of her success. What did she do at							
school? What did she do in her career?								
Your writing should be <b>clear</b> and <b>well-organised.</b>								

DII	PLOMA, ENGLISH	I 'CORE', SEMES	STER ONE, 1st SE	SSION		2019/2020
<b>117</b>	RITING 2 (d	continued)				
	KIIIMU Z Į	<u>Jonitinacuj</u>				
	Marker A	Marker B	Average			
					(	)
						10

# Prepared by Mr Fathalla Mohammed Dhofar Post Basic School (9-12)