

وزارة التربية والتعليم العالي المديرية العامة للتربية دائرة الامتحانات	الشهادة المتوسطة	دورة العام ٢٠١٢ العادية
المدة : ساعتان	مسابقة في مادة اللغة الانكليزية	الاسم: الرقم:

Part One : Reading Comprehension

(Score: 12/20)

Read the following text, in which the writer relates his personal experience as a newcomer at school. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

My Favorite Teacher

1 My favorite teacher, Mrs. Khalil, who was in her late 40's, taught us history in grade seven at a local school in Beirut. I was then a 12-year-old newcomer in that school. Some of the students were quite nasty. They threw stones at me, chased me home, and spat on my bike seat while I was in class or away. I was lonely, friendless, sometimes frightened, and ashamed of being an outcast.¹

2 However, things began to change when Mrs. Khalil walked into the classroom. Whereas my other teachers didn't give enough attention to new students and ignored them for the first few weeks, Mrs. Khalil went right at me. After our first homework assignment, she asked me the opening question. I gulped and gave an answer. It wasn't a smart one, but it did show that I had done my work. Few minutes later, when a classmate gave a wrong answer to a question, and the teacher asked me to correct it, my image at school started to change.

3 Day after day, as Mrs. Khalil kept on encouraging me, my answers became more convincing, and I felt more confident. She was the first teacher to help me realize the importance of thinking and giving one's own opinion.

4 Then came the icebreaker². One day, I was distracted and carelessly playing with my pencil. To my surprise, Mrs. Khalil firmly yelled at me. I startled, the pencil flew in the air, and the students roared. Embarrassed, I crept under the desks after my pencil. During the break, my classmates gathered around me, making comments on that incident, which became a legend³, and I – a part of it – became a person to talk to.

5 Thanks to Mrs. Khalil, who helped me overcome my embarrassment and made me an accepted student at school. I have become popular and self-confident and built strong relationships with many friends who shared my ideas and dreams. Since then, no one at school ever bothered me.

¹ **outcast:** someone who is not accepted by others

² **icebreaker:** something said or done to help people start talking or feel comfortable

³ **legend:** an old, well-known story, often about brave people, adventures, or magical events

Questions

A. Find and copy the noun that each of the pronouns underlined in the text refers to: (Score: 01)

1. it (Paragraph 2)

2. it (Paragraph 4)

B. In which paragraph can you find the answer to each of the following questions? Copy the chart in your answer booklet, and then write down the correct paragraph number(s). Answers to some questions can be found in more than one paragraph. (Score: 01.5)

Questions	Paragraph Number(s)
1. How did the students react to the newcomer?	
2. What made Mrs. Khalil different from other teachers?	
3. How did the students sympathize with the newcomer?	

C. In your own words, answer the following three questions in complete sentences.

1. What character traits did Mrs. Khalil help the newcomer develop? (Score: 01)
2. In what two different ways did Mrs. Khalil treat the newcomer? (Score: 01)
3. How would you describe Mrs. Khalil as a teacher? Write your answer in not more than two sentences. (Score: 01)

D. Complete the chart with relevant causes to the following effects. (Score: 01.5)

CAUSE	EFFECT
	Mrs. Khalil yelled at the newcomer.
	The students roared.

E. Find words in the text that most nearly have the following meanings: (Score: 02)

1. followed rapidly in order to catch or overtake (Paragraphs 1-2)
2. swallowed quickly because of surprise or nervousness (Paragraphs 2-3)
3. feeling nervous, uncomfortable, and worried about what people think (Paragraphs 3-4)
4. got surprised, sometimes to the point of jumping (Paragraphs 4-5)

F. Rewrite each of the following sentences, starting it as indicated, without changing the meaning. (Score: 03)

1. The new students will have finished their summer course by mid-August.
The summer
2. Mrs. Halabi asked me, "Are you still preparing for tomorrow's test?"
Mrs. Halabi wondered
3. I was more self-confident as my peers shared ideas and dreams with me.
If my peers

Part Two : Writing

(Score: 08/20)

Some people do have a great influence on us while growing up and building our personalities.

In a well-organized composition of about 150-200 words, explain the above statement by referring to a special person who has played an important role in your life. Show what traits he/she has, and how he/she has helped you develop your character. Supply your developed composition with an outline and a suitable title.

[Score: 02 for **outline** and **title**, 03 for **ideas**, and 03 **language**]

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Part of the Q	Answer		Mark						
	Competencies: Utilize text-related clues to comprehend discourse Develop interpretive understanding of printed discourse Expand writing skills through guided and semi-guided activities								
I.A.1	1. answer		0.5						
I.A.2	2. incident / legend		0.5						
I.B.1	. How did the students react to the newcomer?	1 / 4	0.5						
I.B.2	2. What made Mrs. Khalil different from other teachers?	2	0.5						
I.B.3	3. How did the students sympathize with the new comer?	4	0.5						
I.C.1	She helped him to become self confident and popular.		1						
I.C.2	First, she asked him questions to encourage him. Secomd, she yelled at him when he was distracted.		1						
I.C.3	She is a professional teacher who is helpful, caring, aware, and strict. She knows how to manage her class.		1						
I.D		<table><tr><th>CAUSE</th><th>EFFECT</th></tr><tr><td>He was playing carelessly with a pencil in class.</td><td>Mrs. Khalil yelled at the newcomer.</td></tr><tr><td>I startled and the pen flew in the air.</td><td>The students roared.</td></tr></table>	CAUSE	EFFECT	He was playing carelessly with a pencil in class.	Mrs. Khalil yelled at the newcomer.	I startled and the pen flew in the air.	The students roared.	1.5
	CAUSE	EFFECT							
	He was playing carelessly with a pencil in class.	Mrs. Khalil yelled at the newcomer.							
I startled and the pen flew in the air.	The students roared.								
I.E.1	chased		0.5						
I.E.2	gulped		0.5						
I.E.3	embarrassed		0.5						
I.E.4	startled		0.5						
I.F.1	The new students will have finished their summer course by mid-August. <i>The summer course will have been finished by mid-August.</i>		1						
I.F.2	Ms. Halabi asked me, “Are you still preparing for tomorrow’s test?” <i>Ms. Halabi wondered if I was still preparing for the following day’s test.</i>		1						
I.F.3	If my peers <i>hadn’t shared I wouldn’t have been</i> more self-confident.		1						
II.A	Outline and Title		2						
II.B	Ideas		3						
II.C	Language		3						