

<p>المادة : لغة إنكليزية الشهادة : الثانوية العامة الفرع : الاجتماع والاقتصاد نموذج : رقم (٥) المدة : ساعتان ونصف</p>	<p>الهيئة الأكاديمية المشتركة قسم: اللغة الإنكليزية وآدابها</p>	 <p>المركز العربي للبحوث والدراسات</p>
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نموذج مسابقة (يراعي تعليق الدروس والتوصيف المعدل للعام الدراسي ٢٠١٦-٢٠١٧ وحتى صدور المناهج المطورة)

Part One: Reading Comprehension

(Score: 24/40)

Read the selection below about the Trade Facilitation Agreement as an important step for the world trading system and then answer the questions that follow.

Trade Facilitation: An Economic Value

1 Trade facilitation is defined as the simplification, modernization, and harmonization of export and import processes. Trade facilitation has emerged as a key issue for the world trading system at the time it was not even listed on the World Trade Organization agenda (WTO) two decades ago. Yet, it has become one of the main objectives of the WTO's global trade negotiations. In December 2013, the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) was made by WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali and was described then as the first trade agreement since 1995. The TFA represents a landmark achievement with the potential to increase world trade by up to 1 trillion US\$ per year. In 2015, the World Trade Report studied the potential impacts of the TFA and found that developing countries will benefit significantly from the TFA and will capture a large part of the available gains.

2 The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) is essential because the global trade landscape is changing, probably even faster than we realize. Companies are now organizing the production of goods and services and adding value across different countries through a complex economic global network. Rather than decreasing the importance of trade, this highly connected global economy network is increasing it.

3 If broadly defined, trade facilitation can cover a wide range of issues, from information technology capabilities to transport and other services. Yet, in spite of that, governments' administrative processes and regulatory requirements remain a major factor to be considered. In this respect, the TFA, which focuses on conforming and modernizing customs and taxes procedures, will have a great impact on reducing trade costs.

4 Another reason why the TFA is vital has to do with the current economic situation. The global economy is still struggling to recover nearly seven years after the global financial crisis. Since the limited improvement in 2010, the global trade has grown at a rate substantially below its historical level. The expectations for more growth in global trade do not promise a return to the historical level anytime soon. This has provoked broader discussion of whether the trade slowdown reflects a problem with its structure rather than with universal causes; which is a sign of worse things to come.

5 The annual World Trade Report examined the primary factors shaping the future of trade and listed trade costs as one of those shaping factors. However, the report makes it clear that many factors, such as technological progress and labor force, make changes in trade activities. These factors can have impacts on trade flows that are much greater than the effect of trade cost changes.

6 Based on the World Trade Report estimates that trade costs might have probable effects due to the TFA, it is useful to add that the fundamental role of trade costs in shaping the future of world trade means that any reduction to these costs would activate the global economy at present and in the future. Accordingly, the report points out that TFA reduces the costs substantially and makes a big upward movement to the international trade and the global economy.

7 The TFA is also valuable because it indicates an important shift in the operations of the trading system itself. The world trade was dominated by the exchange of discrete products, whereby some countries reduced costs only when other countries reduced theirs. But the economic connections in the global market have been the reason for expecting a different direction in trading operations.

8 One striking feature of the WTO's trade facilitation negotiations was that they were focused on finding collaborative solutions to common challenges, such as standardizing customs procedures and improving information exchanges. There was a broad agreement that countries would benefit by reforming their trade procedures individually, but they would benefit even more by collectively taking these steps. This explains why the trade facilitation negotiations, in which every member was involved in the design of the TFA were the most inclusive and efficient.

Questions:

A- Answer each of the following questions in 1-2 sentences using your own words.

- 1- Based on paragraphs 2, 3, and 4, why is the TFA important for the world trading system? (Score:02)
- 2- What comparison does the writer make in paragraph 5? (Score:02)
- 3- How would you best describe the writer's tone in paragraph 4? Justify your answer. (Score: 02)
- 4- Based on paragraph 8, how would you describe the way the writer views trade facilitation negotiations? Justify your answer. (Score:02)

B-

- 1- What type of introduction does the writer use? What purpose does it serve? (Score: 02)
- 2- What is the thematic relationship between paragraphs 5 and 6? Explain. (Score: 02)
- 3- What two types of audience might be interested in reading this selection? State the interest of each. (Score: 02)
- 4- How does the writer establish coherence between paragraphs 1 and 2? (Score: 01)

C- The reading selection has eight paragraphs (1→8). Each of the following extracts (A and B) is the correct part that completes ONE paragraph in the selection. Read extracts A and B carefully and then choose from paragraphs (1→8) the one that correctly fits with each extract. (Score: 02)

Extract A: *In a world of interconnected economic networks, where countries are connected to the global marketplace and their exports depend on their imports, countries now have a greater motive to work together in order to reduce barriers and harmonize processes in their trading operations.*

Extract B: *This collaborative approach was further reinforced by the fact that many of the issues under negotiations were basically global. Anything less than a collaborative approach means complicating, not facilitating, both cross-border tractions and means of addressing challenges.*

D- The following statements are false for they misinterpret what is stated or implied in the selection. Rewrite each correctly. **(Score: 02)**

- 1- The Trade Facilitation Agreement, the first trade agreement since 2010, was made in December 2015 by WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali.
- 2- The annual World Trade Report examined the primary trade costs shaping the future of trade and listed one shaping factor.

E- Based on the selection, what does each of the following underlined words refer to? **(Score: 03)**

- 1- it (Paragraph 2)
- 2- that (Paragraph 3)
- 3- theirs (Paragraph 7)

F- Read the following sentences and then find, in the indicated paragraphs, ONE word that can best replace each of the underlined words. **(Score: 02)**

- 1- The marketing image they have designed to make more profits has helped them grab the votes of the majority. (Paragraph 1)
- 2- During the civil rights movements of the 50s and 60s, Martin Luther King appeared as a national hero. (Paragraph 1)
- 3- She must understand that I can't go out for dinner tonight because I'm supposed to babysit for our neighbor. (Paragraph 2)
- 4- It took my grandmother a long time to heal from the shock of my grandfather's death. (Paragraph 4)

Part Two: Writing:

(Score: 16/40)

Choose ONE of the following prompts:

Prompt (A): Read the following statement from an article about the dependency of economic growth on technological progress.

Advances in energy systems, transportation, communication, industry etc. have greatly enabled increased standards of living through advancing productivity, services and business.

Write an essay in which you explain the above statement. As you develop your essay, refer to the opportunities technological progress has offered to increase production, services, incomes and standards of living.

In your essay, provide a thesis statement in the introduction, a topic sentence in each body paragraph and support the main idea with relevant, specific and adequate details. Give examples drawn from your reading, experience or observation. Your essay should be between 250-300 words with an appropriate title. Revise and proofread your essay.

Prompt (B): Read the following extract from an editorial about economic development.

Cooperation among countries for economic purposes is not always an effective way to accelerate development within countries; it might lead to social and economic problems. While cooperation strengthens development by sharing knowledge and experiences to address shared challenges, it causes problems of conflicts over production, disagreement on national priorities and fight over manipulation of resources.

Write an argumentative essay in which you argue *for* or *against* the above statement. As you develop your essay, support your position by drawing on logical reasoning and experience. In your supporting paragraphs provide relevant, specific, and adequate evidence and examples from your reading, experience or observation. Your essay should be between 250-300 words with an appropriate title. Revise and proofread your essay.

Your essay will be evaluated based on content and organization of ideas (Score: 07), language and style (Score: 07), tidiness and handwriting (Score: 02).

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أسس التصحيح (تراعي تعليق الدروس والتوصيف المعدل للعام الدراسي ٢٠١٦-٢٠١٧ وحتى صدور المناهج المطورة)

A-

- 1- TFA is important because the global economy is still suffering from the global financial crisis, the global picture of trade is changing fast and TFA would help in reducing trade costs.
- 2- The writer makes a comparison between factors that affect the future of trade. The writer states that the effects of factors such as technological progress and labor force can be greater than the effects of trade costs changes on trade flow in the future.
- 3- The writer's tone in paragraph 4 is concerned. The writer describes the global economy as "still struggling" and its improvement is "below its historical level". The writer's tone is also pessimistic by stating that growth in global trade "will not happen soon" and expecting "worse things" to happen due to the trade structure.
- 4- The writer views trade facilitation negotiations in an approving and positive way. The writer considers these negotiations the most "inclusive" and "efficient" and describes their focus on finding cooperative solution as a "striking feature".

B-

- 1- The writer starts with a definition of Trade facilitation and then gives historical background about TFA by referring to the years 1995, 2013, and 2015 in order to orient the reader into the topic.
- 2- It is a relationship of addition. In paragraph 5, the writer refers to the trade costs and other factors that would shape the future of trade according to the World Trade Report. In paragraph 6, the writer refers to the same report to explain how reducing trade costs would activate and improve global economy.
- 3- The two types of audience who might be interested in reading the selection are businessmen to learn what improves trade and economists to understand how TFA can activate the global economy.
- 4- The writer achieves coherence between paragraphs 1 and 2 by using an indirect link of repetition. In paragraph 1, the writer gives historical background about the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). Then in paragraph 2, the writer repeats the term Trade Facilitation Agreement to explain why it is essential.

C- Extract A is the correct part that completes paragraph 7.

Extract B is the correct part that completes paragraph 8.

D-

- 1- The Trade Facilitation Agreement, the first trade agreement since 1995, was made in December 2013 by WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali.
- 2- The annual World Trade Report examined the primary factors shaping the future of trade and listed trade costs as one of those shaping factors.

E-

- 1- “it” in paragraph 2 refers to the importance of trade.
- 2- “that” in paragraph 3 refers to covering a wide range of issues.
- 3- “theirs” in paragraph 7 refers to costs.

F-

- 1- grab → capture
- 2- appeared → emerged
- 3- understand → realize
- 4- heal → recover