

KULLEĠĠ SAN BENEDITTU

Boys' Secondary, Kirkop

Mark

HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION – 2011/12

Time: 2 hrs

FORM 3

Track 3 (JL)



Section	Oral	Listening	Language	Reading comprehension	Poem	Prose	Creative Writing	Global Mark
Max.Mark	10	10	20	20	10	10	20	100
Mark								

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

Name: _____

Class: _____

Section A.

Language

(20 marks)

Ex 1: Fill in with words from the box. Two words are extra.

(5 marks)

sunshine	public	mark	torrential	storms	the worst
west	crops	effects	general	busy	rain

Predictions of violent (1) _____ fizzled out but yesterday's downpour still had its (2) _____, uprooting a sentry box, delaying (3) _____ transport, landing vehicles in hot water and ravaging (4) _____. Some weather websites were off the (5) _____, reporting strong tempests in Tunisia and the Sicilian Channel, stating that Malta was on "maximum alert", with "extremely violent storms" forming around it and causing (6) _____ rains. According to a Malta Airport Met Office spokesman, "large supercells" formed to the west of the Island in the Tunisian-Sicily Channel. But Malta was spared (7) _____ as it was on the eastern edge of the storm that slowly moved towards the northeast during the afternoon. The Civil Protection Department was kept (8) _____ and was quick to issue a warning to the (9) _____ public to avoid passing from localities where lots of water collected in the eventuality that the heavy (10) _____ persisted, as was expected, into the evening and throughout the night.

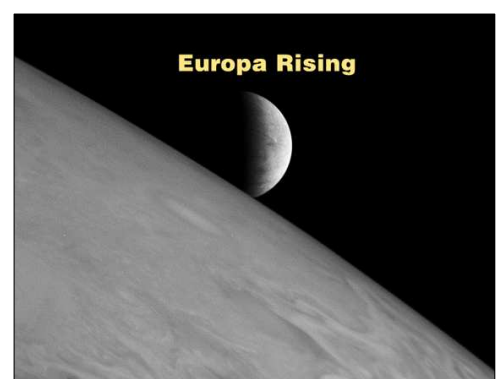
Adapted from *Times of Malta* 30th November 2011

Ex. 2 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in brackets.**(10 marks)**

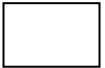
Christopher Columbus, who was born in 1451, first (1) _____ (go) to sea as a teenager, participating in several trading voyages in the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas. One such voyage, to the island of Khios, in modern day Greece, (2) _____ (bring) him the closest he would come to Asia. His first voyage into the Atlantic Ocean in 1476 nearly cost him his life as the commercial fleet he (3) _____ (sail) with, was attacked by the French, off the coast of Portugal. His ship (4) _____ (burn) and Columbus had (5) _____ (swim) to the Portuguese shore and (6) _____ (make) his way to Lisbon, Portugal, where he eventually (7) _____ (settle) and married Felipa Perestrelo. The couple (8) _____ (have) one son. Columbus participated in several other expeditions to Africa (9) _____ (gain) knowledge of the Atlantic currents flowing east and west from the Canary Islands. Columbus' legacy is a mixed one. He (10) _____ (be) credited for opening up the Americas to European colonization as well as blamed for the destruction of the native people of the islands he explored.

**Ex. 3 Cloze passage – fill in with appropriate words.****(5 marks)**

Scientists say there is (1) _____ evidence for warm water just beneath the icy shell of Europa, one of the moons of the planet Jupiter. The (2) _____ is causing the moon's outer layers to melt and break (3) _____ - a bit like icy areas on Earth (4) _____ Antarctica. As this could lead to evidence for other life on the planet, it's a very (5) _____ discovery. For a long time (6) _____ have thought a giant ocean, (7) _____ 160 km deep, lies beneath the ice crust of Europa. Space experts in America (8) _____ Europe (9) _____ working on missions to Europa, and Jupiter's other moons, to find (10) _____ more. They hope to launch a mission in the next ten years or early in the 2020s.



adapted from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/15769304>



The Wise Woman's Stone

Some years back, a wise woman was travelling in the mountains. She had been walking for days and was getting tired. However, she couldn't give up now when she was almost at the end of her journey. Her destination was close and she estimated that the major **peril** was over. The toughest part of the ordeal was over and she would be reaching her dream in a day or two.

She stopped for a short rest on the bank of a stream. She sat on the grass and nibbled at the food she had prepared before she set out on her adventure. As she was taking pleasure in the enchanting scenery which surrounded her, she got a glimpse of something glittering in the sun at the foot of a palm tree close by. She got up



and walked towards the sparkling object to find that what had caught the rays of the sun was nothing less than a precious stone. She was amazed at the beauty of the gem she now held on the palm of her hand. She thought to herself about the luck that had come her way. She picked the precious stone, wrapped it in a handkerchief and put it safely at the bottom of her bag.

The next day she met a weary traveller who was hungry, and the wise woman opened her bag to share her food. As she was **fumbling** for the morsels of food left in her bag, she accidentally dropped the precious stone on the ground. The hungry traveller saw the precious stone and immediately wanted to acquire it. The wise woman was quick to realise that the traveller was hastily considering ways and means of robbing her of her precious stone. She gently turned to him and told him how she had found it. The hungry traveller promptly asked her to give it to him. The wise woman did so without hesitation.

The traveller left, rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the jewel was worth enough to give him security for the rest of his life. He couldn't comprehend how and why that woman gave away such wealth without a second thought. He decided that the **rickety** old lady he had come across was the most idiotic creature living on earth. In next to no time he brushed aside all thought of the foolish woman and set out on what he thought was a completely new chapter in his life.

But a few days later he came back, searching for the woman. When he found her, he returned the stone and said, "I have been thinking. I know how valuable this stone is, but I give it back to you in the hope that you can give me something much more precious. If you can, give me what you have within you that enabled you to give away the precious stone. I had thought you were foolish and I was the luckiest man on earth. These past days have shown me that it is not wealth that makes a man happy. You have taught me that bliss lies in sharing not in **hoarding**. Please share your wisdom with a weary hungry traveller."

1. State whether each statement is TRUE or FALSE. (2 marks) ☐

- a. The stone had no value at all. _____
- b. The traveller was exhausted by his travelling. _____
- c. The woman was a mean person. _____
- d. Accumulating wealth may not always result in joy. _____

2. Underline the correct answer. (2 marks) ☐

a. The man saw the precious stone

- (i) wrapped in the handkerchief.
- (ii) in the bottom of the woman's bag.
- (iii) as it rolled on the ground.

b. The traveller gave the stone back to the woman

- (i) because it was not worth as much as he thought it did.
- (ii) because he preferred to have the same good feelings.
- (iii) because he wanted to share its value with her.

3. Give the meaning of the following words as they are used in the text. (4 marks) ☐

- a. peril _____
- b. fumbling _____
- c. rickety _____
- d. hoarding _____

4. Do you think that the woman had never actually realised the value of the precious stone she had found? Give two reasons for your answer. (3 marks) ☐

5. Did the woman have plenty of food left at this point of the story? Which two phrases in the text give evidence to your answer? (3 marks)

6. What made the woman share the food with the traveller? (2 marks)

7. Write in your own words the reasons which caused the traveller to seek the woman and give her back the stone. (4 marks)

Section C **Literature** **(20 marks)**

Answer all questions.

POETRY (10 marks)

1. *Poem studied* (5 marks)

Think of a poem you read in class this year and answer the following questions.

- (i) Title of Poem: _____ (½ mark)
- (ii) Poet: _____ (½ mark)
- (iii) By referring to the theme, figures of speech and rhythm or rhyme, write how the poet tries to make the poem interesting. (4 marks)

2. *Unseen Poem*

(5 marks)



Stop To Smell The Roses

*When life stresses you too much,
stop and smell the roses;
their beauty will bring tranquillity to your soul.*

*When you find it hard to make the next move,
stop and smell the roses;
their beauty will help you to stop and ponder
upon what to do next.*

*When you find that life has given you too many curbs,
stop and smell the roses;
their beauty will help you realize
others may have it much worse than you.*

*When you think you are at the end of your rope,
stop and smell the roses;
their beauty will enchant you into changing your mindset
for you have too many more roads to travel,
roads that will take you to your dreams and heart's desires!*



Stop, smell the roses, it is not too late!

Nicole Weaver

- (i) What do you think the poet wants the reader to understand by the phrase 'Stop, smell the roses'? (2 marks)

- (ii) Mention two things that, according to the poet, the beauty of roses does. (2 marks)

- (iii) Give the rhyme scheme of the first stanza. (1 mark)

PROSE/DRAMA**(10 marks)**

- (i) Give the title of a **novel OR short story** you read in class this year and write a paragraph about your favourite character, describing what you admire in this character. (5 marks)

Title of novel: _____ (½ mark)

Author: _____ (½ mark)

_____ (4marks)

- (ii) Describe an important episode in a **play** you read in class this year. Give a reason for your answer. (5 marks)

Title of drama : _____ (½ mark)

Dramatist: _____ (½ mark)

_____ (4marks)

Section D**Creative Writing****(20 marks)**

Write a composition of about 200 and 250 words on one of the following.

1. Write a film review which will be published in your school magazine.
2. Your parents were invited to a wedding on a Saturday evening. Since you are the eldest, you were left responsible for your younger brothers. All went well until...Continue the story.
3. Write a letter to a friend who lives abroad, telling him why he should come to visit you in Malta this summer.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.