

KULLEĠĠ SAN BENEDITTU

Boys' Secondary, Kirkop

HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION – 2011/12

Mark

English

Form 1
Levels 6 - 7

TIME:
2 hours

Question	Oral	Listening	Language	Comprehension	Poetry	Prose	Compos	Global Mark
Max. Mark	10	10	15	20	10	10	25	100
Mark								

Name: _____

Class: _____

Section A – Language

(15 marks)

A. Look at the information below. Then complete the five sentences below using the comparative or superlative of the words in brackets. (0) is done as an example.

(5 marks)

Sunrise Hotel	Grand Hotel	Castle Hotel	Midas Hotel
350 bedrooms	300 bedrooms	270 bedrooms	150 bedrooms
€180 a night	€200 a night	€160 a night	€100 per night

0. *cheap* Castle Hotel is cheaper than Sunrise Hotel.
1. *small* Of all the hotels, Midas Hotel is _____.
2. *expensive* Grand Hotel is _____ hotel.
3. *cheap* Sunrise Hotel is _____ than Grand Hotel.
4. *big* Sunrise Hotel is _____ hotel.
5. *large* Castle Hotel is _____ than Midas Hotel.

B. Complete the following story by filling in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. The first one (0) has been done for you. (7 marks)

Every year, my family and I (0) go (to go) to Penzance, Cornwall for our holidays. We _____ (to live) in north Devon so we have quite a long way to go. This year we left our home in Devon four days ago, and, as usual, we (1) _____ (to wake) up very early. Naturally, before we left, Mum (2) _____ (to be) very busy in the kitchen preparing our lunches. My sister Mary (3) _____ (to help) her but my other sister Sylvia, who is still a toddler, (4) _____ (to get) in the way. We (5) _____ (to arrive) at our hotel in Cornwall in the afternoon. At the moment we (6) _____ (to enjoy) ourselves building sandcastles on a large sandy beach! We look forward to another week on the beach. Penzance (7) _____ (to be) a great place for a holiday!



C. Complete with *the*, *a* or *an*. The first one (0) has been done for you. (3 marks)

Good evening. Here are (0) the main headlines of today's news bulletin:

- (1) _____ Prime Minister leaves for (2) _____ official visit to Brussels.
- The Leader of (3) _____ Opposition addresses his Party's General Conference.
- (4) _____ 11-year old boy is injured in a traffic accident.
- Thousands of schoolchildren attend (5) _____ concert of classical music.
- (6) _____ Maltese national football team win their first international game.



Section B – Reading Comprehension

(20 marks)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions.

Anne Finds An Apartment.

Anne Smith, her husband Mark, and their young son, Tony, have just moved to London and need somewhere to live until **they** settle down. In the meantime, they are staying in a hotel not far from Mark's place of work. (paragraph 1)

Anne buys some newspapers and looks at the Property To Let section. She finds lists of many kinds of properties but she is mostly interested in the list of major apartment complexes in her area. She finds out that each apartment complex offers different facilities. Some complexes have a gym, others have a kind of club and sometimes they even have a pool. Some complexes have all of these. (paragraph 2)

Anne notices that the more luxuries an apartment complex has, the more it costs each month. She wants the family's new apartment to be nice, but she does not want to spend too much money on it. She and Mark are trying to save money to buy a house of their own. (paragraph 3)

After **considering** prices, luxuries, and locations, Anna finds several apartment complexes that she thinks the family will like. Anna calls the apartment complexes. She sets up appointments with the apartment managers to see the apartments she thinks are interesting. Anna makes five phone calls in total.

When Mario gets back to the hotel from work, Anna shows him the list of apartments.

"These look good," he says.

The next day, while Mario is at work and Antonio is at childcare, Anna visits the apartment complexes. She likes the fifth one best. It is in a good school district. It has a pool, but no fitness centre or clubhouse. It is near Mario's job. Anna hopes to find a job nearby, as well.

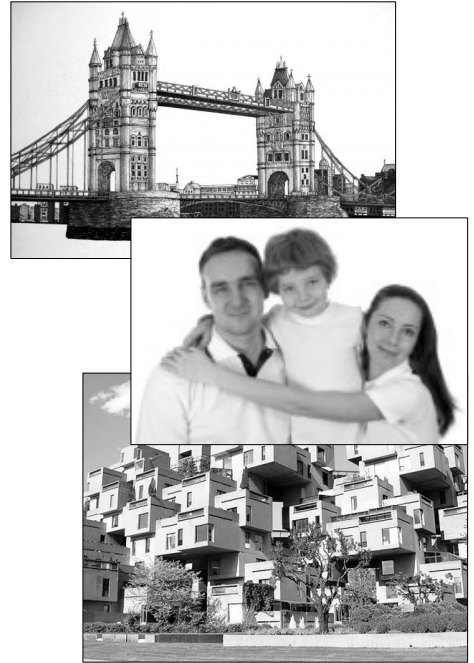
When Anna gets back to the hotel, she discusses all that she has seen with Mario. They decide to rent the last apartment Anna saw.

The next day, Anna calls the manager of the apartment complex with the news. The manager asks Anna and Mario to sign a lease and pay a **security deposit**. If the family damages the apartment in any way while they are living there, the security deposit will help to pay for the cost of repairs. Anna and Mario sign a lease and pay the money. The manager asks them when they plan to move in and Anna looks up at Mario. He looks back at her for a moment and then tells the manager, "In a few days." Finally, they have a place to stay.

1. Underline the correct answer.

(1 mark)

The passage is about



- a) Anna's family.
- b) Mario's job.
- c) Anna's new apartment.
- d) Anna's search for an apartment.

2. Are the following **TRUE** or **FALSE**?

(5 marks)

- a. Anna and Mario want to buy a new apartment. _____
- b. Anna looks for apartments in a newspaper. _____
- c. Anna wants the family's apartment to be nice. _____
- d. Mario goes with Anna to look at the different apartment complexes. _____
- e. Anna and Mario have damaged an apartment. _____

3. What two things does Anna consider while looking through the Apartment Book?
(2 marks)

4. What does Anna realize as she looks through the Apartment Book? (2 marks)

5. Why doesn't Anna want to spend too much money on an apartment? (2 marks)

6. What two things make Anna like the fifth apartment best? (2 marks)

7. Where is Antonio while Anna looks at apartments? (2 marks)

8. When will the family move into their new apartment?

(2 marks)

9. Underline the correct answer.

(2 marks)

a) Which is the best description of a **security deposit**?

- A. money given to landlord to pay for amenities
- B. money given to landlord to pay for utilities and telephone
- C. money given to landlord to prove the tenant can pay rent on time
- D. money given to the landlord to pay for any damage to the apartment

b) What does it mean to **consider** something?

- A. to rent it
- B. to think about it
- C. to make it happen
- D. to read a book about it

Section B: Reading Comprehension

(20 marks)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions:

ANNE FINDS AN APARTMENT

Anne began looking for an apartment for the family to live in. She picked up a local newspaper and, in the Classified section, found lists of properties in **her** area which were for sale or to let. Anne started by looking at the prices for apartments which were offered for rent. Then she read about the different facilities that each apartment *complex* offered. For example, some apartments had a recreation room, others had a gym, which sometimes is called a fitness centre, while some even had a pool. The most luxurious apartments had all of **these**! (paragraph 2)

Of course, the more luxuries an apartment complex had, the more it cost each month. Anne wanted the family's new apartment to be pleasant, but she did not want to spend too much money on it; she and Mark were trying to save money to buy their own apartment! (paragraph 3)

After *considering* prices, facilities, and locations, Anne found several apartment complexes that she thought were *suitable*. She made a series of phone calls and fixed appointments with five estate agents to see those flats she thought would suit her family. When Mark got back to the

hotel from work, Anna showed him the list of apartments she would be viewing. Mark agreed with her that the apartments she had chosen looked promising. (paragraph 4)

So, the next day, while Mark was at work and Tony was in a childcare centre, Anna visited the apartment complexes. She liked the fifth **one** best: there was a good school nearby and the complex had a *communal* pool. It had no fitness centre or recreation room but it was near Mark's office. Anna hoped that she would be able to find a job nearby as well. (paragraph 5)

When Anne *returned* to the hotel, she discussed everything with Mark and they decided to rent the last apartment Anne had seen. (paragraph 6)

The next day, Anne called the manager of the apartment complex to let him know of their decision to rent the flat. Anne and Mark together with the manager signed a rent agreement at the office of a notary public and paid all the necessary money plus a security deposit. They were told that if the family damaged the apartment in any way while they were living there, the security deposit would help to pay for the cost of repairs. When the manager asked them when they planned to move in, Anne looked up at Mark. He looked back at her for a moment and then told the manager, "In a few days' time." (paragraph 7)

Finally, they had a place they could call home. (paragraph 8)

1. Mark the following statements as TRUE or FALSE (2 marks)

- a. Anne, Mark and Tony were looking for a permanent home. _____
- b. They lived in the hotel for a long time. _____
- c. Both Mario and Anna work in an office. _____
- d. Tony is not yet old enough to go to a regular school. _____

2. What do the following words refer to in the text? (2 marks)

- a. **They** (paragraph 1) _____
- b. **her** (paragraph 2) _____
- c. **these** (paragraph 2) _____
- d. **one** (paragraph 5) _____

3. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage (2 marks)

- a. *complex* (paragraph 2) _____
- b. *considering* (paragraph 4) _____
- c. *suitable* (paragraph 4) _____
- d. *communal* (paragraph 5) _____

4. Why were Anne, Mark and Tony staying in a hotel? (1 mark)

5. Could Anne afford to pay a high rent? Why? (2 marks)

6. Anne chose the fifth apartment for two reasons. What were they? (2 marks)

7. Name two facilities that some apartment complexes had. (1 marks)

8. From what you have read, what do you think is the main job of: (2 marks)

(a) an estate agent: _____

(b) a notary public: _____

9. Why, in your opinion, was location important to Anne? (2 marks)

10. In your own words, explain what a 'security deposit' (paragraph 7) is. (2 marks)

11. What is the meaning of the last sentence (paragraph 8)? (2 marks)

Section C – Literature

20 marks

A. Poetry

10 marks

Unprepared Text – Answer all questions

My Grandpa - Kenn Nesbit

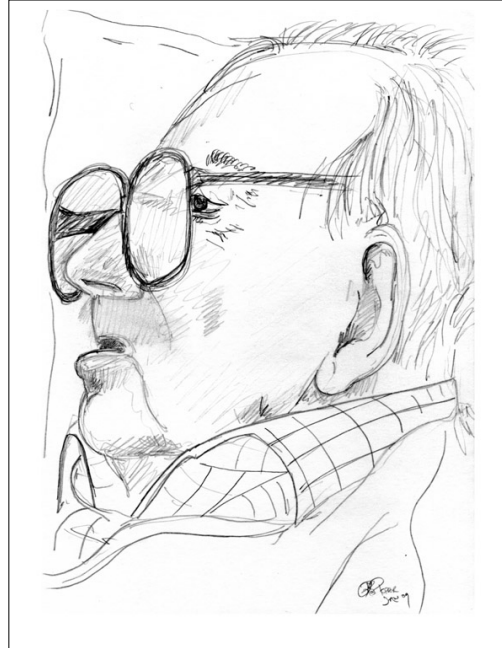
I'll tell you a bit of my grandpa.
I think he's a thousand years old.
He must keep his hands in the freezer;
I've never felt ice cubes that cold.

The hair growing off of his earlobes
is more than the hair on his head.
His eyes are all baggy and bloodshot.
His nose is the same shade of red.

His voice is like rickety floorboards.
It crackles and groans when he speaks.
Whenever he bends down to hug me
it sounds like his skeleton creaks.

He says that his memory is failing.
He thinks that he's losing his mind.
He's always misplacing his glasses;
without them he's legally blind.

My mom says his hearing is normal.
I kind of believe her, but then
whenever I tell him "I love you,"
he asks me to say it again.



1. Write a summary of the poem. Your summary should be about 30 words long. (3 marks)

2. From the poem quote: (3 marks)

- (a) an example of alliteration: _____
- (b) a simile: _____
- (c) two rhyming words: _____

3. Fill in the following table by quoting four separate words or phrases that appeal to a particular sense and the effect that the word or phrase brings out. An example (0) is provided. (3 marks)

	Sense	Word or phrase	Effect created
0.	Sight	Same shade of red	Makes it easier for us to imagine the colour of grandpa's nose
1.	Hearing		
2.	Touch		
3.	Movement		

4. What does the last verse tell you about Grandpa's character? (1 mark)

Prose/Drama - Unprepared Prose Text

(10 marks)

Answer all questions

Mr. Bumble, who had handed Oliver over to the care of an old woman, returned; and, telling him it was a board night, informed him that the board had said he was to appear before it forthwith¹.

Not having a very clearly defined notion² of what a live board was, Oliver was not quite certain whether he ought to laugh or cry. Mr. Bumble conducted him into a large white-washed room, where eight or ten fat gentlemen were sitting round a table.



'Bow to the board,' said Bumble. Oliver brushed away two or three tears that were lingering in his eyes; and seeing no board but the table, fortunately bowed to that.

'What's your name, boy?' said the gentleman in the high chair.

Oliver was frightened at the sight of so many gentlemen, which made him tremble: and the beadle³ gave him another tap behind, which made him cry. These two causes made him answer in a very low and hesitating voice; whereupon a gentleman in a white waistcoat said he was a fool.

Adapted from *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

¹**immediately**

²**idea**

³**parish official**

1. Quote the sentence or phrase that shows that Oliver was not feeling comfortable in front of the board. (2 marks)

2. Write down TWO words or phrases from the text that show that Oliver was afraid. (1 mark)

3. How do you know that Oliver had to show respect to the members of the Board? (2 marks)

4. What TWO reasons made Oliver answer in 'a very low and hesitating voice'? (2 marks)

5. Which word or phrase in the text tells us that the members of the board always ate well? (1 mark)

6. What, in your view, is the beadle's attitude towards Oliver? (2 marks)

Section D – Composition

25 marks

Write between 150 and 200 words about one of the following:

1. Continue the story. *It was nine o'clock at night. We were watching television when we heard a knock on the door.....*
2. A book I read.
3. Write an email to your English telling him about an activity you are attending every Saturday morning (example: football nursery, drama lessons, MUSEUM activities). Tell him why you go, what you do while you are there and why you enjoy it.

