

KULLEĠĠ SAN BENEDITTU

Boys' Secondary, Kirkop

HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION – 2011/12

Mark

English Language

Form 1
Levels 5-6-7

TIME:
2 hours

Questions	Oral	Listening	Language	Comprehension	Poetry	Prose	Composition	Global Mark
Max. Mark	10	10	15	20	10	10	25	100
Mark								

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

Name: _____

Class: _____

Section A – Language

(15 marks)

A. Look at the information below. Then complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative of the words in brackets. (5 marks)

Sunrise Hotel	Grand Hotel	Castle Hotel
300 bedrooms	300 bedrooms	270 bedrooms
€200 a night	€200 a night	€160 a night

Example:

Castle Hotel is cheaper (cheap) than Sunrise Hotel.

- Grand Hotel is _____ (expensive) than Castle Hotel.
- Sunrise Hotel is probably _____ (large) than Castle Hotel.
- Castle Hotel is _____ (cheap) of the three hotels.
- Sunrise Hotel is _____ (expensive) Grand Hotel.
- Castle Hotel is probably _____ (small) than Grand 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)

Last year my family and I (0) went (go) to Cornwall for our holidays. Since we were going by car, we (1) _____ (wake) up early in the morning. My mother (2) _____ (be) very busy getting everything ready. My sister Mary (3) _____ (help) my mother while my other sister Sylvia, who at that time (4) _____ (be) only four, (5) _____ (get) in the way. Mum (6) _____ (ask) me to look after Sylvia instead of helping Dad put our bags in the car. Finally, we (7) _____ (leave) the house after an early breakfast and expected to arrive in Cornwall in the afternoon.

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

Good evening. Here is (0) the nine o'clock news.

(1) _____ Prime Minister arrived in London this morning for (2) _____ talks with (3) _____ British Prime Minister. All this will be followed by dinner at (4) _____ expensive restaurant in (5) _____ high-class part of London. The Prime Minister is expected to stay in London until this Friday and will arrive in Malta on Saturday, early in (6) _____ morning.

Section B – Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Read the following passage and then answer the questions.

Anna Finds An Apartment.

Anne, her husband Mark, and their two-year-old son, Tony, have just moved to London. They need to find a temporary place to call home until they settle down. At the moment, they are staying in a hotel not far from Mark's place of work.

Anne buys some local papers and finds long lists of apartments available for rent. She reads about the different facilities that each apartment complex has such as clubs, gyms, fitness centres or pools.

Anne notices that the more luxuries an apartment complex has, the more it costs to rent an apartment there. 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.

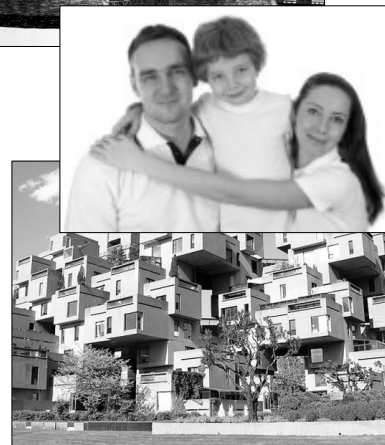
Anne finds several apartments that she thinks the family will like. She calls the owners and makes appointments to view the apartments she thinks are interesting.

The next day, while Mark is at work and Tony is at a childcare centre, Anne visits five apartments and likes the fifth one best. It is near a good school and is just a few metres away from Mark's office.

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

The next day, Anne and Mark sign the lease and pay a **security deposit**. The security deposit will help to pay for the cost of any necessary repairs. The manager asks them when they plan to move in. They answer "in a few days' time."

Finally, they have a place to stay.



1. Underline the correct answer.

(1 mark)

The passage is about

- a. Anne's family.
- b. Mark's job.
- c. Anne's search for an apartment.

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

(5 marks)

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

3. Mention 2 different facilities that the apartment complexes may have. (2 marks)

4. What does Anne realize as she looks through the local newspaper? (2 marks)

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

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

7. Where is Tony while Anne looks at apartments? (2 marks)

8. When will the family move into their new apartment? (2 marks)

9. Underline the correct answer. (2 marks)

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

Section C – Literature

(20 marks)

A. Poetry

(10 marks)

Unprepared Text

Answer all questions.

Our New Robot

Last night Daddy bought us a robot
To help with the housework and whatnot.

It can cook fine cuisine
That is fit for a queen.
It can clean all the rooms
With its high tech brooms.
It can wash dirty clothes
Till they smell like a rose.

This robot is one of the latest inventions,
And I know Daddy had the best of intentions,
But it was so very expensive, you see,
The loan won't be paid till I'm thirty-three.

So Dad says we must take the greatest of care
Not to harm it or cause any wear and tear.
So Mom does the laundry and makes our
lunch,
While Dad cleans the house and I serve the
punch.

And what, you might ask, does the robot do?
He just sits by the window, enjoying the view.

Hiroshi Takao



1. Underline the correct answer:

(1 mark)

The poem is about

- a. a busy robot who does everything in the house.
- b. a lazy robot who doesn't help with the housework.
- c. an expensive robot which needs to be taken care of.

2. Quote an example of a simile in the poem.

(1 mark)

3. Mention **two** things that the robot can do.

(2 marks)

4. Write **two** sets of rhyming words

(2 marks)

5. What does the robot do all day long?

(1 mark)

6. Write **two** adjectives of how the poet might feel about the robot in the **first two** stanzas.

(2 marks)

7. Write **one** adjective of how the poet might feel about the robot in the last stanza.

(1 mark)

B. Prose

(10 marks)

Unprepared Text

Answer all questions.

Somewhere in the street stood an old house; it was almost three hundred years old, as you could tell from the date cut into the great beam. Tulips and also whole verses of poetry were carved into the wood as people used to do in those days. There was also a statue of a dragon's head. Rain water was supposed to run out of the dragon's mouth, but it came from his belly instead, for there was a hole in it.



All of the other houses in the street were so neat and modern, with large window panes and smooth walls, that you could easily tell they would have nothing to do with the old house. They evidently thought, "How long do you suppose that ugly old thing is going to stand there, making an eyesore of our street? It makes one feel ashamed!"

Across the street were other neat and modern houses, and they thought the same thing. But at the window, in the house directly opposite, sat a little boy with bright shining eyes and fresh rosy cheeks. And he liked the old house best of all, whether by sunshine or by moonlight.

When he looked across at the old house, he could imagine the strangest pictures. He could see the street as it was in the old days; he could see soldiers with rifles and statues of dragons which came to life.

Yes, to him that was indeed a house worth looking at!

1. Underline the correct sentence. (2 marks)

- a. All the houses in the street are old.
- b. Only one house in the street is old.
- c. Only neat and modern houses can be found in the street.

2. Mention **two things which were carved into the wood.** (2 marks)

3. Mention **two ways in which the other houses are different than the old house.** (2 marks)

4. What does the phrase “*whether by sunshine or by moonlight*”, mean? (2 marks)

5. Mention **two things the boy imagines when he looks at the old house?** (2 marks)

Section D – Composition

(25 marks)

Write between 100 and 150 words on ONE of the following:

1. Look at the picture below. Write a story about it.

The following words may help you: picnic, nice weather, countryside, animals, shade, food and drinks, family games, rest, enjoy, fun.



2. Write a letter to a new pen-friend who lives in London. Include the following information in your letter: Name, age, place you live in, family, pets and hobbies. Your address is 20, Sweet Street, Dingli. DNG 1100.

3. Continue the story.

It was a rainy day and I was alone at home with my younger brother.