

KULLEĠĠ SAN BENEDITTU

Boys' Secondary, Kirkop

HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION – 2011/12

Mark

English

Form 1
Levels 7 - 8

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 which follow to compare the hotels with each other. Use 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* Midas Hotel _____

2. *expensive* Grand Hotel _____

3. *cheap* Sunrise Hotel _____

4. *big* Sunrise Hotel _____

5. *large* Castle Hotel _____

B. Complete the following dialogue 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)

Mark: Hi Sam! I haven't seen you for a long time.....

Sam: Yes. We (0) (to be) were away on holiday.

Mark: Wow! Where (1) (to go) _____ this time?

Sam: This year we (2) (to have) _____ a wonderful holiday in Switzerland.

Mark: Wow! Everyone (3) (to say) _____ that Switzerland has wonderful scenery.

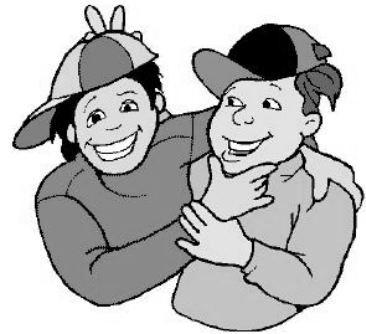
Sam: Yes, it does: the mountains, forests, lakes and glaciers (4) (to be) _____ fantastic! And the towns and villages are so pretty and clean....

Mark: (5) (to be) _____ it true that the people are friendly and everything runs on time?

Sam: Oh yes! The people are very welcoming and all trains, boats and buses are punctual! Well, what about you? (6) (to go) _____ anywhere this summer?

Mark: Actually, we (7) (to leave) _____ tomorrow for Northern Italy. We are staying in Florence.

Sam: That sounds good! Everyone says that Florence is wonderful and I'm sure you'll enjoy it. Happy holiday then!



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 bulletin. Today there was (1) _____ explosion in St Anthony Street, Hal Resqun. Nobody was injured but (2) _____ Police are suspecting (3) _____ foul play and a 30-year old man is helping them in their investigations. This is not (4) _____ first time that such crimes were reported. (5) _____ similar explosion took place six weeks ago in (6) _____ alley off Main Street.

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, had just moved to London and needed a temporary place to call home until **they** settled down. In the meantime, they stayed in a hotel not far from Mark's place of work. (paragraph 1)

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 per 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, Anne 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. Anne 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. Name two facilities that some apartment complexes had. (1 mark)

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

7. Anne chose the fifth apartment for two reasons. What were they? (2 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

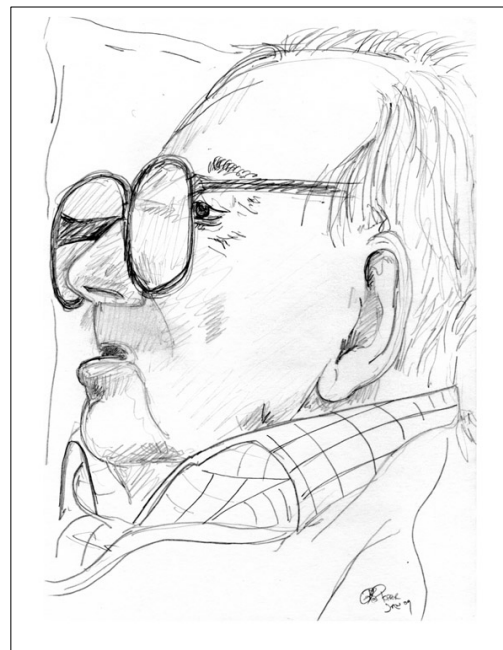
I'll tell you a bit of my grandpa.
I think he's a thousand years old.
He must keep his hands in the freezer;
I've never felt ice cubes that cold.

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 mum 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)

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 from 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

(¹immediately ²idea ³parish official, Mr Bumble)

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

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

3. How do you know that Oliver had to show respect to the members of the Board? (1 marks)

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

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

6. What, in your view, is Mr Bumble'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. The Street I live in.
3. Write an email to your English friend telling him about an activity you are attending every Saturday morning (example: football nursery, drama lessons, catechism class). Tell him why you go, what you do while you are there, and why you enjoy it.

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