

**THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN-MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION
GENERAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE-2018
GENERAL ENGLISH
الدوره الشتوية\المستوى الثاني**

Read the following texts carefully, and then answer all the questions that follow.

TEXT A.

In Petra, Jordan, there lies the remains of a majestic city carved out of the desert rocks. This city was the main area inhabited by the Nabatines, who migrated gradually from Arabia during the 6th century BCE. Originally, they were nomadic people who chose to settle in various places, such as southern Jordan, the Naqab Desert and northern Arabia.

There is little known about the lifestyle of the Nabateans, except that they were important traders in the ancient world. ***They*** might have traded goods such as spices, gold and animals with civilisations such as China India and Rome because of their convenient position at a commercial crossroad in the world.

Many Roman writers wrote about what the Nabatean culture must have been like, but no one knows for sure. However, they agree that the language of the Nabateans could have been a mixture of Arabic and Aramaic. These Roman writers also say that the Nabateans were ruled by a royal family, and that, unlike many cultures in the ancient world, the Nabatean society might not have used any slaves. In addition to that, the Nabateans must have been expert engineers because they managed to build complicated water conservation system in the desert terrain.

Despite archaeologists' best efforts, there is a limit to what they can tell us about these fascinating people who lived in Jordan such a long time ago. Although it is still difficult to know much, they can't have been illiterate because there are some inscriptions that remain. However, sadly for us, most of the things the Nabateans made and owned have been too easily destroyed by time or lost in the desert.

Question Number One.

1. Why were the Nabateans skilled traders?

- because of their convenient position at a commercial crossroad in the world

2. What evidence in the text showing that the Nabateans were skilled engineers?

- because they managed to build complicated water conservation system in the desert

3. Why is it impossible that the Nabateans were illiterate?

- because there are some inscriptions that remain

4. What is thought the language of the Nabateans was?

- a mixture of Arabic and Aramaic

5. Find a word in the text which means "*a piece of writing carved into a stone, rock...etc*"

-Inscriptions

7. The Nabateans chose to settle in many places. write down two of them.

Southern Jordan , the Naqab desert

8. What does the underlined pronoun "*they*" refer to?

The Nabateans

TEXT B

Communication, the sharing of information, ideas and thoughts, can take many forms. Before the development of writing, people communicated via smoke signals, cave paintings and drumbeats. The first systems of writing used pictures to convey meaning. Gradually, as language developed, alphabets evolved, using letters and symbols which represented sounds. These sounds in turn made up words.

The invention of the printing press in the 15th century led to the first forms of mass media: newspapers and magazines. Until then, it hadn't been possible to reach thousands of readers at the same time. However, only sighted people could access these media.

This all changed in 1821 CE. It happened when an officer in the military in France was visiting the Royal Institute of the Blind in Paris. He wanted to demonstrate to the students a system of dots he had invented. These dots allowed soldiers to communicate without speaking. This method of communication caught the attention of Louis Braille, a young man who was studying at the institute.

After many years of work, Louis Braille had improved and completed the system of raised dots, which became known as Braille. The characters consist of six tactile dots that can form 64 combinations, spelling out letters, numbers and symbols.

By 1868 CE, 16 years after Louis Braille's death, blind people all over the world were using Braille every day. it has also been adapted to scripts in different languages. It enables blind people to read books, maps and labels, and even to press buttons in a lift. A wide range of national daily newspapers are available in Braille, too.

Nowadays, screen-reading software means that the text on a computer screen can be heard aloud. Digital talking books that simultaneously generate output in Braille are also available.

Question Number One.

1- Write down two ways of communicating in the past

- drumbeats
- Smoke signals

2- Write down two kinds of mass media ?

- Newspapers and magazines
-

3- Write down two things Braille language can spell out ?

- Letters , numbers and symbols

4- Why did the police officer visited the institute for blind in PARIS ?

- He wanted to demonstrate to the students a system of dots he had invented

5- What does Braille language enable blind people to do ?

- Read books , maps and labels

6- The underlined pronoun "it " in the last paragraph refers to

It = Braille language

Text C

Charles Dickens was born on 7th February, 1812, in Portsmouth, on the southern coast of England.

He was a quiet boy, who loved reading. When he spoke later of his childhood, he said that he remembered listening to children playing outside, as he sat indoors. He always preferred reading to playing with other children.

At the age of 12, life for his family changed very suddenly. His father had financial problems, so Charles was no longer able to attend school regularly, and he had to work at a factory. The loneliness he felt there was an important influence on his writing, especially in his books *Great Expectations* and *David Copperfield*.

When he was 14, Charles stopped going to school altogether and started working as a clerk in a lawyer's office in London. He didn't like working there. Luckily, things changed for him again. Charles had always wanted to be a writer, and he became a very respected journalist. He began to write short pieces for publication in the newspaper. In 1836, a series of pieces called *The Pickwick Papers* appeared monthly in the newspaper and were very popular. Dickens was a famous author by then.

Throughout his life, Dickens enjoyed travelling. He travelled to many countries, writing novels and giving talks about the cruelty of slavery. Novels such as *Oliver Twist* and *Dombey and Son* highlighted the cruel treatment of people, especially children, and child labour in the 19th century. He died on 8th June, 1870, at the age of 58.

Question Number One.

1. The names of two of Dickens' books mentioned in the text. Write down names of these two books.

- oliver twist
- David Copperfield

2. Why was Dickens no longer able to attend school regularly at the age of twelve?

- because his father had financial problems

3. Dickens' novels highlighted two aspects of the 19th century. Write down these two aspects.

- the cruel treatment of people , especially children , and child labour in the 19th century .

4. What made Dickens a famous journalist in 1836?

He wrote a series called " the Pickwick papers."

5-. Find a word in the text that means "*someone who keeps records or accounts in an office*"

Clerk

7. What does the underlined pronoun "*who*" refer to?

Question Number Two: (16 POINTS)

A. Complete each of the following sentences with words derived from the ones given between brackets. (6points)

1. Jordanian people must assume.....for the misuse of water.(accountable)
2. I read a.....story that includes both comedy and tragedy. (fascinate)
3. People are taking too many fish from the oceans and.....,there are not many left. (consequent)

الجواب

1-accountability

2-fascinating

3- consequently

B. Replace the underlined word "*marinated*" in the following sentence with a word that has a **synonymous** meaning. (3points)

I like chicken dishes that are marinated in lemon juice.

.....
soaked الجواب

C. Choose the suitable word from those given in the box to complete each of the following sentences.

(6points)

gestures, paved, abundant, practical,

1. Ahmad likes hands-on work because he is a man.
2. Deaf people use.....and hand signs to communicate.
3. The Minoans built the first.....roads in Europe.

الجواب 1-practical 2-gestures 3-paved

Question Number Three: (26 POINTS)

A. Correct the verb between brackets to complete each of the following sentences. (8 points)

1. You must consider.....facts in your report. . (put)
2. By the time that I arrived at the station, the bus (leave)
3. Before Omarto bed, she read a chapter of her book. (go)
4. Our team managed the match after hard struggle. (win)
5. My dad wants his meal.....before he arrives home daily. (cook)

الجواب

1- Putting 2-had left 3-went 4- to win 5- cooked

B. Study the following sentences and correct the mistakes in them. (one mistake in each sentence). (4 points)

1. While Rami had a bath, the telephone rang.
2. I offered helping my brother clean the car.

الجواب

1- was having 2- to help

C. Study the following pair of sentences and answer the question below.

1. I tried to run three miles today.

2. I tried reading a novel today.

*What does the underlined verb "try " mean in each of the above sentences?

1- made an effort

2- Made an experiment

Question Number Four.

A. Rewrite the following sentences using the suitable modal verb for possibility from those given in the box.

Must have, can't have, might have

1. I am sure Amman was inhabited by many cultures through history due to the ruins that remain.

Amman.....

2. I'm sure that the Nabateans weren't illiterate people

The Nabateans

الجواب

1-Amman must have been inhabited by many cultures through history due to the ruins that remains

2-The Nabateans can't have been illiterate people

C. Rewrite the following items so that the new item is similar in meaning to the one before it.

1. "Jordan decided to construct two nuclear reactors".

The minister explained

2. "What is your career ?"

The presenter asked Jamal.....

3. "Do you travel very often, Selma ?"

They asked Selma

الجواب

1- The minister explained that Jordan had decided to construct two nuclear reactors

2- The presenter asked Jamal What my career was

3- They asked Selma if she travelled often

D. Rewrite the following items in the causative.

1. Waleed needs to repair his car. He is going to send it to an expert.

Waleed.....

2. I painted the doors white by a professional painter

I.....

الجواب

1- Waleed needs to have his car repaired .

2- I had them painted white by a professional painter

Question Number Five.

A. Guided Writing.

Study in the information in the box below carefully, and then write two sentences about *ways to make sports part of your daily life*. Use linking words such as: and, moreover, in addition to, too.....etc.

Ways to make sports part of your daily life.

- get off the bus one stop before usual
- choose a sport that you enjoy doing.
- walk to work or to school
- stand up while making phone calls.

B. Free Writing.

Write a composition of about 80 words about one of the following.

1. Everyone has his own food preferences. Write a composition about your best dish; what it consists of, what its ingredients are, and how popular it is.
2. These days, most of the countries are turning to renewable energy resources. Write an essay about these resources and their benefits over non-renewable ones.

solar energy الطاقة الشمسية

solar energy is one of the most beneficial sustainable forms of energy that human beings can use for a variety of purposes. It is a thoroughly renewable form of energy and can be used by the entire human race till the end of time. There are several different uses of solar energy in our day to day life, such as cooking food in solar cookers, using solar energy for generating electricity as well as heating waters in large reservoirs for saving electricity and resources. It is a very simple technology which can cut short on the cost of energy consumption and make the earth a better place for us to live in.

Advantages of solar energy

Solar energy is available for absolutely free of cost. Even though there are equipment and devices required for the generation of solar energy from the rays of sun, the cost is very low as compared to what we spend on fulfilling our energy needs.

One of the advantages of solar energy is that it can be used in the rural and remote areas as well. In these places, it is usually very expensive to deploy the electricity power grids and solar energy can be generated in ample amount here.

Solar energy can be extensively used for the purpose of charging devices which consume very little amount of energy, such as calculators and solar cell batteries.

This is probably the greatest benefit of using solar energy that it does not cause any kind of pollution. Even though the equipment, collectors and devices used are manufactured in big factories, there is no pollution generated during the process of generating solar energy from the heat coming from the rays of sun.

Solar energy is an infinite source of energy and we will never run out of it till the end of the world. On the other hand, other resources and oil reserves will last for as long as 40-50 years from now.

Solar energy is a renewable source of energy which can never get out of stock.

My favorite food طعامي المفضل

My favorite food is Mensaf . Mensaf is a very popular food in Jordan . Most Jordanians cook Mensaf every Friday

Mensaf is made from rice and yoghurt . First you marinate the lamb ,then you start boiling the yoghurt on the stove . When it boils you put the lamb in the yoghurt . Then you make large quantities of rice and there you have Mensaf. I really like mensaf a lot and I don't think I can live without it.

The importance of education أهمية التعليم

Education is an essential human virtue, a necessity of society, basis of good life and sign of freedom. Education is important for integration of separate entities. This article talks about the Importance of education in our life.

If you are in your academic career, then you might be hearing the words like 'Education is Must', 'There is no Life without Education' etc., right? So, why all such words come from people around you? What is the importance of education in our life? Forget about it for a while! First, do you know what education really is? Those who don't, here is definition of education by Dictionary.com.

"The process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, esp. at a school or university: "a new system of public education". Well, the education is not limited to schools or colleges only, nor it is limited to age. The things happening in the practical life also educate us. Anyways, coming to the question in hand, read out the importance of education in our life below.

Negative & positive effects of internet on teenagers تأثير النت على المراهقين

Addiction is one of the prime reasons why teenagers are discouraged from spending more time on the internet than required. Once a teenager gets addicted to the several **social networking** websites as well as the adult content present on the internet, it is needless to say that their social and academic skills are going to be largely affected by it. Studies show that children who spend more time on the internet as compared to the time spent with their friends and families become reclusive as they grow. Not only this, they also start losing interest in their studies and as a result become a target of social stigma which weighs an individual's worth and calibre on the basis of the marks obtained by them.

Apart from this, teenagers who are new on the internet often see it as a playground where they have endless things to try and explore. This leads to addiction and them drifting towards exploring different stuff on the internet which involves several chatting websites and content which can leave a deep impression on their young as well as developing minds. For instance, teenagers are seen getting into relationships with people they hardly know on the internet and thus begin the trauma which these young people should not go through at this age, not to forget the impact it has on their academic and social lives.

However, we cannot deny the fact that internet also comes with its set of positives as well. With the huge amount of information present on the internet, teenagers can use it to great extents for academic purposes. It will keep them connected with the outside world which will help them in staying informed about everything that is happening around the world.

Putting it in simple words, we can say that internet is good for teenagers as far as its use is regulated and they are taught about the positives as well as negatives from the beginning. They should be told not to convert it into an addiction. Remember that internet is needful for their academic growth and social development but it is never a necessity.
