

I. READING COMPREHENSION

7 marks

Read the text and answer the questions

- 1- Susan Potts, 44, is the only child in her family. When she started her married life, she had bigger ideas. Much bigger. With the arrival of Elias recently, their 14th child, she and her husband Michael have finally decided their family is complete.
- 2- Four years ago, Mr and Mrs Potts bought two houses which were knocked into one to accommodate the family. And to enable them to have their first family holiday for seven years, they have just replaced their car with a minibus.
- 3- Mrs Potts does the washing in a specialist machine, then spends 15 hours a week ironing. "We always planned to have a big family," said Mrs Potts. "I am an only child and think a large family is important. But I think we have enough now". She said : "They are very well-behaved. There is a lot of noise, though. The great thing is the kids are never lonely. They spend so much time playing that they rarely watch television". Mr Potts, 52, a bus driver, who admits occasionally getting his children's names confused , said : "There's never a dull moment in our house."

The Daily Mail
May 8, 2002

Comprehension questions

1. Tick (✓) the correct alternative (0.5 mark)

The text is about :

- a- a poor family
- b- a small family
- c- a large family

2. Are the following statements true or false ? Tick (✓) the proper box. (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)

Statements	True	False
a- Mr and Mrs Potts lived in a smaller house.		
b- They have gone on holidays quite regularly.		
c- Mrs Potts doesn't want to have more children.		
d- Mr Potts knows the names of all his children.		
e- The children are often messy and naughty.		

3. Tick (✓) the right alternative (0.5 x 3 =1.5 marks)

a- "occasionally" (Paragraph 3) almost means :

- always never sometimes.

b- "dull" (paragraph 3) means :

- exciting boring happy.

c- They spend so much time playing that they rarely watch TV" (Paragraph 3) almost means :

- they always watch TV
- they always play
- they never play

4. What do the underlined words refer to . (0.5 x 2 =1 mark)

a- she (paragraph 1) refers to.....

b- They (paragraph 3) refers to.....

5. Circle the words that best complete the following sentences . (0.5 x 3 =1.5 marks)

Susan has got (**many brothers and sisters / no brothers or sisters/ fourteen brothers and sisters**). When Elias, her (**eldest / second / youngest**) child, was born, she decided their family was complete. Mr and Mrs Potts bought a minibus for their holidays because it's (**bigger / faster / cheaper**).

II. LANGUAGE 8 marks

1. Fill in the blanks with six words from the list. (0.5 x 6= 3 marks)

what , himself , suffered , protect , hit , for , when

Peter, 9, didn't think of his own safety when he saw a big lorry running toward his 5-year-old friend, Jack. He threw ①..... between his friend and the oncoming lorry. He used his body to ②..... his friend. Both boys were thrown dozens of meters as the lorry ③..... them. But brave Peter saved Jack's life.

Peter ④..... severe head injuries . He was unconscious ⑤..... almost a week in hospital. Now, he's recovering at home. His family is proud of ⑥..... he did.

2. Fill in the blanks with the right options from the margin. (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)

One day, my son said to me : "Mum, don't smoke. You ①..... of cancer. " "Yes, I know," I heard myself say. My mother died of breast cancer when she was 32 and I was 8. I ②..... the pain of losing your mother ③..... a young age, and I didn't want my children to suffer like that.

Amazingly, I haven't had a cigarette for months now and I feel so much better. The money I ④..... is going to far better use. But ⑤..... important thing is that I want to be around for my kids for as long as possible.

- a. are dying – will die – must die
- b. forgot – knew - saw
- c. in – on – at
- d. earn - lose - waste
- e. the more – the most – the least

3. Match the sentence parts in Column A with those in Column B to get a coherent paragraph. There is one extra part in Column B .The parts in Column A are in the correct order. Write your answers in the space provided. (0.5 x 5 =2.5 marks)

Column A	Column B
① Margaret is married and	① but not pleasant at all.
② She has been working as	② and she enjoys it.
③ She works 7 days a week	③ a cleaner for the last seven years.
④ The work she does is not very hard	④ for only £40.
⑤ She goes to bed for 3 or 4 hours and	⑤ has two small children.
	⑥ sometimes, she does not sleep at all.

Answers	1 +.....	2 +.....	3 +.....	4 +.....	5 +.....
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