

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
GENERAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION-2011
GENERAL ENGLISH

الاختبار التجريبي / الدورة الشتوية (2017 - 2018) - المستوى الرابع

SECTION ONE : READING (35 POINTS)

PART ONE : READING COMPREHENSION :

Read the following text carefully, and then in your ANSWER BOOKLET answer all the questions that follow. Your answer should be based on the text.

According to a study by the organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea spend the most time studying in the world. They want to learn as much as they can to ensure excellent exam grades. They go to school for about nine hours, although this includes optional after-school tuition and activities. They also spend about three hours on homework everyday, which is three times as much as many other countries. Their high academic achievements do suggest that the longer you study, the better you do in final exams.

In Finland, however, students are usually given less than half an hour of homework per night, and they attend school for fewer and shorter days than 85 % of other developed nations. Despite this , they achieve top marks in subjects like Maths and Science. In addition, most students also speak at least two, and often three, languages fluently. The contradictory views of the study suggest that the number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed at school or not .

In England , most students choose to study away from home. A recent survey of 17,000 students revealed that only 7% wanted to stay at home while they studied for their degree. Of course for most young people, living away from home means borrowing even more money from the government. So why don't students choose to avoid debt by staying at home, where they don't have to pay rent? Most of them say that they want to move to the university of their choice, rather than the nearest one. Another strong motive is the desire to live in a new culture. Where do these students live? Many have rooms in halls of residence, especially in their first year; others rent flats or houses. A lucky minority live in property that their parents have bought for them. Most of them need to learn to cook, do their own washing and manage their time and money.

A. 1. Question Number One (20 points)

1. There are two contradictory results of the study carried out by (OECD) . Mention them. (4 points)
2. Students choose to study away from homes for two reasons. What are they ? (2 points)
3. Quote the sentence which indicates that studying away from home is expensive . (3 points)
4. Find a word in the text that means the same as " reason for doing something " . (2 point)
5. What does the word " compulsory " mean ? (1 point)
6. What does the underlined pronoun "**them**" refer to ? (2 point)
7. Find a word in the text which is opposite to " majority " . (1 point)
8. Education can make the world better and help people in their lives. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view. (2 points)
9. Most university students choose to move away from home to study. Suggest three ways that may encourage students to overcome this phenomenon . (3 points)

Question Number Two (15 points)

A. Choose the suitable item from those given to complete each of the following sentences and write it down in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (8 points)

tuition

play it by ear

prospects

compulsory

Dentistry

1. Your job ----- will be better if you study in space schools.
2. Portugese and Turkish children have the most ----- schooling .
3. Do you have Music ----- at the weekend ?
4. I'm not sure if it'll be warm enough to swim. We'll have to -----.

B. Study the following sentence and answer the question that follows.

Write the answer in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (2 points)

I really **put my back into it**, and I earned an A on the course.

Write the meaning of the body idiom " **put my back into it** " in the previous sentence .

C. Study the following sentence and answer the question that follows.

Write the answer in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (1 points)

I will **decide how to deal with a situation as it develops**

Replace the underlined phrase with the correct **body idiom** .

C. Complete the following sentences with the suitable words derived from the words in brackets and write the answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (4 points)

1. If you work hard, I'm sure you will be ----- .
(**success - successful - succeed**)
2. In Finland, most students speak at least two, and often three, languages -----
(**fluent - fluency - fluently**)
3. One of the most important things that we give children is a good ----- method.
(**educate - education - educational**)
4. Language ----- is becoming an important requirement for many jobs .
(**proficient - proficiency - proficiently**)

Question Number Three (13 points)

A. Correct the adjectives between brackets, and then write your answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET.

(7 points)

1. school exams is ----- Tawjihi exams. **(easy)**
2. Ali is ----- at Maths in class A . **(bad)**
3. I live in ----- expensive house in the city. **(many)**
4. Salma is ----- girl in the group . **(pretty)**
5. In the city, there are ----- houses than flats. **(few)**
6. Amman is not ----- Brasilia. **(big)**
7. I have got ----- money in the group. **(little)**
8. Ali is more brilliant than Sami. **(not as.....as)**
9. English was ----- exam in Tawjihi. **(difficult)**

B. Rewrite the following sentences with ones that have similar meanings :

(6 points)

1. There is less information on the website than in the book. **(as much)**
There -----
2. The cheapest thing on the menu is orange juice.
The least -----
3. Neither Maths nor Science are as popular as English.
English -----
4. Jordanian children start school a year later than English children.
English children -----
5. Studying physics is not as popular as studying Biology in Britain .
Studying Biology -----
6. The electronic newspapers are not as acceptable as the ordinary ones.
The ordinary newspapers -----
3. I don't eat as much fast food as my brother.
I eat -----
My brother eats -----
My brother doesn't eat -----
4. I don't like Arabic as much as I like English.
I like Arabic -----
I like English -----
7. No subject is as popular as English.
English -----
All the subjects -----

Question Number Four (15 points)

A. EDITING :

(4 points)

Imagine you are an editor in the Jordan Times. You are asked to edit the following lines that have four mistakes. (one grammar mistake , one punctuation mistake and two spelling mistakes) . Find out these four mistakes and correct them. Write the correct answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET .

In England, almost 50% of school leavers go on to higher education. The figure has not always been high as this. Twenty years ago. it was closer to 30%, and thirty years before that, it was only about 5%. Another huge change has been financial. Before 1998 CE, higher education in the UK was completely free for UK citizens. Since then, tuction fees have been introduced.

B. GUIDED WRITING :

Study the information in the table about *compulsory education* and and write two sentences about the compulsory education in different countries : **(4 points)**

Compulsory Education in different countries	
England	5-16 years
Portugal	6-18 years
Jordan	6-15 years
Turkey	6-18 years
Japan	6-15 years

C. FREE WRITING : (7 points)

In your ANSWER BOOKLET, write a composition of about 80 words on ONE of the following :

- 1. Imagine that you have just joined a space school.
Write an email to your friend telling him/her what it is like to study there.**
- 2. Write a blog post for your school's website. Describe life in a Jordanian secondary school so that they will know what to expect. Choose a different topic for each paragraph from the list.**

(family life – school subjects – school rules – behaviour – values a typical school day – after school activities – free-time activities)

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
GENERAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION-2018
GENERAL ENGLISH

الاختبار التجريبي / الدورة الصيفية (2017 - 2018) - المستوى الرابع

SECTION ONE : READING (35 POINTS)

PART ONE : READING COMPREHENSION :

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According to a study by the organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea spend the most time studying in the world. They want to learn as much as they can to ensure excellent exam grades. They go to school for about nine hours, although this includes optional after-school tuition and activities. They also spend about three hours on homework everyday, which is three times as much as many other countries. Their high academic achievements do suggest that the longer you study, the better you do in final exams.

In Finland, however, students are usually given less than half an hour of homework per night, and they attend school for fewer and shorter days than 85 % of other developed nations. Despite this , they achieve top marks in subjects like Maths and Science. In addition, most students also speak at least two, and often three, languages fluently. The contradictory views of the study suggest that the number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed at school or not .

In England , most students choose to study away from home. A recent survey of 17,000 students revealed that only 7% wanted to stay at home while they studied for their degree. Of course for most young people, living away from home means borrowing even more money from the government. So why don't students choose to avoid debt by staying at home, where they don't have to pay rent? Most of them say that they want to move to the university of their choice, rather than the nearest one. Another strong motive is the desire to live in a new culture. Where do these students live? Many have rooms in halls of residence, especially in their first year; others rent flats or houses. A lucky minority live in property that their parents have bought for **them**. Most of them need to learn to cook, do their own washing and manage their time and money.

A. 1. Question Number One (20 points)

1. There are two contradictory results of the study carried out by (OECD) . Mention them.

(4 points)

The number and length of school days is not the only factor in determining whether students will succeed at school or not .

2. Students choose to study away from homes for two reasons. What are they ? (2 points)

- They want to move to the university of their choice, rather than the nearest one.
- The desire to live in a new culture.

3. Quote the sentence which indicates that studying away from home is expensive . (3 points)

"Of course for most young people, living away from home means borrowing even more money from the government."

4. Find a word in the text that means the same as " reason for doing something " . (2 point)

motive

5. What does the word " compulsory " mean ?

(1 point)

Obligatory , required

6. What does the underlined pronoun "them" refer to ? (2 point)

A lucky minority

7. Find a word in the text which is opposite to " majority " . (1 point)

minority

8. Education can make the world better and help people in their lives. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view. (2 points)

Suggested answer :

I think education can make the world better and help people in their lives because it can improve technology and finds solutions to many of the problems that can affect our planet such as global warming and pollution. Also, it may open many doors for educated people and leads to a variety of career opportunities and this , in turn makes life easier and more comfortable.

9. Most university students choose to move away from home to study. Suggest three ways that may encourage students to overcome this phenomenon . (3 points)

Suggested answer :

1. Making university education free.
2. Supporting and funding students who don't go abroad.
3. Finding suitable career paths for home graduated students.

Question Number Two (15 points)

A. Choose the suitable item from those given to complete each of the following sentences and write it down in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (8 points)

tuition

play it by ear

prospects

compulsory

Dentistry

1. Your job -----prospects----- will be better if you study in space schools.
2. Portugese and Turkish children have the most -----compulsory----- schooling .
3. Do you have Music -----tuition----- at the weekend ?
4. I'm not sure if it'll be warm enough to swim. We'll have to -----play it by ear-----.

B. Study the following sentence and answer the question that follows.

Write the answer in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (2 points)

I really put my back into it, and I earned an A on the course.

Write the meaning of the body idiom " put my back into it " in the previous sentence .

Tried extremely hard

C. Study the following sentence and answer the question that follows.

Write the answer in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (1 points)

I will decide how to deal with a situation as it develops

Replace the underlined phrase with the correct body idiom .

Play it by ear

C. Complete the following sentences with the suitable words derived from the words in brackets and write the answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (4 points)

1. If you work hard, I'm sure you will be ----- .
(**success** - **successful** - **succeed**)
2. In Finland, most students speak at least two, and often three, languages -----
(**fluent** - **fluency** - **fluently**)
3. One of the most important things that we give children is a good ----- method.
(**educate** - **education** - **educational**)
4. Language ----- is becoming an important requirement for many jobs .
(**proficient** - **proficiency** - **proficiently**)

Question Number Three (13 points)

A. Correct the adjectives between brackets, and then write your answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET. (7 points)

1. school exams is -----**easier than**----- Tawjihi exams. (**easy**)
2. Ali is -----**worse**----- at Maths in class A . (**bad**)
3. I live in -----**the most**----- expensive house in the city. (**many**)
4. Salma is -----**the prettiest**----- girl in the group . (**pretty**)
5. In the city, there are -----**fewer**----- houses than flats. (**few**)
6. Amman is not -----**bigger**----- Brasilia. (**big**)
7. I have got -----**the least**----- money in the group. (**little**)
8. Ali is more brilliant than Sami. **Sami is not as brilliant as Ali** (**not as.....as**)
9. English was -----**the most difficult**----- exam in Tawjihi. (**difficult**)

B. Rewrite the following sentences with ones that have similar meanings :

(6 points)

1. There is less information on the website than in the book. (as much)
There isn't as much information on the website as in the book
2. The cheapest thing on the menu is orange juice.
The least expensive thing on the menu is orange juice.
3. Neither Maths nor Science are as popular as English.
English is more popular than Maths and Science
4. Jordanian children start school a year later than English children.
English children start school a year earlier than Jordanian children.
English children don't start school as late as Jordanian children.

5. Studying physics is not as popular as studying Biology in Britain .
Studying Biology is more popular than studying Physics in Britain.
6. The electronic newspapers are not as acceptable as the ordinary ones.
The ordinary newspapers are more acceptable than the electronic ones.
3. I don't eat as much fast food as my brother.
I eat less fast food than my brother.
My brother eats more fast food than me.
My brother doesn't eat as little fast food as me.
4. I don't like Arabic as much as I like English.
I like Arabic less than English .
I like English more than Arabic.
7. No subject is as popular as English.
English is the most popular subject.
All the subjects are less popular than English.

Question Number Four (15 points)

A. EDITING :

(4 points)

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B. GUIDED WRITING :

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Compulsory Education in different countries	
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Jordan	6-15 years
Turkey	6-18 years
Japan	6-15 years

This table illustrates compulsory education in different countries. Portugese and Turkish children (students) have the most compulsory education (schooling) but Jordanian and Japanese children have the least compulsory education. In addition , Students in England start school one year earlier than students in Japan but the leave school one year later.

C. FREE WRITING : (7 points)

Open answer

In your ANSWER BOOKLET, write a composition of about 80 words on ONE of the following :

1. **Imagine that you have just joined a space school.**
Write an email to your friend telling him/her what it is like to study there.
2. **Write a blog post for your school's website. Describe life in a Jordanian secondary school so that they will know what to expect. Choose a different topic for each paragraph from the list.**
(family life – school subjects – school rules – behaviour – values a typical school day – after school activities – free-time activities)