





THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GENERAL SECCONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION-2016 GENERAL ENGLISH

الدورة الصيفية/ المستوى الرابع

DATE: Sunday 26 th . of Ju الأكاديمية			' ME: 1 HOUR AND ب عن جميع أسئلة هذه ال دد صفحات هذا الا	: () أجد
** هي صفحة ** Read the following text carefully, and then in your ANSWER BOOKLET answer all the questions that follow it. Your answer should be based on the text. النص التالي بعناية، وبعد ذلك في دفتر . أجوبتك يجب أن تكون مستندة على النص.				
ذا امتحان توجيهي ع القطع الله جميعا.		<u>الأهمية</u> :	<u>مرتبة حسب</u>	<u>القطع</u>
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	أسئلة الوزارة	اس		

1. The first text: Education in Jordan التعليم في الأردن

Our country has a high standard of education. This is mainly due to the fact that the government considers education a necessity. All schools, from kindergarten to secondary, are the responsibility of the Ministry of Education (MOE). Pre-school and kindergarten education is optional, followed by ten years of free, compulsory education. For higher education, students enter university, either for academic or vocational courses.

Students can attend one of ten public universities, or one of nineteen private universities. A large number of Jordanian students choose to study at these institutions, as well as foreign students from all over the world. These are undergraduates studying for a first degree, or postgraduates studying for a Master's degree, a PhD or a higher diploma.

The three universities with the most undergraduates are the University of Jordan in Amman, Yarmouk University in Irbid and Al Balqa Applied University in Salt. These are all public universities. An example of a newer university is the German-Jordanian University in Amman, which was set up in 2005 CE. It is a collaboration between the MOHE and Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research, and it follows Germany's model of education in Applied Sciences.

For students <u>who</u> wish to complete their university studies while working at the same time, it is also possible in some Jordanian universities to enrol onto online distance learning programmes. In the future, this option will become available in many other universities.

Questions:

- 1. Quote the sentence which indicates that Jordan has a high standard of education.
- 2. Why does Jordan have a high standard of education?
- 3. Write down the sentence which indicates that Jordan's government considers education a necessity.
- 4. There are two kinds of optional education in Jordan. Write them down.
- 5. There are two kinds of universities in Jordan. Write them down.
- 6. Two kinds of students study at Jordanian universities. Write them down.
- 7. Jordanian universities award many different high education degrees. Write down two of these degrees.
- 8. The writer mentions many Jordanian public universities. Write down two of them.
- 9. When was the German-Jordanian University set up?
- 10. The German-Jordanian University is collaboration between two sectors. Write down these two sectors.
- 11. How can students who are working completing their university studies?
- 12. Quote the sentence which indicates that students will be able to enrol onto online distance learning program in the future.

Answers 1. Our country has a high standard of education.

- 2 +3. This is mainly due to the fact that the government considers education a necessity.
- 4. Pre-school and kindergarten education 5. public universities and private universities.
- 6. A large number of Jordanian students as well as foreign students from all over the world. 7. a first degree, a Master's degree, a PhD or a higher diploma. أي نقطتين تكفي
- 8. the University of Jordan in Amman, Yarmouk University in Irbid and Al Balqa Applied University in Salt. أي نقطتين تكفي 9. in 2005 CE.
- 10. the MOHE and Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research
- 11. it is possible in some Jordanian universities to enrol onto online distance learning programmes.
- 12. In the future, this option will become available in many other universities.





2. The second text: page 77

Sociologists have been looking into this question for hundreds of years. They have now begun to look at not just how people talk, but also how they think, asking whether the way we understand and remember experiences is influenced by language. As a result of these studies, they have come up with some interesting results.

A lot of research has been **carried out** on the relationships between mind, world and language. In one study, a psychologist **points out** that when describing an event, English speakers tend to mention the person who was responsible. Whereas English speakers might say, 'John broke the vase', Spanish or Japanese speakers would use a passive form. It is believed that such differences between languages have an effect on how their speakers understand events, and whether someone is blamed for an action or gets away with it.

In another study, speakers of English, Spanish and Japanese were asked to watch videos of two people popping balloons, breaking eggs and spilling drinks, either on purpose or accidentally. Later, when asked to recall the videos, the English speakers mentioned the person who did the action. The Spanish and Japanese mentioned the person responsible for intentional events, but left this out when they considered that event to be an accident.

Scientists at Newcastle University, UK, have carried out tests to prove that different cultures also have different ways of seeing colours. They found that in Japanese, for example, there are different words for light blue and dark blue which are not found in English. Native speakers of Japanese, therefore, made a clearer distinction between colours on the spectrum.

Is it our language that has affected our way of thinking? Or has a difference in cultural habits affected both our thoughts and our language? Most likely, culture, thought and language have all come about together.

- Questions: 1. Quote the sentence which indicates that Sociologists have been investigating for hundreds of years how the language we use influence the way we think
 - 2. A lot of research has been done on the relationship between many elements. Write down two of these elements.
 - 3. What is the difference in describing an event between English speaker and Japanese or Spanish speakers?
 - 4. The writer mentions two languages which they use the passive form in describing an event. Write down these two languages.
 - 5. English, Spanish and Japanese speakers were asked to watch videos of two people doing many things. Write down two of these things.
 - 6. There are three things happen together and have affected the way of thinking. Write down two of them.
 - 7. The differences between languages have many results. Write down two of them.
 - 8. When people communicate with each other, they don't usually speak in the same way. Suggest three factors that affect our way of speaking.
 - 9. The culture of the speaker influences his language, thoughts and the ways of speaking. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.

Answers: 1. Sociologists have been looking into this question for hundreds of years.

- 2. mind, world and language. أي إجابتين تكفى 3. English speakers tend to mention the person who was responsible. Spanish or Japanese speakers would use a passive form.
- **4.** The Spanish and Japanese 5. popping balloons, breaking eggs and spilling drinks
- أي إجابتين تكفى culture, thought and language أي إجابتين تكفى 7. an effect on how their speakers understand events, and whether someone is blamed for an action or gets away with it.
- **8.** I think there are other factors that affect our way of speaking such as: culture, our the body language, our mood
- 9. In my opinion, I think our culture is very important to use the language. Also, it has many benefits such as increasing the ideas and understanding others more quickly.





3. The third text: Learning a foreign language لغة أجنبية

Speaking a foreign language, it is claimed, improves the functionality of your brain in several different ways. Learning new vocabulary and grammar rules provides the brain with beneficial 'exercise', **which** improves memory. As well as exercising the brain, it is thought that learning a new language also presents the brain with unique challenges. These include recognising different language systems and ways to communicate within these systems. These skills improve your chances of success in other problem-solving tasks as well. It is said that students who study foreign languages do better, on the whole, in general tests in maths, reading and vocabulary than students who have only mastered their mother tongue.

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According to a study carried out by Pennsylvania State University, USA, multilingual people are able to switch between two systems of speech, writing, and structure quite easily. It has been proved that they are also able to switch easily between completely different tasks. One experiment required participants to operate a driving simulator while carrying out separate tasks at the same time. The experiment showed that multilingual participants were less distracted by the other tasks and therefore made fewer driving errors.

It is believed that language learning can also improve your decision-making skills. When you speak a foreign language, you are constantly weighing up subtle differences in meaning of a word or the way that an utterance is made. This process is then transferred subconsciously to other situations in which judgement is called for, and decisions have to be made.

Finally, learning a foreign language can also improve your ability to use your mother tongue more effectively. As you become more aware of the way that a language works, you begin to apply it to the language that you use every day. The skills you obtain from learning a foreign language, therefore, can make you a better speaker and writer in your own language.

- 1. According to the text what is the benefit of speaking a foreign language?
- 2. Write down two ways of providing the brain with beneficial exercise.
- 3. There are many benefits of learning a new language (learning new vocabulary and grammar rules). Write down two of these benefits.
- 4. Learning a new language presents the brain with unique challenges. Write down two examples of such challenges.
- 5. Students who study foreign languages do better in some subjects in general tests. Write down two of these subjects.
- 6. It is proved that multilingual people are able to switch between the skills of the language easily. Write down two of these skills.
- 7. Language learning is believed to improve decision-making skills. Do you agree? Justify.
- 8. Quote the sentence which indicates that learning a foreign language can improve using mother tongue.
- 9. Write down the sentence which indicates that knowing how the language works leading to applying it in your daily language.
- 10. Quote the sentence which indicates that the skills you obtain from learning another language helps you to be better in your own language.
- 11. Find a word in the text which means "speaking, reading or writing in more than two languages".
- 12. What does the underlined word "which" refer to?



Answers: 1. improves the functionality of your brain in several different ways.

- 2. Learning new vocabulary and grammar rules
- 3. improving memory, exercising the brain and presenting it with unique challenges
- 4: These include recognising different language systems and ways to communicate within these systems. 5. in maths, reading and vocabulary 6. speech, writing, and structure
- 7. Yes, because when you speak a foreign language, you are constantly weighing up subtle differences in meaning of a word or the way that an utterance is made. This process is then transferred subconsciously to other situations in which judgement is called for, and decisions have to be made. 8. Finally, learning a foreign language can also improve your ability to use your mother tongue more effectively.
 - 9. As you become more aware of the way that a language works, you begin to apply it to the language that you use every day.
- 10. The skills you obtain from learning a foreign language, therefore, can make you a better speaker and writer in your own language. 11. multilingual 12. beneficial 'exercise'



maher

4. The fourth text: Our country's imports and exports

In this report, we will look at the countries that Jordan trades with and what goods it exports and imports. First, let's look at exports. Jordan is rich in potash and phosphate. As a result, the extraction industry for **these minerals** is one of **the largest** in the world.

Not surprisingly, two of Jordan's largest exports are chemicals and fertilisers. Pharmaceuticals and other industries represent 30% of Jordan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and 75% of Jordan's **Pharmaceuticals** are exported. However, the majority (65%) of the economy is dominated by services, mostly travel and tourism. Most of Jordan's exports go to Iraq, the USA, India and Saudi Arabia.

Now let's look at imports. Unlike some other countries in the Middle East, Jordan does not have large oil or gas <u>reserves</u>. For that reason, Jordan has to import oil and gas for its energy needs. Its other main imports are cars, medicines and wheat. In 2013 CE, 23.6% of Jordan's imports were from Saudi Arabia. This was followed by the EU, with 17.6% of its imports. Other imports have come from China and the United States.

Jordan has more free trade agreements than any other Arab country and it trades freely with many countries, including the USA, Canada and Malaysia. Which other areas are important for Jordan's trade? Jordan first signed a trade agreement with the EU in 1997 CE. It signed a free trade agreement with Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in 2004 CE. In 2011 CE, another trade agreement was made with the EU, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. Trade with the EU and North Africa in particular is likely to grow.

- 1. The writer mentions two minerals in which Jordan is rich. Write them down.
- 2. What is the aim / purpose of this report?
- 3. Most of Jordan's exports go to some countries particularly. Mention two of these countries.
- 4. Jordan exports many main goods to many countries. Name two of these goods.
- 5. Jordan imports many goods. Write down two of Jordan's main imports.
- 6. Quote the sentence which indicates the reason behind the simplicity of Jordan's trade with other countries.



7. What economy sector has the highest percentage of Jordan's Gross Domestic product?

- 8. What does the writer mean by 'these minerals', in the first paragraph?
- 9. Quote the sentence which indicates that Jordan is rich in some natural resources.
- 10. Quote the sentence which indicates that wheat is one of the main Jordan's imports.
- 11. What is the function of the underlined item 'the largest', in the first paragraph?
- 12. What does the underlined word 'pharmaceuticals' mean?
- 13. Find a word in the text which means "an arrangement or promise to do something".
- 14. What does the underlined word 'reserves', in the third paragraph, mean?
- 15. Find a word in the text which is the opposite of "**import**"?
- 16. Gibran Khalil Gibran: "Unless the exchange be in love and kindly justice, it will but lead some greed and others to hunger." Do you agree with it? Why? Why not?
- 17. One of Jordan's main imports is wheat. Write down three suggestions to reduce the import of wheat in Jordan.
- 18. Jordan has to import oil and gas for its energy needs. Suggest three solutions to cut down the import of oil and gas.

Answers: 1. potash and phosphate

- 2. to look at the countries that Jordan trades with and what goods it exports and imports
- 3. They go to Iraq, the USA, India and Saudi Arabia.
- 4. chemicals and fertilisers
- 5. oil , gas , cars , medicines and wheat أي نقطتين
- 6. "Jordan has more free trade agreements than any other Arab country, and it trades freely with many countries, including the USA, Canada and Malaysia."
- 7. Pharmaceuticals and other industries
- 8. potash and phosphate
- **9.** "Jordan is rich in potash and phosphate."
- 10. "Its other main imports are cars, medicines and wheat."
- 11. making comparisons
- 12. companies which produce drugs and

medicine

13. agreement

14. things kept back or set aside **15.** exports

Suggested Answers:

- 16. I agree with it. I think that Gibran is talking about trade here. He is taking about mutual respect, and this could be applied to any exchange, as well as trade. He is perhaps commenting on the emergence of capitalism.
- 17. 1. The government should help small farmers and support them.
 - 2. The government should grow wheat in large areas of the country.
 - 3. The citizens should reduce wheat in their diet.
- التنقيب عن النفط في جميع أنحاء البلاد. 18. 1. prospecting for oil all around the country
 - خفض استهلاك النفط reducing the oil consumption
 - استخدام الموارد الطبيعية الأخرى3. using other natural resources







Do your best*****

5. The fifth text: My job as an interpreter وظيفتي كمترجمة فورية

My name is Fatima Musa and I have worked as an interpreter for five years. Many students have emailed me about my work because **they** want to know what it would be like to do my job. So here is my reply. I have always been fond of languages. My father worked in many different countries when I was young and we usually travelled with him. When we visited a country, I always wanted to learn the language. At school I was very good at English. Therefore, I decided on a career as an interpreter.

My job now involves going to important conferences and seminars around the world. When a person speaks in English at a conference, I listen to what they say through headphones. I then translate into Arabic while the speaker is talking. I give the translation through headphones to other people at the meeting. This means that anyone in the room who speaks Arabic can understand what people are saying.

Is it an easy job? Not at all. English is not the same in all English-speaking countries. For example, the English words that are used in India are sometimes different to the words that people use in the UK, the USA or Australia. As well as knowing regional English, you also need to know a lot of specialist language. Some of the words that are used to talk about business, science or law, for example, make it almost a different language!

Unless you have a language degree, you will not be able to become an interpreter. Provided that you have a postgraduate qualification, you will probably get a job as an interpreter quite quickly. If you get an interview for a job, you will need to show that you have good listening skills and a clear speaking voice. You will also need to show that you can think quickly and that you are able to concentrate for long periods of time. If you are successful, it is a secure and **rewarding** job. You will probably need to travel a lot, but that is not a problem as long as you enjoy visiting other countries.

<u>It</u> is a very responsible job. I am aware that if I translate things badly, it could affect an important law or trade agreement between countries. However, you get a huge feeling of satisfaction when you know that people understand everything that you translate.

- 1. Why have many students emailed Fatima?
- 2.- Why did Fatima decide to work as an interpreter?
 - -There are many things helped Fatima to work as an interpreter. Write down two of them.
- 3. An interpreter's job in English language is not easy for two reasons. Write them down.
- 4. Quote the sentence which indicates that Fatima has always been fond of languages.
- 5. Specialist English is important to be used in many fields. Write down two of these fields.
- 6. English is the first language in many countries. Write down two of these countries.
- 7. Quote the sentence which indicates that English is different from one country to another.
- 8. During an interview for the job of an interpreter, the participant should prove that he has many specific qualities. Write down two of these qualities.
- 9. The job of an interpreter has two main benefits. Write them down.
- 10. What is the result of translating things badly?
- 11. It's said that having a good job these days need a lot of qualifications. Suggest three things that can help you to get a good job.
- 12. "Do what you love. Love what you do." Think of the previous saying and, in two sentences, write down your point of you.
- 13. Do you think you have the necessary qualifications to be an interpreter? Would you like to be an interpreter? Why/Why not?
- 14. What does the underlined pronoun "they", in the first paragraph, refer to?
- 15. What is **the function** of the underlined pronoun **"it"** in the last paragraph?
- 16. What does the underlined word "rewarding" mean?





Answers: 1. because they want to know what it would be like to do my job.

- 2. She has always been fond of languages. When she visited a country with her father, she always wanted to learn the language, and at school she was very good at English.
- 3. because English is not the same in all English-speaking countries. As well as knowing regional English, you also need to know a lot of specialist language.
- 4. I have always been fond of languages.
- 5. business, science or law نقطتین تکفی
- 6. the UK, the USA, India or Australia.
- 7. English is not the same in all Englishspeaking countries. 8. having good listening skills and a clear speaking voice. نقطتين تكفي
- 9. it is a secure and rewarding job. 10. It could affect an important law or trade agreement between countries. 11. Speaking foreign languages, technology skills, postgraduates
- 12. I think that is true. You should try to work in a field that you like if that is difficult you should do your best to success in any other field. **13.** No, I don't have the necessary qualifications to be an interpreter yet. But I would like to be an interpreter in the future because I have always been fond of languages, especially English. Also, I think this job will be secure and rewarding. 14. Many students
- 15. to link paragraphs or ideas

16. giving personal satisfaction



الوقت الذي نقضيه في المدرسة [6. The sixth text: The time we spent at school

A few years ago, as many as 1,000 schools across the USA started making school years longer by adding up to ten extra days to the school year or by making each school day longer by half an hour.

This was because it was found that secondary school students in the USA and the UK were spending the least time at school, with an average school year of 187 days. The typical Jordanian school year is longer than this. However, none of these are nearly as long as the school year in countries like Japan and South Korea. South Koreans attend school for 220 days per year, and in Japan, the school year numbers 243 days.

According to a study by the Organisation 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 every day, 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.

- 1. According to the text, there are two ways to make school years longer in the USA. Write them down.
- 2. How many days a year do South Koreans attend?
- 3. Which of the following countries has the most and which has the least school year days: Jordan, Japan, South Korea and the UK. Write them from the most to the least.
- 4. Three countries have the most time studying in the world. Write them down.



5. Why do students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea spend the most time studying in the world?

- 6. What evidence shows that Jordan's school year is longer than the USA's and the UK's?
- 7. It is optional for students to do after-school activities in many countries. Write down two of them.
- 8. What evidence is there in the text that Japan has the longest school year days?
- 9. What do students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea do in order to ensure excellent exam grades?
- 10. According to the text, students in Japan, Indonesia and South Korea do two things in order to get better grades in their exams. Write them down.
- 11. Quote the sentence which indicates that longer school year days lead to getting better exam grades.
- 12. Although students in Finland do less homework and attend fewer and shorter school days, they achieve top marks in their exams. What does this suggest?
- Answers

 1. a. by adding up to ten extra days to the school year. b. by making each school day longer by half an hour.

 2. 220 school year days.
- 3. Japan 243, South Korea 220, Jordan- around 190, the UK 187.
- 4. Japan, Indonesia and South Korea.
- 5. They want to learn as much as they can to ensure excellent exam grades.
- 6. The typical Jordanian school year is longer than 187 days.
- 7. Japan, Indonesia and South Korea **8**. in Japan, the school year numbers 243 days.
- 9 +10. 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 every day.
- 11. Their high academic achievements do suggest that the longer you study, the better you do in final exams.

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





