# THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GENERAL SECONDARY CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION - 2017 GENERAL ENGLISH <br> الاورة الثنتوية / المستوى ع / (وثيقة محمية / محدودة) 

DATE : SUNDAY $15^{\text {th }}$ OF January, 2017
TIME : 1 HOUR AND A HALF


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

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 recognizing 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.

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 judgment 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.

## Question Number One: (20 point)

A)

1. The text has mentioned many advantages (benefits) of learning a foreign language. Write down two of these advantages.
(4 marks)
2. Multilingual people are able to shift (turn) between two systems of speech easily. Write down these systems of speech.
(2 marks)
3. Quote the sentence which indicates the result of the experiment which carried out by Pennsylvania State University.
(3 marks)
4. What does the underlined word "their" refer to?
5. Find a word in the text which means "speaking, reading or writing in more than two languages".
6. Learning a foreign language isn't that easy thing. Suggest three ways to learn any foreign language.
(3 marks)
7. Learning the English language is very important today. Think of this statement and, in two sentences, write down your point of view.
(2 marks)
B) Literature spot

Read the following lines by Christina Rossetti then answer the following questions. (2 marks)
The earth was green, the sky was blue:
I saw and heard one sunny morn
A skylark hangs between the two,
A singing speck above the corn;

1. What is the title of this poem?
2. What is the poet listening to?

## Question Number Two: (15 point)

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

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law come up with seminar cryptophasia vocational
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1. Should study $\qquad$ if you're interested in learning about the legal system.
2. He would have been able to enter a good university easily if he had tried, but he entered a school instead.
3. Twins speak and seem to understand strange words and sounds that nobody else can make out. This is known as $\qquad$
4. Abdullah made a presentation at a $\qquad$ on information technology in Washington last month.
B) Study the following sentences and write the answer in your ANSWER BOOKLET.
5. These curtains sure do a difference in the lighting.

Find the mistake in the above sentence and correct it.
2. I need to do some research before I start my project.

Replace the underlined word with the correct phrasal verb $\qquad$
3. Every firefighter should do his job responsibly.

Replace the underlined word with the correct gender-specific words for male
C) Complete the following sentences with the suitable words derived from the words in brackets. Write the answer down in your ANSWER BOOKLET.

1. Every great .was once considered impossible.
(achieve)
2. Many doctors say that it is
to avoid coffee during pregnancy. (advice)

## Question Number Three ( 13 point)

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

1. The second race was not quite $\qquad$ the first one.
(easy as)
2. The documents be $\qquad$ by next week.
3. This is the book I have ever read. (interesting)
4. If I $\qquad$ better for the competition, I might have won the first prize.
(prepare)
5. Solving puzzles are $\qquad$ to keep the brain active. (believe)
6. I am not rich. I wish I $\qquad$ rich. (be)
7. Ali and Alia sold their house, $\qquad$ they? (do)
C) Complete each of the following items so that new item has a similar meaning to the one before it, and write it down in your ANSWER BOOKLET.
8. Chemistry is more popular than Math in Jordanian Universities. Math is
9. People think that watching too much TV is harmful.

It
3. Nahla could not find her way round the city very easily.

If only
4. I haven't got as much homework as my brother.

I have got
5. The government will have constructed the new railway by 2015.

The new railway
6. Have I passed my exam or not?
Do you know ......................................................?

## Question Number Four ( 7 point)

A) Read the following situations and rewrite the sentences using the words in brackets. Write the answers down in your ANSWER BOOKLET.

1. My brother and I never want to watch the same TV programme.
(wish)
2. You shouldn't look too casual.
(if / were)
3. I studied really hard the day before the final exams, I achieved the first rang in my class.
(if / might not)
4. I didn't know your phone number, so I wasn't able to contact you.
B) Study the following sentence and answer the question that follow, write the answer down in your ANSWER BOOKLET.
5. The best time to study is early in the morning. That is when you feel most awake.

What is the function of using That in the above sentence?
2. Could you explain how you solved this puzzle?

What is the function of using the indirect question in the above sentence? (or)
What is the function of using Could you explain in the above sentence?
3. You should pay more attention to your teachers in class.

What is the function of using should in the above sentence?

## Question Number Four ( 15 point)

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 mistakes, two spelling mistake and one punctuation mistake). Find out these four mistakes and correct them. Write the answers in your ANSWER BOOKLET.

Students at studio schools follow a tailor-made curriculum at the school: including subjects such as Astronomy and Astrophisics. Lessons is a mixture of small-class totorials, with projects supervised by leading companies in both the space and technology industries.
B) GUIDED WRITING: (4 points)

Read the information in the table below, and write sentences comparing and contrasting the university subjects offered by British universities in 2014 CE.

| The most popular university subjects offered by <br> British universities in 2014 CE |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| business studies | 280,240 applications |
| visual arts | 244,620 applications |
| biology | 231,720 applications |
| medicine and dentistry | 98,910 applications |
| computer science | 97,110 applications |

C) FREEWRITING: (7 points)

In your ANSWER BOOKLET, write a composition of about 120 words on ONE of the following:

1. A magazine has announced a competition for its readers. To win, you should write a story with the title 'Something worth having'.
2. Write a four-paragraph report on the education system in Jordan. Include information about school starting and leaving ages, grades, school subjects, hours and further education.

## The End



