

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST

GRADE EIGHT

Semester One

First Session

Name			
School		Class	

Write your answers on the Test Paper

Time: 2 hours

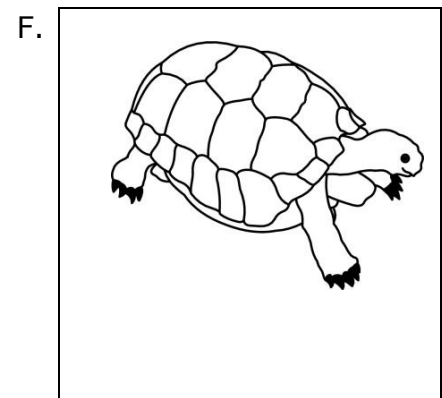
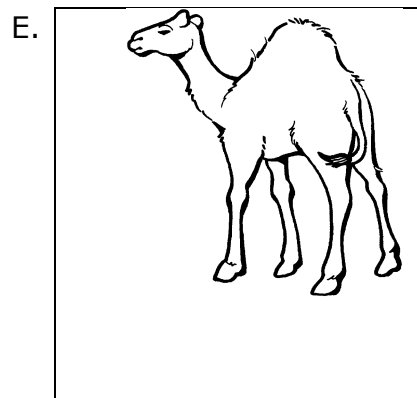
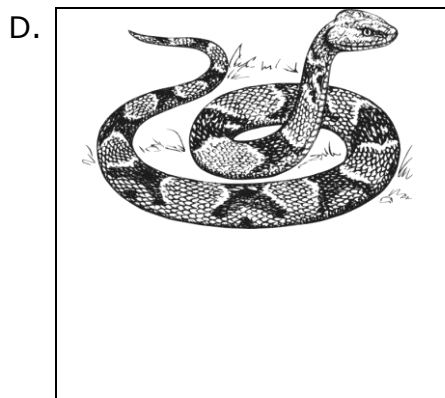
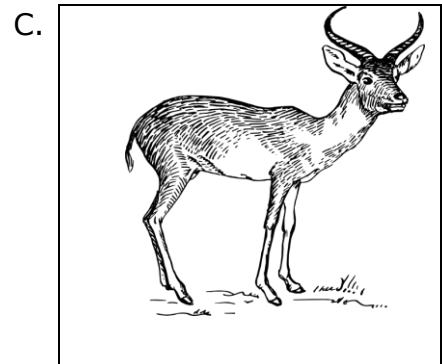
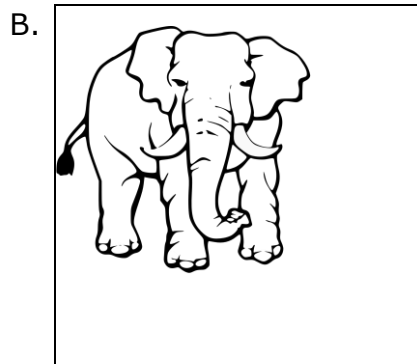
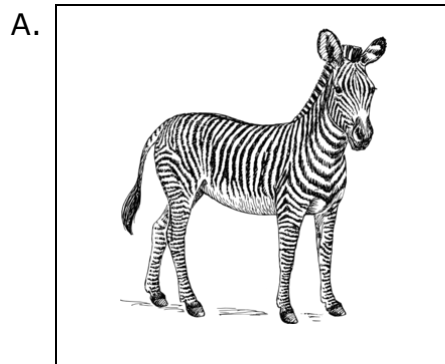
Pages: 9

TEST SCORES	LISTENING	10	
	GRM/VCB	10	
	READING	10	
	WRITING	10	
	TOTAL	40	

LISTENING 1 (Items 1-5)

[5 marks]

You are going to hear five short texts about **different animals**. Match the pictures with the texts. For each text, shade in the bubble under the correct option.



Pictures

Text	A	B	C	D	E	F
1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



LISTENING 2 (Items 6–10)

[5 marks]

You are going to hear **a text** about **San Francisco**.

For each item, shade in the bubble next to the correct option.

6. San Francisco covers about ----- square miles.
 15 50 500
7. More than ----- people live in San Francisco.
 20,000 2000 200,000
8. The weather in San Francisco during summer is -----.
 Wet Cool hot
9. One of the famous parks in San Francisco is -----.
 Golden Gate Park Japanese Tea Garden Flowers' Hall
10. The main way of transportation in San Francisco is the -----.
 public bus cable car Four-wheel car

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**LISTENING
SCORE**

10

GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY 1 (Items 1-5)

[2½ marks]

Complete the text. For each item, shade in the bubble next to the correct option.

The blue whale is the largest living ⁽¹⁾ _____ to have ever lived on the planet ⁽²⁾ _____. The largest blue whale can ⁽³⁾ _____ more than 99,800 kg. They are very heavy. Also, they can ⁽⁴⁾ _____ as large as 100 feet long, which is larger than three school buses put together! However, the blue whales are huge, they feed on small animals called krill. The blue whale can ⁽⁵⁾ _____ over 8,000 of krill a day.

1.

animal

insect

bird

2.

Mars

Earth

Pluto

3.

jump

travel

weigh

4.

sleep

grow

walk

5.

eat

watch

swim

GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY 2 (Items 6-10)

[2½ marks]

Complete each sentence with **ONE** word only.

6. That box is _____ heavy. I can't pick it up.

7. I like Omani food, _____ I don't like Indian food.

8. I think Science is more difficult _____ Maths.

9. The light bulb _____ invented by Edison.

10. Parrots are _____ most colourful birds.

GRAMMAR/VOCABULARY 3 (Items 11–20)**[5 marks]**

Complete the unfinished words in the text.

Make sure you **spell** each word **correctly**.

EXAMPLE:

“Good morning! My name’s Ahmed Al-Zedjali and I’m a student at a school in Muscat. I’m in Grade Six. My favourite subject is Maths.”

TEXT

Speaker A: Hi Hilal.

Speaker B: Hi Khalid. **H** _____⁽¹¹⁾ are you doing?

Speaker A: Not bad. I'm calling to **ta** _____⁽¹²⁾ about the **week** _____⁽¹³⁾. Have you **g** _____⁽¹⁴⁾ any plans?

Speaker B: No. **Wh** _____⁽¹⁵⁾ do you have in mind?

Speaker A: How about going **t** _____⁽¹⁶⁾ a football game?

Speaker B: It is more **inter** _____⁽¹⁷⁾ to watch a movie.

Speaker A: Alright. Do you **wa** _____⁽¹⁸⁾ me to take you in my **c** _____⁽¹⁹⁾?

Speaker B: No, thanks. I will **wa** _____⁽²⁰⁾. It isn't far away.

Speaker A: Great.

**GRM/VCB
SCORE**

10

READING 1 (Items 1–4)

[4 marks]

Match the four texts on the left with the texts in the box. Shade in the bubble under the correct option.

- 1. I like lots of indoor activities such as using the computer, drawing and making models.
- 2. I think zoos are important because they are educational.
- 3. The world Wide Web was invented by Tim Berners-Lee in 1980.
- 4. Italian is the main language in Italy. About 90% of people use Italian.

A. Yet, German and French are also spoken in the country.
B. The music club is interesting because you can learn how to play the keyboard.
C. That's because people can learn about animals they don't usually see.
D. There are many places that you can visit in France.
E. However, I'm not interested in outdoor activities such as fishing or roller skating.
F. This invention is known today as the Internet.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
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1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

READING 2 (Items 5–10)**[6 marks]**

Read the text. Then complete the task.

Dear Ahmed,

I am writing this e-mail to tell you about a famous Arab traveler who is called Ibn Battuta.

Abu Abdullah Mohammed Ibn Battuta, was a Moroccan Muslim traveler. He is known for his traveling that covers nearly the whole Islamic world. His journey lasted for a period of thirty years. He was born in Morocco on the 24th of February 1304 C.E. He was also known as Shams ad-Din. He started travelling in June 1325 when he was twenty one years. First, he began his trip in the Middle East, and then he sailed through the Red Sea to Mecca. He crossed the huge Arabian Desert to travel to Iraq and Iran. In 1332, he decided to go to India and stayed there for about 8 years and then left to China. Then, he crossed the Sahara Desert to visit Mali in Africa.

After his travel, he returned to Morocco and wrote the most famous travel book in history, the Rihlah.

Yours,

Ali

READING 2 (cont'd)

For each question, write a short answer (**not more than FOUR WORDS**).

5. Where was Ibn Battuta born?

6. What was another name for Ibn Battuta?

7. When did he start his trip?

8. How many years did he travel?

9. How long did he stay in India?

10. What was the name of his book?

**READING
SCORE**

10

WRITING 1

[5 marks]

Write at least **60 words** on the following topic:

“City life is healthy life”

-Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

Your writing should be **interesting** and **well-organized**.

Marker A	Marker B	Average

WRITING 2

[5 marks]

Complete the following task. Write at least 60 words.

Last summer holiday, you went on a trip and you visited lots of interesting places there. It was the most memorable trip in your life. Write about it.

*Your writing should be **interesting** and **well-organized**.*

Marker A	Marker B	Average

WRITING SCORE	
	10

English, Grade 8, Semester One, 1st Session, 2013/2014**Listening Script****Listening (1)**

- 1- We are beautiful animals. We live in open areas and lands. We eat grass and leaves and we have got very nice horns. Our speed can reach 40 miles an hour.
- 2- I am a member of the reptiles' family. I don't have any legs, but I use my muscles to move. I am very dangerous.
- 3- I am from the reptiles' family. I have a hard shell and I live in water. I lay lots of eggs each year.
- 4- I am a member from the horse family. I've got black and white stripes which makes it difficult for other animals to see.
- 5- People hunt us for our tusks. Hunters can see us easily because we're big, grey and we have got big trunks.

Listening (2)

San Francisco is located on the West Coast of United States. It covers a land area of about 50 square miles and a population greater than 200,000. It is known as the second-populated city in the United States after New York. Today, San Francisco is ranked as one of the top tourist destinations in the world and was the sixth most visited city in the United States. It is famous for its cool summers and wet winters. That's because it is surrounded by water from three sides. There are more than 220 parks in San Francisco. The largest and best-known city park is Golden Gate Park. It includes flowers' halls and Japanese Tea Garden. The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art is another famous place in this city. It includes the works of art and attracts more than 600,000 visitors each year.

With its wonderful weather, San Francisco is perfect for lots of outdoor activities such as boating, camping and windsurfing. Most people use the famous cable cars to move from one place to another. Few people use the public bus instead. San Francisco is one of the best tourist destinations ever existed.

LISTENING 1 (5 mks)						
	A	B	C	D	E	F
1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Notes: One mark each. Responses must be indicated clearly.

LISTENING 2 (5 mks)			
6.	<input type="radio"/> 15	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 50	<input type="radio"/> 500
7.	<input type="radio"/> 20,000	<input type="radio"/> 2000	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 200,000
8.	<input type="radio"/> Wet	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Cool	<input type="radio"/> hot
9.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Golden Gate Park	<input type="radio"/> Japanese Tea Garden	<input type="radio"/> Flowers' Hall
10.	<input type="radio"/> public bus	<input checked="" type="radio"/> cable car	<input type="radio"/> Four-wheel car

Notes: One mark each. Responses must be indicated clearly.

GRM/ VCB 1 (2.5 mks)			
1.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> animal	<input type="radio"/> insect	<input type="radio"/> bird
2.	<input type="radio"/> Mars	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Earth	<input type="radio"/> Pluto
3.	<input type="radio"/> jump	<input type="radio"/> travel	<input checked="" type="radio"/> weigh
4.	<input type="radio"/> sleep	<input checked="" type="radio"/> grow	<input type="radio"/> walk
5.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> eat	<input type="radio"/> watch	<input type="radio"/> swim

Notes: Half-a-mark each. Responses must be indicated clearly.

GRM/ VCB 2 (2.5 mks)	GRM/ VCB 3 (5 mks)	
6. too 7. but 8. than 9. was 10. the	11. <u>How</u> 12. <u>talk</u> 13. week <u>end</u> 14. <u>got</u> 15. <u>what</u>	16. <u>to</u> 17. inter <u>esting</u> 18. <u>want</u> 19. <u>car</u> 20. <u>Walk</u>
<i>Notes: Half-a-mark each. Spelling <u>must</u> be correct.</i>	<i>Notes: Half-a-mark each. Spelling <u>must</u> be correct, including grammatical endings.</i>	

READING 1 (4 mks)						READING 2 (6 mks)	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	
1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	5. In Morocco.
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	6. Shams ad-Din
3.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	7. in June 1325
4.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	8. thirty years
							9. 8 years
							10. the Rihlah
<i>Notes: One mark each. Responses must be indicated <u>clearly</u>.</i>						<i>Notes: One mark each. Complete accuracy in grammar and spelling is not required, but answers must be <u>clearly</u> and <u>convincingly</u> correct.</i>	

WRITING 1 (5 mks)	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Discusses the topic in a lively, interesting way, making effective use of supporting arguments. – The points made by the writer are logically organised and very clear. – Makes use of a fair range of structures and vocabulary, with a good level of accuracy.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Discusses the topic reasonably well, but use of supporting arguments is not fully effective. – The points made by the writer are reasonably well organized and mostly clear. – Use of grammar and vocabulary is reasonably correct, though rather limited in range.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Expresses opinions with some use of supporting arguments, but only in a limited way. – The writer makes an attempt to organise his/her points, but this is only partly effective. – There is a noticeable lack of accuracy in the use of grammar and vocabulary.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Makes an attempt to discuss the topic, but the result is unconvincing and clearly inadequate. – Weak organization makes it difficult to follow the points being made by the writer. – Grammar and vocabulary contain frequent serious errors.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A <u>very</u> feeble attempt to discuss the topic. Very little relevant content. – The points made by the writer are confused and disjointed. – The language used is extremely limited and/or seriously distorted.
0	<u>No attempt at the task</u> : EITHER Irrelevant (Completely unrelated to the topic) OR Hardly any writing at all, or not written in English OR Complete nonsense

WRITING 2 (5 mks)	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tells the story fully and clearly, in a lively, interesting way, providing appropriate details. – The text is coherent and easy to read. Not many language errors.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tells the story clearly enough, but writing lacks interest for the reader. – There are several noticeable language errors and the text sometimes lacks coherence.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Manages to convey the main outline of the story, but only in a limited way. – Language used is limited in range and/or contains quite frequent errors.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An attempt is made to tell the story, but important points are either missing or unclear. – Language used is very limited and/or contains many serious errors.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A <u>very</u> feeble attempt to tell the story. Very little relevant content. – Language used is extremely limited and/or seriously distorted.
0	<u>No attempt at the task</u> : EITHER Irrelevant (Completely unrelated to the pictures/ task/ instructions) OR Hardly any writing at all, or not written in English OR Complete nonsense

* **NOTE:** In WRITING 2, test-writers actually have two different task-options to choose from (**Picture Story** or **Task Instructions**) when preparing the exam-paper. However, as both of these require student to produce a **narrative** text, the same Rating Scale can be used, whichever type of task they use