# THE ENGLISH SCHOOL, NICOSIA ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2011

ENGLISH LANGUAGE YEAR 1

Native SPEAKERS

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

#### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. FILL IN YOUR NAME AND NUMER ON THE SLIP ATTACHED.
- 2. ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THE SPACES PROVIDED AND THE WRITING TASK ON THE LINED PAPER IN THIS BOOKLET.
- 3. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.
- 4. WRITE NEATLY, WRITE GOOD ENGLISH.

Good Luck!!! Total: 100 Marks



This booklet contains 13 pages

#### Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow

"There was nothing to do but wait. At last Lila and her sisters heard the throbbing of the drum and the long eerie blasts on the trumpet. The medicine-man was near! He was preceded by the little cow that he dressed in necklaces of beads and an embroidered cloth. He was a sharp- looking man and he kept all kinds of powders and pills in packets tied into the folds of his white dhoti and his pink turban. With these he treated the villagers for their boils, aches and fevers. All this gave him the air of a magician which made the girls shiver slightly when they heard him approach. He raised his hand in the air and gave another long blast on his trumpet.

Lila came running out of the house and spoke to the man.

"My mother is ill. She has been ill for a long time. Now she has fever too. Have you any medicine for fever? Have you any medicine for making her strong? She is so weak", Lila explained. "Slowly, slowly daughter. What is the hurry? First I must have water for my cow- fresh well water. Next, I must have grass for her. Fresh, tender grass. Then I will come and see your mother."

So that was how things had to be done. After the cow had been looked after, he too demanded attention. Lila had to give him tea which he sipped, sitting down under the frangipani tree while the girls stood before him and told him how their mother was growing weaker and weaker. She was refusing to eat and was unable to get up at all. "And now she is hot with fever", Lila wailed suddenly, no longer able to speak calmly.

The man looked at her with his sharp, bright eyes. He got up quickly and started being very busy. To their surprise he did not go in to see their mother as they had expected he would. Instead, he ordered them to build a fire. He wanted a particular kind of wood and the sticks had to be laid just so. Once the fire started crackling, he flung in packets of flowers that he took from a bag on the cow's back-jasmine, marigold, hibiscus and frangipani. He recited a long prayer in a sing-song voice while he did so. When the fire had died down, he poked at it with a long stick, scattering the ashes so that they cooled. Then he scooped them up into his hand and asked for water. He poured a little into the palm of

his hand and with one thumb and forefingers he mixed it with the ash. Then he went in to see their mother at last.

She was lying on her side with her eyes closed. When he spoke to her, she turned over and opened her eyes in fear. Lila put her hand on her mother's forehead and spoke to her soothingly. The man told her to open her mouth and put out her tongue which she did, and on it dropped some of the ash. "Eat, sister", he said. "Holy ash will purify you within. It will drive away the demons that create the fever. Swallow." He kept rolling small balls of ash between his fingers and dropping them into her mouth, making her swallow them. Then he clapped his hands together and walked out.

The girls followed, dazed.

"Sweep up all that ash. Collect it. Bring it to me", he ordered, and they obeyed. He pulled some leaves out of his bag and made them put the ash on the leaves, then rolled them up and tied them into neat packets with bits of thread which he pulled out of his turban. "Here", he said, handing them to the girls. "Go and put one packet under her pillow. It will drive away the fever-demon. Go and put the others under your own pillows. It will keep you safe from the demons. I have blessed it". He blew on his trumpet.

He then stared down into their faces and looked very fierce. "So?" he shouted at them. "Got nothing to give me but your stares? Think I can fill my stomach with your stares? Think I do it all for free?"

Lila ran into the hut. Bela and Kamal stared after her, knowing there was no money. But she came out with something in her hand and when she handed it over the girls saw what it was-the ring their mother used to wear when she was well. The girls gave a little gasp of astonishment but the man merely snatched it out of Lila's hand, stared at it and then at them. He tucked it away and marched off towards his cow without a word of thanks.

The girls were left staring at the leaf-packets in their hands. "What shall we do with them?" Bela and Kamal asked. Lila clutched the one in her hand as if she wanted to tear it apart.

"What can we do?" she cried. "We can't do anything-we have to listen to him. There's no hospital in the village we could take her to, and no doctor who would come. We have no one but the magic man to help us. Magic!"She said fiercely and marched into the hut to do what the man had told her to."

From "Village by the Sea" by Anita Desai

## **Questions**

Why didn't the medicine man go and see the children's mother straightaway? Give 3 reasons (3 marks).
Explain how the medicine man makes the little balls of ash which he gave to the children's mother. (2 marks)
How were the packets of ash to be used, according to the medicine man's instructions? (2 marks).
What were the children doing when the medicine man said "Got nothing to give me but your stares?" What did he want? (2 marks)
What did Lila give the medicine man? Why do you think she gave him this? (2 marks).

	ind evidence, from the passage, of how Lila felt after the medicine man had gone Ise three quotes to support your answer. (3 marks).
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f	ook carefully at how the writer describes the medicine man in the first paragrap ind evidence, using 2 quotes from the text, of what 'gave him the air of a nagician'.(2 marks).
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rr	ielect four separate words/phrases which suggest whether or not the medicine nan will help Lila's mother get better <b>and</b> Lila's worry over her mother's illness. (4 narks).
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Write between 100-150 words.
1. You are Lila after the medicine man has gone. Tell a friend what he did and how you feel about it. Use the information from the text. Make sure you write in your own words. Do not $\it lift$ from the text.

Directed Writing: (10 marks)

ection B: Vocabulary Usa	ge (20 marks)		
nsert the appropriate word assage; some of the words	have already been	started for you.	(16 marks)
ntertained, cautiously, disc mazement, noticed, beautif	• •	-	=
heseus and his companions	were	for one nigl	nt at theof
ing Minos. Then they were_	to er	iter the labyrint	th. The king's
daughter	, Ariadne, gave The	seus some wool	and a sword, which he
under his cloak.	Unwinding the wool	as he c	advanced, Theseus
tlastthe			
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
			nt. When the creature began
him, Theseus s			
of the creatu			
heseus's companions			
	the others escaped	without furthe	r ofrom King
linos.			

Explain the following words as they are used in the passage: (4 marks)
a) Companions
b) Entertained
c) Successful
d) Amazement
Section C: Grammar usage (25 marks)
Underline the correct word in bold in each sentence: (7 marks)
Example: She had <b>fewer/less</b> time than he on the computer.
Answer: She had <b>fewer/<u>less</u></b> time than he did on the computer.
<ol> <li>I did not have as much/many complaints as she did.</li> </ol>
Many/much spectators agreed with her actions.
3. I do not have as much/many money as he does.
4. A few/ little information was given out about the crash.
5. <b>Little/few</b> hope was given of a rescue.
6. Less/Fewer bargain hunters came this time.
7. Fewer/less knowledge was needed for this examination.
Choose a verb that would fit the gaps in the following sentences. Make sure that

there is correct subject-verb agreement: (9 marks)

Answer: It is a mistake to give a puppy as a present.

Example: It \_\_\_\_a mistake to give a puppy as a present.

1.	Dogsloyal pets and	t	heir owners lots of affection.	
2.	Childrenpuppies and	every child would_	a puppy as a present.	
3.	Dogsmore attention	n than cats, that _	more independent.	
4.	Most households	_at least one pet, u	sually a dog or a cat.	
5.	Dogsgoing for exerc	ise and definitely $\_$	daily walks.	
Comp	lete the following sentences with	an appropriate rela	itive pronoun, who, which, that,	
•	why, where, what. There is some		•	
	nly write one word in each line.		•	
Evamo	nlas Ulutil Tusaa aiahtusa lissad in a	سماك الممالية	uau ja nauva ayılayınla	
-	ple: Until I was eight we lived in a chester.	village called Stank	vay,is now a suburb	
		سنالمم ممالمط جعمس	an which is now a subumb of	
Colche	er: Until I was eight we lived in a	village called Stanw	dy, which is now a suburb of	
Colche	ester.			
	The schoolI went t	•	•	
2.	Although it was near, it was up of arrived out of breath.	ı big hill,	is why my sister and I always	
3.	I got on well with my sister Emi	ly,is tw	o years younger than me.	
4.	We had a big garden	we played when w	e weren't at school.	
5.	5. Our parents,both worked hated having to spend so much time gardening.			
6.	That's the reasonthe	garden of our secon	d house was so small.	
	We used to visit our relatives in	_		
	day off.			
8.	My father,was an on	ly child hated visitir	ng my mother's family.	
	Nevertheless, we always ended		= '	
	•		·	

### Section D: Writing task (25 marks).

Choose one of the following questions and write between 150-200 words. Make sure you:

- Plan your answer carefully, consider paragraphs and linking sentences
- Use accurate expression and grammar usage
- Use appropriate and engaging vocabulary

3. Describe a day you spend in a castle.

- Use interesting opening and closing paragraphs.
- You are advised to spend between 20-25 minutes on this section.
- You are a tourist in Cyprus. This is your second day here and you are very excited about the people, the food, the weather and the places you have visited so far.
   Write a diary entry in which you express your thoughts and feelings about what you have experienced.
- 2. Write about your most precious possession, describing it and saying why it is so precious for you. Make sure you include plenty of descriptive detail.

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The End