

Circle around the correct letter of the following (4 marks each):

1-Which word of the following does not fit into the group ?

c. **Crunchy** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

2. Complete the following sentence using the right preposition: the boat settled.....

b. **On the dry ground** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

3. Which is the correct simile of the following?

d. **He acts bravely like a lion.** { ٤ علامات } 4 marks

4. Choose the correct order for adjectives in the following sentence?

c. **Her dress was elegant, blue, and silky.** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

5. Connect the following sentences using the proper connector: My father grew up abroad. [.....] My mother spent her childhood in the distant Mexico.

b. **Similarly,** { ٤ علامات } 4 marks

6. Choose the correct comparative word from the following?

d. **Worse** { ٤ علامات } 4 marks

7. What is the comparative form of well?

b. **Better** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

8. Complete the following simile properly: the air.....

b. **Smelled nicely like a perfume** { ٤ علامات } 4 marks

9. Choose the correct sentence of the following?

d. **I was hungry; nonetheless, I didn't eat** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

10. Choose the correct sentence of the following?

a. **Students who fail the exam must attend the seminar** 4 marks { ٤ علامات }

II. Write a comparison and contrast essay (between 350-400 words) on one of the following topics (60 mark ٦٠ علامة)

a. Two different celebrations.

Introduction consists of 1. Hook statement that introduces the topic of celebration written with correct language (5 marks)

2. Thesis Statement, it tells that the essay discusses the similarities and differences between them. (5 marks) (70 words)

Body paragraph (1): it discusses the similarities between the two occasions in correct language (20 marks ,100 words)

Body Paragraph (2): it discusses the differences in correct language (20 marks) (100 words).

Conclusion, it summarizes the article or gives a view point (10 marks ,50 words).

Important points

1. With more than 4 grammatical errors, the essay fails the exam. ترسب المقالة التي تحتوي على أكثر من أربع أخطاء نحوية
2. with more than 6 spelling mistakes, the essay fails the exam. ترسب المقالة التي تحتوي على أكثر من ست أخطاء نحوية
3. with less than 100 words, the essay fails the exam. ترسب المقالة المكتوبة بأقل من ١٠٠ كلمة
4. with trivial or invalid information, the essay fails, ترسب المقالة التي تحتوي على معلومات تافهة أو خاطئة

(Sample Essay a, Two celebrations)

(Hook statement, 5 marks) Celebrations are part of our life. They provide us the opportunities to taste happiness and warmth, offering us a relief from our busy schedule, and prizing us with the free time necessary to enjoy the company of our loved ones. Some occasions are more valued than others. In the Islamic world, of which Syria is part, 'Eid al- fitr and 'Eid al-adha are the biggest jewels in the crown of celebrations. (Thesis statement, 5 marks) They intersect at some traits, and depart at others as the upcoming lines demonstrate (74 words).

To begin with points of intersections, the twosome are religious celebrations enjoyed by Muslims worldwide. As such, the pair share some religious rituals. Some of which, Muslims pray at the morning of the Eid. Muslims- men, women and children- congregate at a large space, like mosque, squares, or an open space. It consists of two unites of prayers with considerable amount of *takbirat*. The Eid prayer is followed by the sermon and then a supplication asking for Allah's forgiveness, mercy, peace and blessings for all living beings across the world. After witch, Muslims share congratulations and the best of wishes. In Syria, Men and women visit their diseased beloved ones before they embark on a long journey to visit family, friends, neighbors and even strangers. It goes without saying, that people dress with the finest clothes. It is a merry time as the eyes see the smiley faces, and the ears hear the laud laughs. Eids are made for the happiness of children, as our folk-saying indicates. They children go from house into other asking for treats, play around and receiving money. Eids are springs of joy, they reconnect us with God, ourselves, our family and our community (20 marks).

As far as points of departure are concerned, on the one hand, Eid al fitr celebrates the Islamic pillar of fasting. it follows the long month of fasting, Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn till sunset. Eid al-fitr marks the day when they happy come back to a life without fasting. Hence, Breakfast is the crucial meal of day. On the other hand, Eid al-adha celebrates different Islamic pillar which is pilgrimage or al haj. Muslims visit Makkah at Saudi Arabia. The rituals continue for four days which is the duration of al-Eid. Only part of Muslims is blessed with this journey but all Muslim

can slaughter a special type of animal as a sacrifice for God. It commemorates Ibrahim's sacrificial ritual. The meat is distributed to family members, relatives and the poor. Lunch is the meal of the day as the smell of the cooked meat fills the air (20 marks).

In conclusion, Eid al fitr and Eid al adha are Islamic holidays. Each celebrates different pillar of Islam; the former marks the end of Ramadan; the later announces the beginning of al haj. Nonetheless, The pair spread joy and solidarity around the Islamic world and even the globe (10 marks).

b. Two books you have read.

Introduction consists of 1. Hook statement that introduces the topic of reading written with correct language. (5 marks)

2. Thesis Statement, it tells that the essay discusses the similarities and differences between the two books. The titles of the books and their genre must be stated (5 marks) (70 words).

Body paragraph (1): it discusses the similarities between the two books with correct language (20 marks ,100 words)

Body Paragraph (2): it discusses the differences in correct language (20 marks) (100 words).

Conclusion, it summarizes the article or gives a view point (10 marks ,50 words).

Sample essay b

When you read, you exercise your comprehension abilities and your analytical abilities. It fires up your imagination and stimulates the memory centers of your mind. It helps recall information as well as stabilize your emotions. The importance of a reading habit is that it strengthens mental muscles. Hence reading is my hobby. I read different genre of books; nonetheless, fiction is my favorite type. The following lines are going to compare and contrast two novels, which are the Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, and Michel Tournier's Friday or the other island.

To begin with the similarities, the novels at hand narrate the plot of Crusoe who goes through a unique experience of living alone on an island. He has to survive by hunting, fishing, growing plants, and domesticating animals. He builds a shelter to be safe from weather conditions, i.e. the heat of the sun, and the rain. Later on, he rescues a black boy, Friday from the cannibals and earn a human companionship. Finally, English ship rescues them. The theme of the novels is about the individual capability to build a prosperous life.

The points of differences are many. On the one hand, Crusoe's belong to genre of realism of the eighteenth century. It chronicles realistic everyday life experience. It is considered the first armature novel. It fosters a faith in human reason, the conscious individual, and the superiority of the enlightened white European. Therefore, Robinson's treats Friday as a slave. On the other, Tournier's belong to postmodern French novel. It belongs to subgenre of magical realism. It combines the real with the magical. It sees human

reason as deficient ; the individual consists of the conscious and the unconscious. It believes in humanism; therefore, The French Robinson respects Friday and treats him as a friend.

To sum it all, the books are works of fiction. They tell similar plot line about an individual in solitude. They differ in the ideology they adopt because they belong to two different historical moments.