



Salahaddin University –Erbil

College of Basic Education- Evening Classes

English Language department

Module: Advanced Reading Comprehension

Stage: 2nd -year class

Question Bank

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Q1. Read the passage then answer the following questions.

10 Marks

The approach of 6 August is always hard for 63 years old Reiko Yanada, an atomic bomb survivor is now active in a battle to gain better support for victims of the world's first atomic blast 52 years ago.

Ms. Yanada recalls all too clearly that mid-summer day in 1945 when US warplanes dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. A second atomic bomb was dropped by the USA on the southwestern city of Nagasaki three days later, forcing Japan to surrender to the allied forces and bringing the Pacific war to an end. More than 1,40,000 people were killed instantly after the nuclear blasts and many more died in the months and years after. Victims continue to die each year from cancer and radiation-linked illnesses.

Today Ms. Yanada is part of a group called Japan Confederation of A & H Bomb Sufferers, made up of survivors like her struggling for a fair deal in life. In Japan, a vast number of people are still lobbying the government to give them the status they have been denied for so long. Ms. Yanada's group frequently visits the offices of influential members of the district.

A large number of people are asking for an end to this bureaucratic red-tapism and waiting for identification cards. But their demands have not been fulfilled by the government.

A- / State whether the following sentences are (True) or (False).

1. An atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki on 9th August 1945.
2. Reiko Yanada is an atomic bomb survivor who witnessed the dropping of the first atomic bomb.
3. Immediately after the nuclear blasts, about one million died on the spot.
4. The government has agreed to fulfill the demand of the sufferers.
5. When the second atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the USA, Reiko was eleven years old.

B-/ Answer the following:

1. What compelled Japan to surrender to the allied forces? How did the Pacific war come to an end?
2. Give a synonym for each of the underlined words in the passage.

Q. 2/ Complete the following sentences using the words in the box.

10 Marks

investment, development, inseparable, affluent, inpatient, unforeseen, illiterate, quit, advertisements, incapable, colonialized

1. Lottery winners _____ their jobs soon after winning.
2. Han is so self-absorbed that he seems _____ of thinking about anyone but himself.
3. Ashti and her sister are _____. They even signed up for the same classes at university.
4. There are still people in the United States who are _____. They can hardly read or write.
5. The government funded the building of a football stadium as part of its long-term _____ in sports.
6. Radio stations are so commercialized nowadays; there are more _____ than music!
7. Many Asian countries were _____ by European countries in the 19th century.
8. The _____ of antibiotics marked a new era in modern medicine.
9. Have you encountered any _____ difficulties in learning English?
10. Which is the most _____ neighborhood in Erbil city?

Q. 3/ Write a synonym or definition for the following words.

10 Marks

1. tricky:
2. luxury:
3. Thylacine:
4. fertilize:
5. worthwhile:
6. mortgage:
7. necessities:
8. extravagant:
9. jailed:
10. inflation:

Q. 4/ Read this passage carefully; then answer the four questions below.

As little as so years ago, few people in the U.S. questioned the gender roles that had been in place for centuries. Many people assumed that a woman's place was in the home, and that a man's main responsibility to his family was to put food on the table. In the 1970s and '80s, however, greater numbers of working women meant that men were no longer the sole breadwinners. A father's involvement with his family also became more important. Even so, back then, almost no husbands were "stay-at-home dads." Today, with more career opportunities than ever available to women, the stay-at-home dad trend is on the rise.

A family with a full-time dad has many benefits. If the wife is a career woman, her husband can take some family responsibilities off her shoulders, thereby allowing her to compete more successfully in the workplace. The men share in the joy of participating in their children's day-to-day experiences. Differences in parenting styles between men and women are also believed to contribute to children's well-being. Studies suggest that a strong paternal presence encourages greater curiosity, higher self-esteem, and better emotional balance in the child. Societies with strong family units also report lower juvenile crime rates and lower rates of teen pregnancy. Robert Frank, a professor of child development at Oakton Community College in the U.S., notes that working mothers aren't necessarily absent from the home; many women form a close relationship with their kids regardless.

In response to the recent increase in stay-at-home dads, new resources are becoming available. Playgroups are being planned for dads and their children. When Ryan warren said that he felt out-of-place in groups that often consisted of all moms, his wife found a local group that hosted events for dads like Ryan and their children. "[My daughter] could play with other kids her age, and I could hang out with other fathers going through the same experience," says Ryan. "In the group, we talk about the traditional guy things-sports, tools, cars."

Moving from a professional career to becoming an at-home parent is another challenge for these modern dads. But some men are finding ways to stay active with their career goals while parenting at home. Dad and blogger Hunter Montgomery is a great example of a father who balances home life with career aspirations. "I was a full-time stay-at-home-dad, but I didn't plan it that way," says Hunter. "My intention was to continue work as a mortgage loan officer from home; it's the type of work you can easily do remotely."

Hunter's wife, Christi, has a career in the U.S. Navy that sometimes requires the family to relocate. When Hunter and Christi had their first child, they already knew that they would have to move within a year. To help with the transition, Hunter left his job to become a stay-at-home dad. Hunter was always interested in personal finances and, being home to watch the kids, he studied part-time to complete a master's degree in Family Financial Planning. Hunter started a blog, *Financially consumed*, as a way to stay active in his career by sharing tips and experiences with others. Despite many challenges, Hunter says he has found a way to balance both priorities of his family and his career. "All three of our kids are in school, and I have some time each day to pursue my interests," says Hunter. "I'm loving it."

It's safe to say that the stay-at-home dad is here to stay. As more and more dads find new ways to stay active socially and in their careers while parenting, they contribute so_ immensely to the flexibility of the father's role in the modern family.

A / Choose the correct answers for the following questions.

5 Marks

- According to the passage, what did NOT change in the 1970s and '80s?
 a- More women entered the workforce. b- Many men decided to leave the workforce.
 c- Men were encouraged to spend time with family.
- How is having a stay-at-home dad said to benefit the child?
 a- The child becomes more curious.
 b- The child becomes more competitive. c- The child is able to experience more things.
- What does Ryan mean when he says he was looking to work *remotely* in line 37?
 a- He has to work in an office. b- He is able to work at home. c- He is able to do his work at any time.
- Which of the following is NOT true about Hunter Montgomery?
 a- He writes a blog about being a stay-at home dad b- He completed a master's degree part-time.
 c- His wife's job requires the family to move sometimes.
- What do Ryan and Hunter have in common as stay-at-home dads?
 a- They can spend quality time with their children. b- They can focus on maintaining their blogs.
 c- They are members of their local playgroup.

B / Put the words in the box in front of their correct definition.

7 Marks

maternity,	to mother,	juvenile,	patriarch,	matriarch,	rejuvenate,	maternal,	paternal
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- _____ : the female leader of a family, usually the oldest or wisest
- _____ : motherhood (or pregnancy)
- _____ : to care for or nurture someone
- _____ : to feel refreshed again, usually after a rest
- _____ : related to fatherhood or being a father
- _____ : young; can also mean childish or immature
- _____ : the male leader of a family, usually the oldest or wisest

C / Read the following sentences carefully. State whether they are true (T) or false (F).

5 Marks

- Many people used to think that women should not be working.
- Robert Frank thinks career women are not close to their children.
- Ryan felt uncomfortable being in a playgroup full of women.
- Hunter wanted to be a full-time stay-at-home dad from the start.
- The Montgomery family had to move because of Hunter's job.

D / Match the following terms with the correct definition.

8 Marks

- mother/father-in-law: _____ a- the person who supports a family with his or her earnings.
- ex-wife/husband: _____ b- a sibling related to you by marriage only
- step-brother/sister: _____ c- your parent's spouse, but not your parent

4. half brother/sister: _____ **d-** a child related to you by marriage only
5. adopted child: _____ **e-** your spouse's parent
6. step-mother/father: _____ **f-** your former spouse
7. step-son/daughter: _____ **g-** a sibling who shares the same mother or father as you
8. breadwinner _____ **h-** another person's child legally made a member of your family

Q. 5/ Complete the following sentences using the words in the box.

20 Marks

engraved, development, in return, stuffed, inpatient, integrate, illiterate, abandon, advertisements, incapable, colonized

1. Lottery winners _____ their jobs soon after winning.
2. Han is so self-absorbed that he seems _____ of thinking about anyone but himself.
3. My boss gave me two extra days off _____ for my working overtime.
4. There are still many people in our society who are _____. They can hardly read or write.
5. This necklace has my name _____ on it.
6. Radio stations are so commercialized nowadays; there are more _____ than music!
7. Many Asian countries were _____ by European countries in the 19th century.
8. The _____ of antibiotics marked a new era in modern medicine.
9. The government encourages immigrants to _____ with local people.
10. I was in a hurry so I _____ my clothes in the suitcase.

Q. 6/ Write a synonym or definition for the following words.

15 Marks

1. adventure: 2. moa: 3. festival: 4. hemisphere: 5. bichiya: 6. mortgage: 7. garland:
8. collided: 9. inject: 10. inflation: 11. frail 12. dense 13. eternal 14. fabric 15. legend

Q. 7/ Read the passage carefully then answer the *three* questions (A, B, and C) below it.

I just returned from the most amazing experience of my life at the Yanshuei Fireworks Festival! After spending some time with family in Taipei celebrating Chinese New Year, I'm staying the weekend with friends in Tainan, in the south of Taiwan. Last night my old roommate Lin invited me to a fireworks festival in the city of Yanshuei. Since we were going to a fireworks festival, I assumed that I should pack a blanket and maybe some snacks for a picnic while we watched the fireworks. Naturally, I was surprised when Lin gave me an old sweatshirt, gloves, a towel, and a motorcycle helmet. When I asked why I needed these old clothes he smiled and said, "You'll see."

According to **legend**, in the 17th century a terrible plague had been making the people of Yanshuei ill for years and no one could find a cure. When some citizens suggested that perhaps there were evil spirits in the town, the people decided to ask the war god, Guan Yu, to come and **drive away** the evil spirits. The people impressed Guan Yu with a huge fireworks display and **in return**, he drove out the spirits that had been plaguing the town. Today the fireworks festival is an annual event to honor and thank Guan Yu.

When we arrived in Yanshuei, we saw many preparations being made for the festival, which starts after sunset and goes on all night. Near the center of town, we were greeted by the sight of large walls with many holes and open boxes facing in all directions. Lin told me that the local word for these walls means "beehive," and that they would be filled with fireworks for the celebration. I suddenly realized that I needed the extra clothes, gloves and helmet to protect myself from the fireworks! I looked around and noticed workers **stuffing** the beehives with fireworks of all kinds. Lin could see what I was thinking and he said that many people are injured by fireworks at this festival every year. I soon saw that a few participants wear very little protection from the fireworks and receive many burns to the skin.

Nevertheless, we went to main site where the fireworks would be lit. A group of people were **worshipping** a statue of Guan Yu in front of a small **beehive**. After they sang a prayer, they took the statue away and the crowd pushed forward. Lin said. "Put on your helmet and **hop** up and down a little when it starts." His advice was confusing, but when a man started to light the beehive everyone started hopping, so I joined in.

Moments later, rockets were screaming, booming and popping in all directions. Fireworks **collided** with my helmet and bounced off my body. I closed my eyes and all I could smell was smoke from the explosions. It was

over in a few seconds, but it felt much longer. I realized that the hopping was to shake off any fireworks that might get stuck and burn you. My heart was racing and I could feel a big smile on my face as I caught my breath and brushed myself off. That beehive was the first of many and each one seemed more amazing than the last. Now I understood the name "beehive" the sound of the fireworks became a constant buzzing in my ears. When we got home we changed and left our clothes outside because they smelled of smoke. Each of us had small burns and cuts from being hit with so many fireworks, but as we sat around the table eating a late dinner. We all felt we'd just had a great adventure.

A / Identify whether the following sentences are true (T) or false (F).

8 Marks

1. Michael and Lin are old friends.
2. Guan Yu was an evil spirit that plagued Yanshuei.
3. People say prayers after the fireworks are lit.
4. People hop up and down to avoid the fireworks on the ground.
5. The explosions from the beehive only lasted a few hours.
6. Michael and Lin were injured by the fireworks.
7. Michael invited Lin to a fireworks festival in the city of Yanshuei.
8. The word "beehive" refers to large walls with many holes.

B / Answer the following questions with information from the passage.

4 Marks

1. According to the legend, why did the people of Yanshuei need Guan Yu's help?
2. What are two reasons that the locals call the walls "beehives"?

C / Match the words to the correct definitions. The words are from the passage.

8 Marks

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. stuff: _____ | a- in exchange for |
| 2. explosion: _____ | b- move up and down quickly |
| 3. legend: _____ | c- to show respect to a god, for example, by praying |
| 4. hop: _____ | d- to put something inside something else |
| 5. drive away: _____ | e- a violent burst of energy |
| 6. worship: _____ | f- to smash together |
| 7. in return: _____ | g- to force to leave |
| 8. collide: _____ | h- an old and traditional s |

Q. 8/ Complete the following sentences using the words in the box.

20 Marks

vice versa, Ramadan, century, bichiya, commercialized, inflation, illogical, salary, eternal, illiterate

1. _____ refers to a continuing increase in prices over time.
2. I thought Cathy's explanation was completely _____. She didn't answer my question at all.
3. The money one is paid for working is _____.
4. There are still people in the United States who are _____. They can hardly read or write.
5. People used to believe that the sun went around the Earth, instead of _____.
6. Radio stations are so _____ nowadays; there are more advertisements than music!
7. Many Asian countries were colonized by European countries in the 19th _____.
8. Many religions have a concept of _____ life after death.
9. People fast (don't eat) from morning until night for one month in _____.
10. _____ is a ring worn on the toe-as a symbol of their engagement.

Q. 9/ Write a synonym or definition for the following words.

20 Marks

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|---------|--------------|------------|--------|----------|
| 1. giant | 2. luxury | 3. Thylacine | 4. quit | 5. tradition | 6. garbage | 7. era | 8. dense |
| 9. revive | 10. unforeseen | | | | | | |

Q. 10/ Read the passage then answer the following questions (write full sentence answers). (8 Marks)

The hardest language

People often ask which is the most difficult language to learn, and it is not easy to answer because there are many factors to take into consideration. Firstly, in a first language the differences are unimportant as people learn their mother tongue naturally, so the question of how hard a language is to learn is only relevant when learning a second language.

A native speaker of Spanish, for example, will find Portuguese much easier to learn than a native speaker of Chinese, for example, because Portuguese is very similar to Spanish, while Chinese is very different, so first language can affect learning a second language. The greater the differences between the second language and our first, the harder it will be for most people to learn. Many people answer that Chinese is the hardest language to learn, possibly influenced by the thought of learning the Chinese writing system, and the pronunciation of Chinese does appear to be very difficult for many foreign learners. However, for Japanese speakers, who already use Chinese characters in their own language, learning writing will be less difficult than for speakers of languages using the Roman alphabet. Some people seem to learn languages readily, while others find it very difficult. Teachers and the circumstances in which the language is learned also play an important role, as well as each learner's motivation for learning

This does not mean that Hungarian is the hardest language to learn for everyone, but it causes British diplomatic personnel, who are generally used to learning languages, the most difficulty. However, Tabassaran, a Caucasian language has 48 cases, so it might cause more difficulty if British diplomats had to learn it. Different cultures and individuals from those cultures will find different languages more difficult. In the case of Hungarian for British learners, it is not a question of the writing system, which uses a similar alphabet, but the grammatical complexity, though native speakers of related languages may find it easier, while struggling with languages that the British find relatively easy. No language is easy to learn well, though languages which are related to our first language are easier. Learning a completely different writing system is a huge challenge, but that does not necessarily make a language more difficult than another. In the end, it is impossible to say that there is one language that is the most difficult language in the world.

- 1 - The question of how hard a language is to learn is relevant to first or second language acquisition?
2. According to a Japanese speaker which one is easier to learn, Chinese writing system or Roman Alphabet? Why?.
3. A native speaker of Spanish, will find Portuguese or Chinese easier to learn, Why?.
4. What are the factors that make learning a language easier or harder?

Q. 11/ Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words in the box (5 Marks)

Add up, off-balance , genuine, off-key , mismanaged, misled

1. real, honest.
2. not on the correct musical note
3. uneven or unsteady.
4. to increase
5. not controlled, misconduct

Q. 12/ Write the synonym or a definition to give the meaning of the following words. (7 Marks)

1. Convention
2. Hesitate
3. Sanctuary
4. Overwhelm
5. Culprit
6. Momentary
7. Imminent