

# Sultan Qaboos University

## The Language Centre



### Level Five Test

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Part	Time	Marks
Reading 1	1 hour and 10 minutes	30
Reading 2		
Reading 3		
Listening 1	35 minutes	20
Listening 2		
Listening 3		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1 hour 45 minutes</b>	<b>50</b>

Time allowed: 1 hour and 45 minutes  
You should have a question paper and an answer sheet

This is your Question Paper. You should have 8 pages.  
You can write your answers on this Question Paper but remember to transfer your answers onto your Answer Sheet.

## Reading

### PART ONE

#### Questions 1 - 6 (6 marks)

- Read the text below about nuclear power and answer the questions on the other page.

### **Nuclear Power: Weighing the Pros and Cons**

Nuclear power seems in some ways much cleaner than other sources of energy. Take oil or coal as an example. When they are used in power stations, a great deal of smoke is produced. This smoke contains a great deal of acid. Even if the smoke is cleaned by filters, a lot of the acid still escapes into the air. This can be carried by clouds from power stations in England, for example, to other countries many miles away, such as Sweden and Norway. When it rains there, the acid comes down with the rain. As a result, the fish in lakes and trees in the forests begin to die.

Despite the obvious dangers of using coal and oil as a power source, people still think that nuclear power is unsafe. They believe that the problem is not just the danger of an accident in the atomic power station but also the fact that highly radioactive material is used: radioactivity can cause cancer and other illnesses. In addition, only a part of the material is used. The rest – waste – is just as radioactive. Although it is still highly dangerous, this radioactive waste is often thrown into the sea. Nobody can be certain what will happen to it there. Only one thing is certain. It will be highly dangerous for at least 240,000 years!

Another problem was shown in the film *The China Syndrome*. What if there is an explosion in the nuclear reactor – the part that produces the nuclear energy? If one explodes near a large city, how many people will die? Other experts argue that this is impossible, but the argument will go on for a long time. It is also clear that nuclear power can never be the only answer. It is only one possible answer. Some other possibilities are solar power (from the sun), wind power and tidal power (from the waves and tides in the ocean). Also, we must conserve energy. Conservation will become more and more of a necessity.

- For questions 1 – 6, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D

1. Which source of energy can cause acid rain?  
**A** Coal.  
**B** Nuclear power.  
**C** Solar power.  
**D** Wind power.
2. What is the disadvantage of oil and coal power stations?  
**A** The waste material must be placed in the sea.  
**B** They can damage the environment in other countries.  
**C** There can be accidents.  
**D** The waste material is dangerous for a very long time.
3. What does acid rain do to the environment?  
**A** It damages roads.  
**B** It makes trees grow.  
**C** It causes cancer.  
**D** It kills fish.
4. What do they call radioactive material that is not used?  
**A** Atomic power  
**B** Acid  
**C** Waste  
**D** Cancer
5. What often happens to radioactive material that is not used?  
**A** It goes to China.  
**B** They use it for solar energy.  
**C** They put it in oceans.  
**D** It goes to Sweden.
6. According to the text, what is one of the dangers of nuclear power?  
**A** It can damage the environment for a very long time.  
**B** It causes acid rain.  
**C** It pollutes lakes.  
**D** It produces a lot of smoke.

## Reading Test Two

### Questions 7 - 14 (6 marks)

- Read the text below and answer questions 7- 14.

Hewlett-Packard, one of the leading companies that manufactures computers, surprised its competitors last July when it told the world the news of its new leader – Carly Fiorina. She was chosen by the management of Hewlett-Packard (known as HP) to be their new president. This has also surprised business people around the world because the tradition has been for a man to hold the position. HP employs about 123,000 people, and has an income of \$47.1 billion dollars per year. Its owners began their first project over sixty years ago. Now HP is very well known, and is clearly one of the most reliable computer companies in the world.

Today, with the growing popularity of this market, there is more competition for HP than there used to be. The management is confident that Ms. Fiorina will help them to improve HP's image in the market, and to get ahead of the others by creating more projects involving the Internet. She has the right experience. She recently finished a project at a different company. That three-year project was so successful that the company's value increased by ten times.

Ms. Fiorina, age 44, hasn't always been at the top of the business world, but she's always been ambitious. In the past she studied law but she found it wasn't her speciality. She moved to Italy where she was employed as an English teacher. When she returned to America she was accepted to study business at a good university, and her business career took off. She is married with four children. Her husband was also successful in business, but he retired recently so he could stay at home to raise their children.

- Read the text.
- For questions 7 - 10 choose the correct answer and circle **ONE** letter **A, B, C or D**.
- For questions 11 – 14, write short answers.

7. What is a good title for the text?

- A. Hewlett-Packard                      C. Women at Work  
B. A Perfect Marriage                      D. A Woman in Big Business

8. What is unusual about the new president for Hewlett-Packard?

- A. The president is traditional.      C. The president is a woman.  
B. The president is over 60.              D. The president is a man.

9. What became Ms. Fiorina's speciality when she returned to the USA?

- A. business management                      C. law  
B. teaching in Italy                              D. repairing computers

10. Her last project

- A. failed.                                      C. earned HP \$47.1 billion.  
B. was very successful.                      D. was in Italy.

11. Approximately how many people work at Hewlett Packard?

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12. What area of computers does HP want to move into in the future?

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13. Where did Ms. Fiorina teach English?

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14. What does her husband do now?

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### Reading Test Three

- Read this text and answer the questions on the following page.

Being rich is not necessarily the best thing for all of us, even though most people fantasize about having much more money than they already have. There is plenty of evidence, both from psychiatry and from our own knowledge of people that those who suddenly become rich find it very difficult to cope with wealth. Research shows that too much money in a family can cause as many problems as too little. There are certain obvious advantages to being rich, such as better health, education and future work prospects for the young. However, most important of all is the quality of family life and in this area, money doesn't necessarily help: it can't buy love or happiness.

Eleftherio Veniamin found out the hard way that sometimes there are problems attached to having too much money. Eleftherio lived in Greece. For most of his life, he never had very much money. He was never exactly penniless, but he always had to work hard and hoped that the future would bring him some good fortune. He and his wife brought up two sons in Piraeus, a coastal town, where he worked on the ferries. The boys never had new shoes and his wife never bought dresses from a shop, but made her own. Eleftherio was never extravagant, never frittered away his money and saved all his wages to pay for the basic necessities: food, electricity, rent etc. The only extravagant thing he ever did was to buy a lottery ticket every month. One day, his ticket won him more than \$2 million (almost 1 million rials) and dramatically changed his circumstances. Suddenly he was a rich man.

The windfall hasn't made him happy, though. For the first time in his life he has realized that being rich was never the real object in his life after all. He has realized that his friends are more important than lots of money. "My friends like me for who I am, not because of my money", he said. "I just don't like being rich. I have been very lucky and I was a very happy man before I won the money and I have only just found out that I don't need the money to be happy". So, he gave all the money away to charity. However, his family was furious with him and for the first time in 40 years they have fallen out. His wife wanted to enjoy spending some money on herself and her family for the first time ever. "I thought it would be brilliant", she said. "I would have been able to go on a spending spree and treat my family for once", she complained. His sons wanted to give up work to set themselves up in business. Now they can't do that, but things have turned out well for Eleftherio: he is happy. "Now that I have got rid of all that money and am back where I started, I feel much better. In fact I feel like a million dollars!"

**Questions 15 - 26 (8 marks)**

- Read the text on page 1
- For questions 1 - 4 choose the correct answer and circle **ONE** letter **A, B, C or D**.
- For questions 5 – 8, write short answers.

**15. Which of the following is the best title for the text?**

- A. The Winning Ticket
- B. Money isn't Everything
- C. How to be Happy
- D. Life in Greece

**16. According to the text, being rich cannot help**

- A. in your relationships.
- B. your education.
- C. your children.
- D. you buy a nice house.

**17. Before he won the lottery, Eleftherio**

- A. didn't think about money.
- B. spent his money on luxuries.
- C. lived a simple life.
- D. bought new dresses for his wife.

**18. After he gave the money away, he**

- A. divorced his wife.
- B. started working for a charity.
- C. became rich.
- D. discovered what was important to him.

**19. According to the text, when people with little money suddenly become rich, what can't they easily do?**

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**20. According to the text, name two things money cannot bring.**

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**21. What was the only non-essential thing Eleftherio bought regularly?**

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**22. What had his sons hoped to establish with their father's lottery winnings?**

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**Questions 23 - 26 (6 marks)**

- Find words **in the text** that mean the following. The form of the word is not important:

wealthy	(Example:) rich
to imagine or dream	<b>23.</b>
to spend money on foolish things	<b>24.</b>
a voluntary organisation that tries to improve the world in some way	<b>25.</b>
very angry	<b>26.</b>

## Listening Test One

**Questions 27-36; 1 mark each, 10 marks total**

- You will hear a talk about food and nutrition.
- Complete the table with the missing information.
- You will hear the talk **twice**.
- You have **one minute** to read the questions before the test starts.

Vitamin	Dissolves in	Present in	Importance
<b>A</b>	Fat	meats, dairy products, oils, vegetables	<b>(30)</b> .....
<b>B1 Thiamine</b>	(27).....	cereals, green vegetables, beans, meat, dairy products	<b>(31)</b> release of ..... from foods.
<b>B2 Riboflavin</b>			
<b>B3 Niacin</b>			
<b>B5</b>			
<b>B6</b>			
<b>B12</b>		meat, eggs, milk, fish	forming red blood cells
<b>C Ascorbic Acid</b>		<b>(29)</b> .....and vegetables	for healthy <b>(32)</b> ..... and <b>(33)</b> .....
<b>D</b>	(28).....	Meat, dairy products, vegetables, fish oils.	For strong <b>(34)</b> ..... and <b>(35)</b> .....
<b>E</b>			forming red blood cells
<b>K</b>			<b>(36)</b> ..... clotting

## Listening Test Two

### Questions 37-42; 1 mark each, 6 marks total

- Listen to the conversation carefully
- For questions **37 - 43** choose the best phrase, **A, B, C or D** .
- You will hear the conversation twice.
- You have one minute to look at the questions.

37. Where is Ahmed going to do his higher studies??

- A** Portsmouth
- B** Bristol
- C** Manchester
- D.** London

38. When was his interview?

- A** 2 days ago
- B** 2 weeks ago
- C** 2 months ago
- D.** 2 years ago

39. Why did she choose this course?

- A** better job prospects
- B** more travel opportunities
- C** higher salaries
- D.** job in his village

40. What will the University help pay for?

- A** living costs
- B** course fees
- C** exam fees
- D.** tuition fees

41. What sort of leisure activity does he like best?

- A** sports
- B** theatre
- C** cinema
- D.** reading

42. How long will the course be?

- A** 1 year
- B** 2 years
- C** 3 years
- D** **4 years**

## Listening Test Three

### Questions 43-12 (4 marks)

- You will hear two students talking about earthquakes.
- Listen to the conversation and answer the following questions.
- You will hear the conversation **twice**.
- You now have **one minute** to read the questions.

43. Where are the students having the conversation?

- A. In the library                      B. In a lecture room  
C. In a coffee shop                  D. In a teacher's office

44. What is the word that means "an instrument used to measure earthquake"?

- A. barometer                              B. Thermometre  
C. Seismograph                          D. Stethoscope

45. According to the students, the main cause of earthquake is \_\_\_\_\_

46. From the conversation, name two items that can be completely destroyed by the earthquake.

1. ....

2. ....

**Level X  
Answer Sheet**

Student Name: .....

Student Number: ..... College: .....

You have 35 Questions on your Question Paper. You must answer **all** questions.

**Time allowed:-** 1 hour and 45 minutes

**Marks:-** 25

<b>Reading Test 1: Q. 1 - 10</b> 1/2 mark each; Total marks – 5 ( Spelling must be correct)	<b>Language Use Test 1; Q. 11-20;</b> ½ mark each; Total Marks – 5
1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.
<b>Language Use Test 2; Q. 21-25;</b> 1 mark each; Total Marks – 5 No mark if spelling is incorrect	<b>Listening Test ; Q. 26 -35</b> 1/2 mark each; Total Marks = 5
21.	26.
22.	27.
23.	28.
24.	29.
25.	30.
	31.
	32.
	33.
	34.
	35.

	Reading	Language Use	Listening	Writing	<b>Total</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Marker					
2 <sup>nd</sup> Marker					