

دورة سنة 2009 العادية	الشهادة المتوسطة	وزارة التربية والتعليم العالي المديرية العامة للتربية دائرة الامتحانات
الاسم: الرقم:	مسابقة في مادة اللغة الانكليزية المدة: ساعتان	

### Part One : Reading Comprehension

(Score: 12/20)

Read the following text, in which the writer talks about the need of love to strengthen family relationships. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

1 Well-knit families are closely connected to their wider family circles. By one way or another, parents and grandparents benefit from close ties with their children and grandchildren even if they cannot exchange visits very often. They usually get deep satisfaction when they make sure that love and care flow from one generation to another.

2 Nowadays, an increasing number of grandparents care for their grandchildren and may even substitute parents. For example, when David Steel's father died, his grandfather played an active role in his upbringing. He cared for him while his mother, a single parent, worked hard to build a successful business.

3 On the other hand, children find special love in their relationships with their grandparents, and this helps them emotionally and mentally. Grandparents can become a major support when children face family problems. They can be both playmates and teachers for the younger generations as they teach values and pass on family traditions.

4 In fact, wise parents foster<sup>1</sup> loving relationships between grandparents and grandchildren. Exchanging letters and phone calls, sharing school work, and making personal contact – when possible – all of these build bonds of love and care between the two generations. Such bonds are very important because they strengthen the family unity. However, a loving relationship in a family requires much more than the feeling of love. It involves loving actions.

5 A story is told of an old widow named Helen Reeves, who adored her children and grandchildren, all living some distance from her. She always longed to receive letters from them and made daily walks down a long pathway to her mailbox, anxiously<sup>2</sup> anticipating a letter. But she was repeatedly disappointed. In contrast, Helen's neighbors showed more concern than her own children and grandchildren did.

6 Only occasionally did Helen receive a phone call from one of her children. But she was hard of hearing and often asked, "What? What did you say?" during the calls. She pleaded<sup>3</sup> with her children and grandchildren to write her letters. Yet, she didn't receive any.

7 Finally one day, when Helen checked her mailbox, there she found a letter. She got so excited that she rushed back home to get her glasses and read it. The moment she read the letter, she had a heart attack and died. It turned out that the letter was from Helen's daughter, who wanted to take her to a nursing home for old people.

<sup>1</sup> *foster*: help to grow

<sup>2</sup> *anxiously*: eagerly; impatiently

<sup>3</sup> *plead*: request something urgently

## Questions

**A.** Answer the following questions in complete sentences of your own.

1. How did David's grandfather help him? (Score: 01)
2. According to the writer, what strengthens family bonds? Mention at least two ways. (Score: 01)
3. What role do grandparents play in the moral upbringing of their grandchildren? (Score: 01)
4. What makes the ending of Helen's story tragic? (Score: 1.5)

**B.** Complete the following sentences with reference to the information stated in the text: (Score: 1.5)

1. The writer told Helen's story in order to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Children benefit emotionally and mentally from their relationship with their grandparents when they \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Helen preferred receiving letters to receiving phone calls due to \_\_\_\_\_.

**C.** Copy the following sentences into your booklet, and then point out whether each expresses a **fact** or an **opinion**. (Score: 02)

- Family bonds are important for children's emotional growth.
- There are many grandparents who care for their grandchildren.
- Living in a big family is better than living in a small one.
- Some children are raised by one parent.

**D.** Choose from the following titles a suitable one for the text. (Score: 0.5)

- Family Problems
- Generation Gap
- Family Ties
- Old Age

**E.** Fill each blank space below with an appropriate word from Paragraphs 4 or 5 of the text: (Score: 02)

1. When Helen received the letter, she was \_\_\_\_\_ some good news from her children.
2. Helen's children and grandchildren lived far away from her, and she \_\_\_\_\_ to see them more often.
3. When children have feelings of love but do not show loving actions, their parents get \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Strong \_\_\_\_\_ that tie family members help them face the challenges of life.

**F.** Rewrite each of the following sentences, starting it as indicated, without changing the meaning. (Score: 1.5)

1. Helen was disappointed because her children didn't send her letters.  
**If . . . .**
2. Children can build strong relationships with their parents when they spend more time together.  
**Strong relationships with parents . . . .**
3. Helen and her children did not benefit from a loving and caring family relationship.  
**Neither Helen . . . .**

### Part Two : Writing

(Score: 08/20)

*A well-knit family is not only blood bonds but also love and care among its members.*

In a well-organized composition of about 150-200 words, explain the above statement, and then develop your ideas by referring to the factors that help build a well-knit family. Show how loving and caring for each other build strong relations in a family. Support your ideas with examples from real life situations. Supply your developed composition with an outline and a suitable title.

[Score: 02 for **outline** and **title**, 03 for **ideas**, and 03 for **language**]

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Part of the Q	Answer Key	Mark
	<b>Competencies:</b> Utilize text-related clues to comprehend discourse Develop interpretive understanding of printed discourse Expand writing skills through guided and semi-guided activities	
<b>I.A.1</b>	He played an active role in David's upbringing. He cared for him while his mother, a single parent, worked hard to build a successful business.	1
<b>I.A.2</b>	Family bonds are strengthened when they are connected to wider family circles, when parents foster loving relationships between grandparents and grandchildren, when loving relationships in a family involve loving actions, and when exchanging letters and phone calls, sharing school work, and making personal contacts.	1
<b>I.A.3</b>	They teach values and pass on family traditions.	1
<b>I.A.4</b>	Anxiously waiting for a letter from her children, she only received one that caused her immediate death. Her daughter wanted to take her to a nursing home for old people.	1.5
<b>I.B.1</b>	The writer told Helen's story in order to <i>illustrate that loving relationships involve loving actions, not simply feelings of love.</i>	0.5
<b>I.B.2</b>	Children benefit emotionally and mentally from their relationship with their grandparents when they <i>get special love and care from their grandparents</i>	0.5
<b>I.B.3</b>	Helen preferred receiving letters to receiving phone calls due to <i>her hearing problem.</i>	0.5
<b>I.C.1</b>	<b>Fact:</b> Family bonds are important for children's emotional growth.	0.5
<b>I.C.2</b>	<b>Fact:</b> There are many grandparents who care for their grandchildren.	0.5
<b>I.C.3</b>	<b>Opinion:</b> Living in a big family is better than living in a small one.	0.5
<b>I.C.4</b>	<b>Fact:</b> Some children are raised by one parent.	0.5
<b>I.D</b>	Family Ties	0.5
<b>I.E.1</b>	<b>anticipating</b> (Paragraph 5)	0.5
<b>I.E.2</b>	<b>longed</b> (Paragraph 5)	0.5
<b>I.E.3</b>	<b>disappointed</b> (Paragraph 5)	0.5
<b>I.E.4</b>	<b>bonds / relationships</b> (Paragraph 4)	0.5
<b>I.F.1</b>	If Helen's children had sent her letters, she wouldn't have been disappointed.	0.5
<b>I.F.2</b>	Strong relationships with parents can be built by children when they spend more time together.	0.5
<b>I.F.3</b>	Neither Helen nor her children benefited from a loving and caring family relationship.	0.5
<b>II.A</b>	Outline and Title	2
<b>II.B</b>	Ideas	3
<b>II.C</b>	Language	3