امتحانات الشهادة المتوسطة

الاسم:	مسابقة في مادة اللغة الانكليزية	
الاستم.	المدة: ساعتان	
الرقم:		

Part One: Reading

(Score: 12/20)

Read the following text about a son who went gone through a personal experience during which he learned the value of human relations. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

A SHOULDER TO CRY ON

1 When I was a kid, my mother asked me once, "What is the most important part of the body?" Through the years, I would take a guess at what I thought the correct answer was. When I was six, I thought sounds were very important, so I said, "Our ears, Mommy." She replied, "Not exactly, darling. Many people are deaf. Keep on thinking about <u>it</u>."

2 Several years had passed before she asked me the same question again. Since I made my first attempt till then, I had been thinking about it. I thought I got the correct answer, so I told her, "Mommy, sight is vital to everybody. It must be our eyes."

3 She looked at me lovingly and said, "You are trying hard, but still this is not exactly the answer because there are many people who are blind."

4 Disappointed again, I continued my quest for knowledge throughout the years. My mother kept on repeating the same question, and her reply to all my answers was "No. But you are getting smarter every time, my child."

5 This went on until last year when my grandfather died. Everybody was crying in complete sadness, even my father. I still remember this incident because it was the first time I saw him crying while laying his head on mom's shoulder.

6 A short time after my grandfather's funeral, Mom stared at me and asked, "Do you now know what body part is the most important, my son?"

7 I was shocked. I thought this was a game between her and me. Realizing how uncomfortable I was, she tried to ease my confusion. "This question is worth considering, especially today," she said. "All the answers you had given me before were inaccurate. Today, you will know the answer to my question."

8 She looked at me with all her motherly tenderness. I saw her eyes filled with tears. She said, "My dear, the most important body part is your shoulder."

9 I asked, "Is it because it holds my head?"

10 She replied, "No. <u>It</u> holds the head of a friend or a beloved one when in distress. We all need a shoulder to cry on sometime in our life, my dear. I only hope you will always have a shoulder to cry on when you need it."

QUESTIONS

- A. What does each of the underlined pronouns in the text refer to? (Score: 01)
 - 1. it (Paragraph 1)2. It (Paragraph 10)

B. Answer these questions in complete sentences of your own.

- 1. Why does the mother consider the shoulder the most important body part? (Score: 0.5)
- 2. Why was the son shocked by his mother's question? (Score: 0.5)
- 3. What made the mother ask the same question on the day of the grandfather's funeral? (Score: 01)
- 4. What two adjectives best describe the mother's relation with her son. Give one example on each. (Score: 01.5)
- 5. What is meant by "This went on" in Paragraph 5? (Score: 01)
- **C.** The mother could have given the answer to her question from the beginning, but she did not. In not more than two sentences, explain why. (Score: 01.5)
- **D.** Complete each of the following sentences with the information provided in the text. (Score: 01.5)
 - 1. Although the son could find answers to his mother's question, he was disappointed because all his...
 - 2. The mother tried to ease her son's confusion when she...
 - 3. The mother's question taught the son that...
- E. Pick out <u>one</u> word from the text to fill in each blank space in the following sentences. (Score: 02)
 - 1. After my third ______ to find a suitable solution to my family problem, I finally succeeded. (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3)
 - 2. Thousands of mourners were in grief when they attended the mayor's ______. (Paragraphs 4, 5, 6)
 - 3. Nothing has been settled yet; there is still _____ over who is responsible for the accident. (Paragraphs 6, 7, 8)
 - 4. My father is known to be very kind; you can't believe what an expression of ______ he has over his face.

(Paragraphs 8, 9, 10)

F. Restate the following sentences, starting with the words given. (Score: 01.5)

- 1. My mother said, "Do you know the answer to my question?" My mother asked me
- 2. The boy remembered that scene because it was the first time he saw his father crying. Hadn't it been the first time the boy saw his father crying, he
- 3. The father not only cried, but he also laid his head on his wife's shoulder. Not only

Part Two: Writing

"I only hope you will always have a shoulder to cry on when you need it."

In the light of the above quotation, refer to a problem about human relations that you have faced or heard about. Explain in detail what the problem was, how it affected the people involved, and how it was solved.

Develop your ideas in a well-organized composition within the range of 150-200 words. Supply your composition with an outline and an appropriate title. (Score: 02 for **outline and title**, 03 for **ideas**, and 03 for **language**)

(Score: 08/20)

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE SESSION AUGUST 2007

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ANSWER KEY

- **A.** 1. the correct answer / the question
 - 2. shoulder
- **B.** 1. The mother considers the shoulder the most important body part because it holds the head of a friend or a beloved one when in distress.
 - 2. He was shocked by his mother's question because his mother asked him that question on the day of his grandfather's funeral.
 - 3. What made her do so was that she thought it was the right time for him to know the answer.
 - 4. The possible adjectives that best describe the mother's relation with her son are: loving, tender (She looked at me with all her motherly tenderness) (darling) encouraging (Keep on thinking about it.) (You are trying hard.) (You are getting smarter.)

caring (She tried to ease my confusion.) (I only hope you will have a shoulder to cry on when you need it.)

instructive (Today, you will know the answer to my question.) (It holds the head of a friend or a beloved one when in distress.)

- 5. "This went on" means asking the same question without finding the appropriate answer.
- **C.** The mother didn't give the answer from the beginning because she wanted her son to find out the answer by himself. By making effort to find the answer, he would learn better.
- **D.** 1. because all his answers didn't satisfy his mother / because all his answer were inaccurate
 - 2. realized how uncomfortable her son was
 - 3. everyone in distress needs a shoulder to cry on / the shoulder is the most important body part
- E. 1. attempt
 - 2. funeral
 - 3. confusion
 - 4. tenderness
- **F.** 1. if / whether I knew the answer to her question
 - 2. wouldn't have remembered that scene
 - 3. did the father cry, but he also laid his head on his wife's shoulder