

الاسم:  
الرقم:مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية وأدائها  
المدّة: ساعتان ونصف**Part One : Reading****(Score: 11/20)**

*In the following selection, the writer deals with the International Labor Organization (ILO) report on child labor and the criticism it was exposed to. Read it carefully, and then answer the questions set on it.*

**The End of Child Labor ?**

1 In the 1860s, as Charles Dickens was dreaming up the last of his novels describing life in industrial Britain, a census of England and Wales revealed that an eye-popping 36.9 percent of boys from 10 to 14 years old worked in textile mills or other forms of manual labor.

2 In May 2006, the International Labor Organization (ILO) sought to update that statistic, not specifically for Britain but for all of humanity – especially the countries now undergoing their own industrial revolutions. The labor group calculated that there were 218 million child laborers in the world today, or about 13.9 percent of children 5 to 17 years old.

3 The apparently happy news from the report, “The End of Child Labor: Within Reach,” was that child labor had declined by 11 percent worldwide from four years ago, when the group published its first global estimates. “We are beginning to see an encouraging reduction in child labor,” said Juan Somavia, the head of the organization. A “breakthrough could be in the making.”

4 But the final print of the labor group’s report raises many questions as to how meaningful and reliable these statistics are. To calculate the decrease in child labor, **it** relied on surveys conducted in just 17 countries. Some large ones were included, like India and Brazil. But absent were developing countries like China and Indonesia, which together have around 1.5 billion people and are filled with industries traditionally associated with child labor.

5 In the age of the Internet and daily opinion surveys on everything from politics to sports, we have come to expect statistics on most human endeavors. So, estimating the number of laborers among the world’s 1.57 billion children does not seem that far-fetched.

6 Yet, some parts of the globe clearly escape the statistician’s eye. For example, few international organizations are allowed or willing to operate in Myanmar, formerly Burma, which has a population of nearly 50 million. “The ILO is currently not in a position to seriously look into the child labor situation in Burma,” said Tim de Meyer, a specialist in labor standards at the labor organization, which is part of the United Nations.

7 It seems possible that child labor trends in the countries not covered by the group’s assessment could offset the reported 11 percent decrease of child labor globally.

8 The report’s authors defend their work as the best estimate available. “Obviously we would have preferred to have a larger database,” Frank Hagemann, the group’s leading statistician on child labor, said by telephone from Geneva. But he objected to the idea that the report was more a guess than an estimate. “**This** is certainly not a guesstimate,” Hagemann said. “In the world of statistics, this is what would be called a rather reliable estimate.” The report’s margin of error was between 5 percent and 10 percent, he said.

9 To come up with its global estimate of child laborers, ILO statisticians compared surveys in the 17 countries conducted earlier this decade with surveys carried out in the 1990s. They then projected that trend to the global population of children and checked against such things as primary and secondary school records.

10 In the larger picture of trying to eradicate child labor, arguing over numbers may be beside the point. Rather than refining the gathering of statistics, it may be more useful for groups like the ILO to devote more resources to fixing the problem.

11 But here, too, there is a sticky question: What should be defined as child labor? A striking finding in the ILO’s report is that around 70 percent of “child labor” occurs in agriculture, and most of that on family farms. Should a 14-year-old who helps his parents on a family farm be considered a child laborer?

Yes, according to the ILO. “In the good old days when farming was essential for family existence, it was not that clear,” said Panudda Boonpala, a child labor specialist at the group’s office in Bangkok.

**12** But today, she said, children on farms are exposed to pesticides and other dangerous chemicals. Farmers often work for large corporations, so children are more employees in a family business than being their parents’ helpers.

### Questions

- A.** Answer each of the following questions in 1-4 sentences, using your own words.
1. How would the exclusion of countries like China and Indonesia discredit the 2006 report? **(Score: 01)**
  2. What steps did the ILO statisticians follow to achieve the world estimate of child labor? **(Score: 01)**
  3. According to the writer, what is more important than mere refined statistics with respect to child labor? **(Score: 01)**
  4. Why, according to Panudda Boonpala, should a 14-year-old boy who helps his parents on a family farm be considered a child laborer? **(Score: 01)**
  5. What two different adjectives best describe the tone of the writer in Paragraph 8? Justify your answer. **(Score: 01.5)**
- B.**
1. What type of introduction does the writer use? What purpose(s) does it serve? Support your answer with reference to the selection. **(Score: 01.5)**
  2. Identify the pattern of organization used in Paragraph 12? Justify your answer. **(Score : 01)**
- C.** Refer to Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 to complete the following table with the required information, using phrases. Copy the table in your answer booklet. **(Score: 01)**

Year	Result of Statistics
<b>1860</b>	
<b>2002</b>	
<b>2006</b>	

- D.** What do the bold-faced pronouns refer to? **(Score: 02)**
- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. We (Paragraph 3)   | 2. it (Paragraph 4)  |
| 3. This (Paragraph 8) | 4. it (Paragraph 11) |

### Part Two : Writing **(Score:09/20)**

Child labor is a social injustice with damaging **personal, psychological, and social effects**. Discuss any two of these effects, and then provide **practical suggestions** to minimize them. Give evidence to support your point(s) of view. In an essay of 250-300 words, discuss the above topic. Make sure that, in your introduction, you put your reader in the general atmosphere of your topic and clearly provide a thesis statement, and that each of your body paragraphs starts with a topic sentence which you back up with relevant supporting details. Draft, revise, and proofread your essay. Your writing will be assessed for **ideas, language, style, and tidiness**.

**(Score: 05** for ideas and organization, **03** for language and style, and **01** for tidiness and legible handwriting)

## SECONDARY CYCLE CERTIFICATE

Exam Session of November 2006

Sociology and Economics Section

English as a 1<sup>st</sup> Foreign Language

### ANSWER KEY

#### Competencies :

- Utilize reading strategies.
- Develop literal and interpretive comprehension of printed discourse.
- Produce transactional writing.

A. 1. The writer sees that excluding China and Indonesia has weakened the report issued by ILO team. The reasons he gives are that both countries have around 1.5 billion people and that both have industries that usually attract child labor.

2. The statisticians of ILO compared the results of the statistics conducted in the 17 countries in 1990s and the one conducted in the early years of the third millennium. The second step was extending the results to the global population of children. The third step was checking school records, primary and secondary.

3. The writer believes that mobilizing resources to practically solve the problem of child labor is more important than mere gathering of information for statistical purposes.

4. Panudda Boonpala believes that any fourteen-year-old child subjected to critical conditions at work, such as pesticides and dangerous chemicals, is considered an employee/child laborer and not just a helper.

5. The two adjectives are:

Defensive and Certain: The authors try to defend their work saying that it is the best estimate. Moreover, they see that their work is not a mere “guesstimate.”

Objective: - They admit that their work is not perfect because it is not based on larger database.

-They say that the margin of error is between 5% to 10%

B. 1. Type: historical/statistical

Purposes:

- grabs reader's attention.
- provides background information to put the reader in the general context of the selection.
- prepares for the comparison done in Paragraph 2.
- achieves credibility.

2. The pattern of organization used in Paragraph 12 is comparison/contrast. The writer compares the definitions of child laborer now and then.

C.

Year	Result of Statistics
1860	36.9%
2002	24.9%
2006	13.9%

#### Pronoun

- D. 1. We (Paragraph 3)  
2. it (Paragraph 4)  
3. This (Paragraph 8)  
4. it (Paragraph 11)

#### Referent

- Juan Somavia and ILO team members  
labor group's report  
figures of the report  
idea-definition of child labor