

Grade 8 Revision Booklet

Second Term Final Exam

The English Department

2023-2024

## Part 1-Reading comprehension

**A-Read the following passage and answer the questions below :**

### Galileo's Discoveries About the Universe

For thousands of years people thought that the universe was a hollow ball—like the inside of a basketball. Earth was in the middle. The sun, the moon, and the planets went around it in a circle. The stars did not move. They were fixed in place on the inner wall of the “ball.” About 1520, Nicolaus Copernicus found out that this theory was wrong. He watched the sky. He saw the way that the moon and planets moved. They did not seem to go around Earth. He started to think that Earth and other planets went around the sun. But he had no way to prove it. The Roman Catholic Church controlled all learning in Europe. It did not like Copernicus's ideas. The Church stated that Earth was the centre of the universe. Anyone who said otherwise was a heretic. And the Church could kill a heretic. Galileo Galilei was a scientist. He wanted to know how things worked. He did experiments with gravity. He knew about Copernicus's idea. He agreed with him. But he could not prove it. Then in 1609 he met a man. The man showed him a new Dutch invention. It was a crude telescope. Galileo got excited. He could improve upon it! He made one with curved glass lenses. This made things appear 32 times larger. Galileo used his telescope to watch the night sky. He kept records of the motion of the moon and planets. By 1613, he knew how things really worked. Earth and other planets moved around the sun. He wrote about his findings. The Church attacked him. He waited for things to settle down. Twenty years later he repeated his findings in another book. This time the Church arrested him. It found him guilty of being a heretic. He would burn at the stake! Galileo did not want to die. So he said that he had written lies. The Church put him under house arrest for the rest of his life. He could not go places or talk about his ideas. But Galileo had changed the world. He showed other scientists that it was important to make careful observations and keep records. He created a useful telescope. And he showed people that they could question the Church.

**Activity: Answer the questions using the text.**

#### 1. Galileo's ideas were attacked by

- a. other scientists.      b. Nicolaus Copernicus.      c. Leaders of the Roman Catholic Church.

**2. In what year did Galileo know for sure how our solar system is set up?**

- a. 1520                      b. 1609                      c. 1613

**3. The telescope was a \_\_\_\_\_ invention.**

- a. Dutch                      b. Deutsch                      c. Dansk

**4. What did the church do the second time Galileo published his findings?**

- a. Awarded him              b. Arrested him              c. Killed him

**5. What was special about the telescope?**

- a. The invention was perfect.                      b. The glass was curved.  
c. The invention didn't have glass.

## TEXT : 2

## Animated Cartoons

Cartoons have been around longer than you might think. In 1640, Athanasius Kircher was the first man who attempted to put drawings into motion. He drew images on layers of glass slides and had them move within a lantern, giving the appearance of movement. In the early 1800s, it was determined that movement can also be accomplished by placing fixed images on paper. This was called "the persistence of vision." To illustrate this, John Paris invented the Thaumatrope. It was a two-sided plate with a different image on each side. Paris took an image of a bird on one side and an empty cage on the other. He used two strings and wound it so that when pulled tight, it spun and the two images "moved," creating the illusion of the bird in the cage. Mathematician William Horner invented the Zoetrope in 1867. It was a roll of paper with drawings on it, placed inside a turning drum with slots. As it turned and one looked through the slots, the images appeared to move. It was actually first called The Wheel of the Devil but was later renamed the Zoetrope. Later, in the 1800s, Thomas Edison invented the Kinetoscope, the first cinema machine. One looked into a slot where a reel of photos or pictures passed, and the images moved seamlessly. Based on Edison's invention, images were eventually placed on film that moved at a high rate of speed. The cartoons were all hand drawn and carefully filmed to show natural movement. Today, cartoons are made via computer technology, and the old-fashioned method of hand drawing every image is uncommon. Cartoons have expanded from being intended primarily for children to providing entertainment for all ages. After over three hundred years, they still have not lost their appeal.

**Activity: Answer the questions using the text.**

**1. Which device was invented first?**

- a. Zoetrope      b. Kinetoscope      c. Thaumatrope      d. cinema machine

**2. What is the best way to describe animation?**

- a. Still images appear to move.      b. It brings objects to life.  
c. It is used to make movies more exciting.  
d. It can only be accomplished with computers.

**3. What does the word persistence mean as it is used in the second paragraph?**

- a. refusing to give up      b. remaining      c. continuing an effect      d. repeating a question

**4. Which statement best describes the first animated cinema movies?**

- a. He drew images on layers of glass slides and had them move within a lantern, giving the appearance of movement.  
b. The cartoons were all hand drawn and carefully filmed to show natural movement.  
c. Today, cartoons are made via computer technology, and the old-fashioned method of hand drawing every image is uncommon.  
d. By spinning the two images, Paris created the illusion of movement.

**TEXT 3 :**

**The Philippines**

The nation of the Philippines is an archipelago. That means the nation is a group of islands. More than 7,000 islands make up the nation, but only about 2,000 are occupied. The capitol of the nation is Manila, on the island of Luzon. Manila has over 1.6 million people in the city—the most people per square mile than any other major city in the world. Almost 100 million people live in the Philippines. During the 16th century, the Spanish landed and made Manila the capital of the Spanish West Indies. Since then, the Filipino people have fought for independence from various nations including Spain, Japan, and the United States. Today, the Filipinos have their own democracy under President Benigno Aquino III. The Philippines is on the Pacific Ring of Fire and has many natural disasters. Every year, the nation has an average of between six and nine typhoons that hit land. The last major typhoon was Typhoon Yolanda, which was the strongest typhoon ever recorded on land. Many were killed or injured, and hundreds of thousands more people were displaced after high winds and floodwaters destroyed their homes. An average of twenty earthquakes also occur daily, although most are not felt. Because of their varied past, the Philippines is a mix of East, West, Spanish, and Asian cultures. The two official languages of the Philippines are Filipino and English. Their colourful culture makes the Philippines a popular tourist destination.

**Activity: Answer the questions using the text.**

**1. According to the text, what type of land form is an archipelago?**

- a. mountain range      b. a chain of islands      c. a series of canyons      d. a large glacier

**2. Which natural disaster does the Philippines not experience?**

- a. typhoons      b. earthquakes      c. floods      d. tornadoes

**3. According to the text, what is one reason the Philippines is a popular tourist destination?**

- a. There are millions of people in the Philippines.  
b. Many countries have influenced the culture of the Philippines.  
c. Some of the islands are uninhabited.  
d. It is exciting to witness a typhoon.

**4. What is the best way to define a typhoon?**

- a. a violent tropical cyclone      b. a snow storm      c. a large wall of water  
d. a meteorite



## TEXT :4 Teenagers and modern technology

Our youth cannot imagine their life without gadgets. Modern technology has made our lives easier and is considered essential to keep up with the fast pace of the modern age.

Nowadays cell phones especially smartphones have played an important role by becoming an essential part in the lives of many people. Music, games, networking, emails and calling is just a click away. The present generation is smarter than their parents as they prefer social networking rather than social circles. Most of the youngsters choose mobile phones as the mode of communication, sending text messages owing to the cheap or free packages by telecom companies. But, is everyday usage of gadgets so good and safe?

Computers and videogames being extremely popular with the youth have often had a constructive impact on the young minds. Conversely, some children and teens may develop a tendency to get confused

between virtual and the real world or isolate themselves from society. They have a lot of problems including health, social and family issues.

The present generation of teens is leading, more or less, a robotic life.

Gadget addiction may lead to:	Symptoms of Gadget Addiction:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Obesity</li> <li>-Depression and anxiety</li> <li>-Aggressive behaviour</li> <li>-Insomnia</li> <li>-Bad posture and eyes problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lack of concentration or focus</li> <li>-Stress and socialization problems</li> <li>-Eye problems and headache</li> <li>-Physical and psychological health issues</li> <li>-Learning problems</li> </ul>

**Choose the right answer:**

1. Modern youth cannot imagine their life without.....
  - a) movies
  - b) books
  - c)gadgets
2. Modern technology has made our life.....
  - a) harder
  - b) easier
  - c) more boring
3. The present generation is smarter than their .....
  - a) friends
  - b) parents
  - c) siblings
4. The present generation of teens is leading, more or less, a ..... life.
  - a) Busy
  - b) robotic
  - c) happy
5. The main symptom of gadget addiction:
  - a) High spirits
  - b) Cheerful mood
  - c) Headache

Text 5 :

**Emirati Theatre**

Emirati drama and theatrical performances really began in the 1950s and Arab immigrants from the surrounding area played an important role in their development. The present ruler of Sharjah, HH Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, was one of the first Emirati playwrights. There are two main categories of Emirati drama. The first of these is popular drama, which is written in the Emirati dialect and is therefore difficult for non-Emiratis to understand. Most texts in this category are written as scripts and performed on stage to local audiences. The second category of drama could be described as 'intellectual drama': it explores a particular set of ideas or themes. HH Sheikh Sultan Al Qasimi, mentioned above, writes mainly historical plays and fiction. Most, if not all, of his writings have been translated into English and a few other languages. Many of his plays have been performed on stage during the Sharjah Theatre Festival that takes place annually. Monodrama is an interesting type of drama because it involves only one actor. This actor gives a dramatic monologue - a type of story about themselves. So, in other words, it's like a solo show. Of course, this type of drama is really part of the history of story-telling that we have in the Arab world.

1. When did the Emirati drama begin?

- A) In 1950s.      B) In 2020s.      C) In 1990s.

2. Who was one of the first Emirati playwrights?

- A) Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid.  
B) Sheikh Zayed.  
C) Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi.

3 What are the two main categories Emirati drama?

- A) Social and Political.      B) Popular and intellectual.  
C) Social and popular.

4. When does Sharjah Theatre Festival take place?

- A) Every month.                      B) Every year  
C) Every weekend.

5. Why is Monodrama an interesting type of drama?

- A) Because it involves only one actor.                      B) Because it is long.  
C) Because it is away from our real life.

**Part 2 : Grammar : Present Perfect**

**Form**

The present perfect simple is formed using *have / has + past participle*.

*I/You/We/They + have + past participle*

*He/she/It + has + past participle*

Positive	Negative	Question
I <b>have played</b> tennis. She <b>has played</b> tennis.	They <b>have not played</b> tennis. He <b>has not played</b> tennis.	<b>Have</b> you <b>played</b> tennis? <b>Where have</b> you <b>played</b> tennis? <b>Has</b> she <b>played</b> tennis?

**Activity: Fill in the blanks using the present perfect simple verbs.**

- I \_\_\_\_\_ (study) French. *have studied*
- She \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) octopus.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ (be) to Scotland.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ (read) that book.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (live) here for three years.
- You ----- (know )David for ten years.

## Reported Speech

My sister told me <u>that</u> the film would be released next week.	
Meaning	The speaker's sister had told him/her in a previous conversation when the film is available.
Grammatical structure	
Usage	We use reported statements to repeat what someone had previously said. Reported statements use 'that' and a tense that is 'back shifted' (one step further into the past than the original speech). In the example above, the direct speech would be, "The film will be released next week." When we report it, we backshift 'will' to 'would'.
Other examples	Maryam reported <u>that</u> the company <u>would</u> be giving pay rises. My mother said <u>that</u> she <u>could</u> take us to the show. The manager said <u>that</u> the Dubai Opera House <u>would</u> be closed for a week.

Rewrite these sentences using reported speech:

1. "I don't like things that crawl on my head" My best friend said.

*She said that she doesn't like things that crawl on her head.*

2. "We look at that picture" My brothers said.

3. "I know some interesting facts about dogs" The scientist said

4. "She feels tired" My dad said.

5. "They have a difficult life". My mom said.

6. "He doesn't want to play with his friend." My cousin said.

7. "I am going to sleep" my brother said.

8. "We can play at home" Ali said

### MAZE Assessment Practice

**Part A:** On the weekend we are ( *going / go / going to* ) visit the National Aquarium in Abu Dhabi. We bought our tickets online because it will be ( *cheap / cheaper / cheapest* ) than buying them at the aquarium. I ( *have not / has not / had not* ) been to an aquarium before. My friend ( *said / said that / says* ) she never saw so many animals before!.

**Part B:** Some animals are ( *dangerous / dangerouser / more dangerous* ) than others. That is why you should always be careful when you see an animal you ( *haven't / hasn't / hadn't* ) seen before. There are animals like the black footed cat which are ( *deady / deadly / deadlier* ) than lions! Other animals like the domestic cat,

**Part C:** ( Have / Has / Had ) you ever been on a hike? We all went on a hike ( in / on / at ) Mount Tambourine. The place was one of the ( beautiful / most beautiful / beuatifulest ) places I've ever seen! It's home to many animals. You will ( often / never / always ) see animals there if you're lucky. Before we went on the hike the guide gave us some ( well / good / better ) advice to stay safe. (Luck / Lucky / Luckily ) ,we had such a good guide so we didn't face any danger.

Put the words in the correct order and write sentences.

1-person / A playwright. / who / plays / is / writes

-----

2-is / dialect/ very/His / difficult.

-----

3-acting / I / like/ plays. / watching / more than

-----

4-every day / online / go / you / Do / ?

-----

5- have / Do / account / you / an / email / ?

.....

6- have / you / smartphone / Do / a / ?

.....

7- Internet / the / use / you / study / for / Do / ?

.....

8-friends who / you / only meet / online / have / Do / you / ?

.....

### Part 3 : Writing

**Part 1: Planning** :Write a plan for your essay below. Please note – this question asks for a plan, NOT a full essay. You will write the full essay in the next question.

Write an essay about the advantages and the disadvantages of Technology .

Include information about:

1-How much time do you use technological devices?

2- What are the positive effects of technology?

3- What are the negative effects of the use of technology?

4-How do you imagine the development of technology will be in the coming years?

---





بناء حياة سعيدة .. لطالب مدرك لمهاراته  
مستكشف لقدراته .. طموحاً بمستقبله



A series of horizontal dashed lines for writing.



