



Al Sharq Bright International School

Model Paper for Mid Term Exam 2017-2018

Name: _____ Subject: English Class: 8 ___ Date: _____

Exercise 1

Read the following passage, and then answer the questions on the opposite page:

There was once a king of Scotland whose name was Robert Bruce. He needed to be both brave and wise because the times in which he lived were wild and rude. The King of England was at war with him and had led a great army into Scotland to drive him out of the land. Battle after battle had been fought. Six times Bruce had led his brave little army against his foes and six times his men had been beaten and driven into flight. At last his army was scattered, and he was forced to hide himself in the woods and in lonely places among the mountains. One rainy day, Bruce lay on the ground under a rude shed listening to the patter of the drops on the roof above him. He was tired and sick at heart and ready to give up all hope. It seemed to him that there was no use for him to try to do anything more. As he lay thinking, he saw a spider over his head making ready to weave her web. He watched her as she toiled slowly and with great care. Six times she tried to throw her frail thread from one beam to another, and six times it fell short. "Poor thing," said Bruce: "you, too, know what it is to fail." But the spider did not lose hope with the sixth failure. With still more care, she made ready to try for the seventh time. Bruce almost forgot his own troubles as he watched her swing herself out upon the slender line. Would she fail again? No! The thread was carried safely to the beam and fastened there.

"I, too, will try a seventh time!" cried Bruce. He arose and called his men together. He told them of his plans and sent them out with messages of cheer to his disheartened people. Soon there was an army of brave Scotchmen around him. Another battle was fought, and the King of England was glad to go back into his own country. I have heard it said that, after that day, no one by the name of Bruce would ever hurt a spider. The lesson which the little creature had taught the king was never forgotten.

1. What did the spider teach Robert Bruce?
2. How did Robert Bruce show he was both brave and wise?
3. What does the word rude mean in the sentence "Bruce lay on the ground under a rude shed?"
4. How does the King of England show he is different from Robert Bruce?

Exercise 2

Read the following passage, and then answer the questions on the opposite page:

It's Saturday morning. You wake up, grab a bowl of cereal, and relax in front of the TV watching cartoons. Have you ever wondered how those animated cartoons you enjoy are made? The process begins with an idea. Artists make sketches and put them up on a storyboard, to get an outline of the story. Then writers create the script, and actors record the voices. The sound needs to be recorded before the real animations, so that the artists can draw the cartoons to match up with the actors' voices. A sound engineer or a computer program analyzes all the sounds the voices make, what mouth positions match each sound, and tells the artists how many different drawings to make. The artists need to draw many pictures to show how the characters' mouths move while they're talking, and how their bodies move. There are usually about 12 to 24 drawings for every second of a cartoon! That means, for a 20 minutes cartoon, artists have to make around 26,000 drawings - wow! When characters are moving or speaking quickly, the artist will need more drawings. If the characters are moving slowly, they won't need as many drawings. Sometimes artists draw the background just once, then use transparent sheets to draw the characters. This saves the artists some time. Once they have all of the drawings to match the sound, they use computers to string all of the images together. When the computer scrolls through all of the images quickly, it looks like the characters are moving. The sound is recorded and played with the string of images. The production team looks very carefully at the cartoon to make sure all the sounds match up the right way, so the artists sometimes may need to add extra pictures or change some pictures to make sure it flows together smoothly. Some animations are not drawn on paper, but are made using clay. When artists want to use clay for animations, they use a technique called stop motion. These artists still make a storyboard and the soundtrack, but instead of drawing all of the individual pictures, they make clay characters. They place the clay characters in front of a camera, snap a picture, and then move the character a little bit. They snap another picture, maneuver the character again, and so on, and so forth. When the pictures are uploaded onto a computer, the computer can string them together and scroll through them quickly, which makes it look like the clay characters are moving on their own. The artists move the characters only a little bit, so when the pictures are played together quickly, the movements look smooth. They might only move a character's arm a fraction of an inch in each picture, so that it takes many pictures just for a character to raise its hand. These are just two of the techniques used to create animated shows and movies. They are extremely time consuming and take a lot of dedication and inspiration. If you'd like, you can find apps that let you make your own computer animations or stop motion animations!

1. What are two of the ways to make animations? Which way sounds more difficult to you? Why?
2. Name two similarities between cartoon animation and stop motion animation?
3. What does "maneuver" mean in the 5th paragraph? How do you know?

4. Look at the 3rd paragraph. Why would artists use transparent sheets to draw the characters?
5. Do you know of another technique used to create animations? How could you find out more information about animation?

Exercise 3

Write a letter to the municipality complaining about the miserable condition of road in your city?

- Explain how worse the condition is.
- Mention some suggestions to improve the roads.

Exercise 4

Write an essay about the advantages and disadvantages of modern technology.

- ❖ Not less than 75 words.
- ❖ Should include an introduction, the body and a conclusion.

Exercise 5

Grammar & Text

A. Add question tags to the following:

1. The most dangerous invertebrate lives in the see. _____
2. Nobody has ever seen a living giant squid. _____

B. Make sentences using the most appropriate verb and adverb from the box. Each sentence should contain one adverb and one verb:

Verbs	adverbs
travel, live	frequently, close

C. Underline abstract nouns in the following:

1. We struck water at the depth of twenty feet.
2. I am not looking for any money from you; I want only your goodwill.

D. Answer the following questions:

1. How does a black widow spider's poison compare to a rattlesnake?
2. What is the job of Queen Ant?
3. What does Captain Nemo tell everyone?

E. Write meaning of the following:

1. trampled -
2. modification -

Note: This is just a model, not the exam paper.