



**SULTANATE of OMAN**

**MINISTRY of EDUCATION**

**Directorate-General of Educational Evaluation**

# **SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

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**GRADE TWELVE  
'ELECTIVE'**

NOVEMBER/2009

## **PURPOSES of SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

- To ensure that students understand the instructions for each type of test format.
- To help students to develop effective test taking strategies.
- To familiarize students with the types of texts and questions used in formal exams.

## **CONTENT of SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

- The questions have been selected from previous grade 12 exam papers. However, in some cases, amendments have been made to match with the current (2009/2010) exam specifications.
- These questions have been arranged accessibly according to the elements of Reading and Writing. Each element is then organized according to formats, followed by different examples.
- There are two formats for Reading questions: Matching Texts with Texts, and Multiple Choice with informative or narrative texts.
- The formats for Writing questions are: Information Points, Assessment Report, News Report, Situational writing, Title/ Topic/question and Picture Story.

## **USE OF SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

- Teachers can start by taking a particular format for a particular element and discussing (a) the instructions and (b) strategies which could help students in responding. Other examples could then be used as homework in order to provide further practice.
- Alternatively, students can do the examples individually or possibly in pairs and then discuss them with the teacher.

(Note: These sample questions are useful in achieving the three purposes mentioned above. However, teachers are advised not to *overdo* this type of exam preparation practice. The main focus should be on helping students to develop their English language skills. )

**READING**

**FORMAT 1  
MATCHING (TEXT w/ TEXT)**

**RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT**

**EXAMPLE 1**

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box.

Write A, B, C, etc, as in the example. (There are three extra texts in the box.)

*Ex. It's a really beautiful place.*        F   

1. If you want to see the festival, I suggest you go by train.               

2. When I arrived home, the door was locked and I couldn't get in.               

3. It was really annoying! I paid a lot of money to buy a ticket for the play.               

4. Since I started looking for a job, I've been getting lots of offers.               

5. All sports activities for this week have been cancelled because of heavy rain.               

6. Now, this is your room. The nights are quite cold at this time of year.               

A Some of them are very interesting, but I'm having difficulty deciding which to accept!

B However, we are hoping to start again next week, if the weather improves.

C There is a bus that goes there, but the roads will be very crowded at this time of year.

D But I knew that my wife would be back in a few minutes, so I just waited in my car.

E My car broke down on the way to the office, so I was late for the meeting.

~~F Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~

G So I'll switch off the AC, and I'll put an extra blanket on the bed for you.

H It was a very exciting match. Both teams played very well and there were lots of goals.

I But my seat was so far away from the stage that I could hardly see anything!

J The hotel, which was opened in 2005, is located on the west coast of the island.

**RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT**

**EXAMPLE 2**

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box.

Write A, B, C, etc, as in the example. (There are three extra texts in the box.)

*Ex. It's a really beautiful place.*        F   

1. I've been reading your report, and I really like the suggestions you've made.     \_\_\_\_\_
2. Two weeks ago, I had a patient who complained of feeling tired and weak.     \_\_\_\_\_
3. At the age of sixty, he suddenly decided to sell his company and stop working.     \_\_\_\_\_
4. We arranged to hold the meeting on the top floor of the hotel.     \_\_\_\_\_
5. If you want to get more information about the project, ask Saif.     \_\_\_\_\_
6. My boss has just given me responsibility for designing the new office building.     \_\_\_\_\_

- A It's a great opportunity and it'll mean an increase in salary — but I'll have to work very long hours.
- B However, the room was so hot that we all found it difficult to concentrate on the discussion.
- C She also had difficulty in breathing, especially when she climbed the stairs.
- D His parents advised him to get a job in a hotel or with a travel agency.
- E Now, he spends most of his time travelling around the world with his wife.
- F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~
- G I'm especially interested in your idea of holding a special training course for new staff.
- H It was built in the fifteenth century, and is famous for its beautiful gardens.
- I He's been working on it for the last two years, so I'm sure he'll be able to answer all your questions.
- J You should read it yourself. It's an excellent story, with a lovely surprise ending.

## RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT

### EXAMPLE 3

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box.

Write A, B, C, etc, as in the example. (There are three extra texts in the box.)

Ex. *It's a really beautiful place.*        F   

1. Her holiday in the south of France was a complete disaster.     \_\_\_\_\_
2. Unfortunately, her presentation at the conference was very disappointing.     \_\_\_\_\_
3. At the age of five, Marie lost both her parents, who died in a road accident.     \_\_\_\_\_
4. She said she was very sorry for not replying to my letter earlier.     \_\_\_\_\_
5. Aysha's work has improved greatly in the last few months.     \_\_\_\_\_
6. My sister was so excited she phoned me immediately to tell me the news.     \_\_\_\_\_

- A I congratulated her, of course, and wished her every success in her new job.
- B Later, her mother taught her to play the piano and developed her interest in music.
- C She used to be careless and make a lot of spelling mistakes, but now her writing is much better.
- D She was very nervous, spoke too quickly and failed to make eye contact with the audience.
- E The hotel was excellent, the weather was good and the whole family really enjoyed themselves.
- F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~
- G Because of this, she had to move to Paris, where she was looked after by her uncle and auntie.
- H First, she became ill after eating some seafood; then her handbag was stolen with her passport and all her money!
- I After finishing the housework, she decided to watch the news on television.
- J Then she explained why she had been unable to write. When I heard about her husband's illness, I felt very bad.

**RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT**

**EXAMPLE 4**

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box. Write A, B, C, etc, as in the example. (There are three extra texts in the box.)

Ex. *It's a really beautiful place.*         *F*

1. My doctor says I'm over-weight and has put me on a special diet.        

2. For some people, the car is just an easy-to-use form of transportation.        

3. There are many reasons why I love my new job.        

4. I'm sorry. Salim and I won't be able to see you next week.        

5. As you can see, Nasir Al-Abri has several years of experience as an editor.        

6. If you are ever invited to dinner in Japan, one word you should learn is        

A He has also worked as a reporter for a well-known sports magazine.

B This morning, it took me two hours to drive from Seeb to Ruwi. The traffic was terrible!

C However, we shall be in Muscat in early February for the school holidays, so we can meet then.

D It includes fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains, and I have to follow it strictly for three months.

E In the modern world, it is very important to be able to speak foreign languages.

~~F Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~

G But for others, it's an exciting hobby. They spend their lives either collect-ing them or driving them in races.

H Our boss is very narrow-minded. He never tries anything new and he never listens to our suggestions.

I First of all, the pay is good and the work is interesting, plus I can take breaks whenever I want.

J It means 'Good eating to you', and you should always say it before starting a meal. If you don't, people will think you are very rude.

**RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT**

**EXAMPLE 5**

*Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box. Write the correct letter, as in the example. There are three extra texts in the box.*

Ex. It's a beautiful place.

F

1. The wet weather in the south will continue over the weekend.

2. Hi, Salma! We've been in Beirut for five days now, and we're having a great time.

3. If you go walking in the mountains, it is very easy to get lost.

4. The museum is closed for repair until the end of the month.

5. Air France now has a special discount for weekday flights to Paris.

6. (*Headline*): 'Five hurt in holiday crash'.

A But next week we're going up into the mountains to do some skiing. I'll send you another card from there.

B A bus carrying a group of Italian tourists was involved in an accident near Nizwa last night. Several of the passengers are now in hospital.

C The hotel is terrible; everything is expensive; and the people are very unfriendly.

D Tickets are available for half the usual price. But the offer only lasts until the end of the month, so book now!

E He's such a careless driver. I'm amazed he's never had a serious accident.

F ~~Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~

G So it's important to take a good map and a compass. And don't forget to tell someone where you are going.

H When we arrived at the top of the mountain, we were exhausted, but the view was fantastic!

I However, Saturday will bring bright sunshine and high temperatures in all parts of the country.

J It will be open again as usual on Saturday 1st March at 08.00. We apologise for any inconvenience.



RDG/FORMAT1/MATCHING TEXT WITH TEXT

EXAMPLE 6

Match the six texts on the left with the texts in the box. Write the correct letter, as in the example. There are three extra texts in the box.

Ex. It's a beautiful country.

G

1. While I was looking around the souvenir shops, I found this lovely necklace.

2. Dear Ahmed, Thanks very much for your letter and for the holiday photos which you sent me.

3. Tourists should always know about the customs of the countries they visit.

4. I'm a very nervous traveller. For example, I'm always afraid of being late and missing my flight.

5. (Headline): 'Man found dead in hotel swimming pool.'

6. Dear Sir/ Madam, I wish to report the loss of a pair of gold ear-rings while I was staying at your hotel.

A Police are investigating the case of a French tourist who drowned while on holiday in Las Vegas.

B The flight was very enjoyable, but unfortunately the airline lost my luggage.

C The hotel has excellent facilities, including a fitness centre and an Olympic-size swimming pool.

D In some places, for example, people become very upset if you try to take a photo of them.

E As you can see, it's made of sea shells. It didn't cost much, but now I wear it all the time.

F You all look as if you were really enjoying yourselves. I especially like the one of you in the desert. Can I have an extra copy?

~~G Every year, thousands of tourists go there for their holidays.~~

H Otherwise, your holiday can become very expensive indeed.

I I think I may have left them in my room. Have any of your employees found them?

J That's why I usually try to get to the airport at least three hours before the plane is due to leave.

**READING**

**FORMAT 2  
MULTIPLE CHOICE  
(NARRATIVE or INFORMATIVE TEXT)**

**RDG/ FORMAT 2/ MCH/NARRATIVE or INFORMATIVE TEXT**

**EXAMPLE 1**

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

(25 March 2009): In October every year, at the beginning of the rainy season, the tourism office of the city of San Fernando in the Philippines organises its annual Frog Festival. For four days, the people celebrate their love of this small amphibious animal, which is commonly found in the swamps and rice fields that surround the city.

The festival has games, activities and competitions for everyone. For example, you can win a prize for designing the best frog costume. Or, if you are musical, you can enter the Best Frog Song competition — last year's winner was written by 19-year-old Maria Gomez and was called *'Here Comes the Frog'*. There is also a kind of Frog Olympics, with events such as the 20 metres race, the long jump and the high jump.

More serious frog specialists can also enter Frog Catching competition. This traditional skill involves the use of a stick to attract the frog and a net to catch it. It takes years of practice and a great deal of patience, but, as the Filipinos say, "What is difficult to get is delicious to eat."

Which brings us, of course, to the main reason why the people of San Fernando love this particular animal. When cooked in the right way, frogs taste fantastic! There are dozens of traditional recipes, ranging from frog soup, to grilled frogs' legs, to the most famous dish of all, *'betute tujak'*, which consists of deep fried frog stuffed with minced beef.

Actually, despite all these traditions, the San Fernando Frog Festival is itself quite a new event. It started just six years ago. At that time, the area had recently been hit by a huge volcanic eruption, but the frogs were able to survive — just like the people of San Fernando. So the Festival is, in fact, a kind of symbol of survival.

1. San Fernando's first Frog Festival was held in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 2000                                      B. 2003                                      C. 2006
  
2. The festival is run by the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the Ministry of Culture    B. the Tourism Office                      C. a local restaurant
  
3. It lasts for \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 4 days                                      B. 1 week                                      C. 2 weeks
  
4. People catch frogs using \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. their hands                                      B. a bucket                                      C. a net
  
5. '*Here Comes the Frog*' is the name of a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. book                                      B. film                                      C. song
  
6. '*Betute tujak*' is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. piece of equipment                      B. game                                      C. kind of food

**EXAMPLE 2**

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

Arthur Conan Doyle is world-famous as the novelist who created Sherlock Holmes, the great detective. Doyle was born in 1859 in Scotland, although his father and mother were actually Irish. After leaving school, he studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh from 1876 until 1881. It was during his time as a student that he started writing, and his first success was a horror story called 'The Mystery of Sarassa Valley', which appeared in a magazine when he was just twenty.

After graduating from university, he got a job as a ship's doctor on a voyage to West Africa. After returning home in 1882, he opened a small clinic in Plymouth on the south coast of England. Unfortunately, he had very few patients, and because of this he started writing stories again.

He then wrote his first Sherlock Holmes story, "A Study in Scarlet", which was published in 1887. When Doyle's friends read the story, they immediately recognized the similarity between Holmes and a brilliant professor who had taught them all at Edinburgh University. They also noticed that Holmes's loyal friend, Dr Watson, was very like Doyle himself.

His Sherlock Holmes books were incredibly popular and earned him a lot of money, so that in 1891 he was able to become a full-time writer. However, he actually preferred writing adventure stories, such as his famous novel, "The Lost World" (1912). In fact, he became so tired of producing detective stories that in 1893 he wrote a story called "The Final Problem". In this book, he arranged for Holmes to 'die' in an accident in the Swiss Alps. However, the reaction from Doyle's fans was so strong that, after only three years, he was forced to bring him 'back to life' once again in "The Return of Sherlock Holmes".

Eventually, Doyle produced a total of fifty-six short stories and four novels about Holmes. Despite his great success as a writer, Doyle's later life was often filled with sadness. First, his wife died of tuberculosis, and then two of his sons were killed in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. Doyle himself died after a heart attack in 1930 at the age of 71.

1. Conan Doyle grew up in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. England                      B. Ireland                      C. Scotland
2. His first story was published when he was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.  
A. 17                              B. 20                              C. 23
3. The Sherlock Holmes character was based on a \_\_\_\_\_ who Conan Doyle knew.  
A. writer                              B. doctor                              C. teacher
4. \_\_\_\_\_ stories were the type of book that Conan Doyle *most* enjoyed writing.  
A. detective                              B. adventure                              C. horror
5. He gave up being a doctor in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 1887                              B. 1891                              C. 1893
6. Conan Doyle's *last* Sherlock Holmes story was called \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. "The Final Problem"              B. "The Return of  
Sherlock Holmes"              C. "A Study in Scarlet"

EXAMPLE 3

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

I don't normally have any problems in dealing with money, but once I nearly had a very embarrassing experience. It was when my wife and I were on holiday, in a resort on the Pacific coast of Mexico. It happened to be her birthday, so I said I would take her out for dinner. She agreed, and suggested that we also invite a very nice couple — an architect and his wife — who we had met at the hotel.

I knew about a nice seafood restaurant, so I phoned them and reserved a table. After arriving there by taxi, we sat down at a table with a beautiful view of the sea, asked for the menu and ordered. We decided to have soup, some starters, steamed fish, fried prawns and salad. I wasn't at all worried about what it was going to cost, because whenever I buy anything expensive I always pay by credit card.

As we were finishing the main course, we started talking about family. I took out my wallet to show a photo of my daughter, and then I noticed that my credit card was missing! For a moment I panicked, then I remembered — I had put it down for a moment on the bedside table in our hotel room — it must still be there!

What was I supposed to do? We were about to order some fruit and ice-cream, but I had to pretend that everything was OK. I didn't want to ruin my wife's birthday, and I felt embarrassed about mentioning it to the couple, as we didn't really know them well. I knew I had exactly \$60 in notes in my wallet, but we'd ordered some of the most expensive things on the menu, so I was worried that it might not be enough!

I don't remember the rest of the meal at all. I couldn't enjoy my ice-cream because I was thinking about the arrival of the bill. But when it came, I was so relieved! I had *just* enough to pay. After paying the bill, I had only one dollar left to give to the waiter as

a tip — he didn't look very happy, but that didn't matter! However, there was one final problem. How were we going to get back to the hotel? I didn't have any cash for the taxi. So I quickly said, "Isn't it a beautiful evening? Why don't we walk back along the beach?" Fortunately, the others accepted my suggestion — so nobody ever knew my guilty secret!

1. The writer went to a restaurant because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it was his wife's birthday                      B. his wife was tired of the food in the hotel                      C. his wife really likes seafood
2. The writer and his wife had dinner \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. alone    B. with two other people                      C. with a group of people
3. During the meal, they talked about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. money    B. food    C. family
4. The writer realized that he had left his credit card \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in the taxi    B. in his hotel room                      C. at home
5. The bill for the food was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. \$ 59    B. \$ 60    C. \$ 61
6. They went back to the hotel \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. by taxi    B. on foot    C. by bus



EXAMPLE 4

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

Chichibu is a small Japanese town just a ninety-minute train ride away from central Tokyo. It's in a mostly agricultural region, and its main product is the well-known tea which is grown on the surrounding hills and sold all over the world. Most of the year, it's a very quiet place, with not much going on, but every December the town comes to life for a few days during the Chichibu Night Festival, which is considered one of Japan's top three festivals.

The best time to visit the festival is on its third and final day. In the afternoon, six huge floats, each representing one of the areas of the town, are pulled through the streets to the main square. Each of these floats is decorated with lamps, wooden statues and brightly-coloured cloth. For the spectators, there are hundreds of stalls lining the streets, all selling excellent food, which is very good value for money.

Then, in the evening, from 7.30 until 10 o'clock, a long and spectacular fireworks show is held, which can be seen from many places in the town. If you have any difficulty seeing the show, you can always watch it on a giant TV screen outside the main railway station.

During the festival, the normally quiet town is crowded with people, and all the hotels are full, so it's probably a good idea to keep your hotel in Tokyo and visit the festival from there. (The last train back to Tokyo leaves just before midnight.) I would also strongly recommend that you put on some warm clothes, as temperatures can drop well below freezing.

1. The best way to get to Chichibu is by \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. car    B. train    C. plane
  
2. The Chichibu festival lasts \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. three days                                      B. six days                                      C. two weeks
  
3. In the evening you can see \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. fireworks                                      B. a concert                                      C. colourful floats
  
4. The writer advises visitors to stay \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. at a hotel in Chichibu                      B. at a hotel in Tokvo                      C. in the hills outside Chichibu
  
5. She also warns them about \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. high prices                                      B. cold weather                                      C. thieves
  
6. Apart from the festival, Chichibu is also famous for \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. its architecture                                      B. making handicrafts                      C. growing tea

**EXAMPLE 5**

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

In 2005, the British Minister of Health opened the new Evelina Children's Hospital in West London. The seven-storey, glass-fronted building cost sixty million pounds to build. Construction work started in July 2002 and was completed in August 2004. It replaced the old building which had been used by the hospital since 1893.

The new building has already won two international prizes for its architecture, which tries to be modern but also friendly. Its designer was a young Spanish architect called Antonia Lamela. She wanted the building to be as pleasant as possible for its most important users, that is, the young patients who are treated there. She even involved the children in the design process by allowing them to choose the colour of the paint on the walls as well as some of the furniture. As a result of this design, the hospital is full of light and there are bright, cheerful colours everywhere.

On the practical side, the hospital has one hundred and forty beds, three operating theatres and all the latest in medical technology. It pays a lot of attention to the quality of the food served to patients, which is better than the usual 'hospital food'!

It even has a hospital school, with specialist teachers, so that sick children can keep up with their lessons.

1. The *old* Evelina Children's hospital was built in the \_\_\_\_\_ century.  
A. early 19<sup>th</sup>                      B. late 19<sup>th</sup>                      C. early 20<sup>th</sup>
  
2. It took \_\_\_\_\_ to build the new hospital.  
A. six months                      B. a year                      C. two years
  
3. The architect asked \_\_\_\_\_ for help in designing the building.  
A. children                      B. doctors                      C. teachers
  
4. The front of the building is made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. stone                      B. glass                      C. wood
  
5. The hospital has room for \_\_\_\_\_ patients.  
A. 140                      B. 240                      C. 540
  
6. The style of the hospital's architecture is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. modern                      B. Spanish                      C. traditional

EXAMPLE 6

*Read the text. Then, for each item, choose the correct option: A, B or C.*

One of my favourite TV characters is Baldwin, who appeared in a comedy series called "Blackwell House", which was produced in the late 1990's. The series is set in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, and Baldwin is a servant in the home of a rich businessman.

I'm not really sure why I like him so much. He certainly isn't good-looking! He's thin and of average height; his hair is dirty and untidy, his teeth are yellow and broken, and he rarely, if ever, washes his clothes.

He isn't very clever either. He tries to be helpful to his boss, who often gets into difficult situations. But whenever he says "Sir, I have an idea", you always know that he's going to suggest something very stupid indeed, and that his boss is going to start shouting and saying very rude things to him.

On the other hand, though, there's something very nice about his personality. It doesn't matter how rude or bad-tempered his boss is, Baldwin always remains patient and cheerful, with a look of happy innocence on his face. He isn't clever or handsome or successful — in fact, he doesn't have any special abilities at all — but for me, he has always been a kind of quiet hero.

"Blackwell House" wasn't on TV for very long — only twelve half-hour programmes were made — but many people still remember it as one of the best comedy TV shows they have ever seen, and Baldwin was one of the main reasons for the show's success.

1. The "Blackwell House" series was made \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.  
A. 5                                        B. 10                                        C. 20
  
2. Baldwin works in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. an office                                B. a factory                                C. a house
  
3. His boss gets angry with him because he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. spends a lot of                        B. is careless and                        C. says stupid
  
4. The writer admires Baldwin because he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. is good-looking                        B. never gets angry                        C. is good at his job
  
5. Baldwin's boss is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. rich                                        B. generous                                C. patient
  
6. The series was popular because it was very \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. educational                                B. exciting                                C. funny

**WRITING**

**FORMAT 1  
INFORMATION POINTS**

**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

**EXAMPLE 1**

Write a **PARAGRAPH** about the *State Opera House*. Use the picture and **ALL** the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.

**State Opera House**

1,500 seats    rebuild/ reopen/ 1951

200 performances/ year

centre/ Vienna    open/ 1869



**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

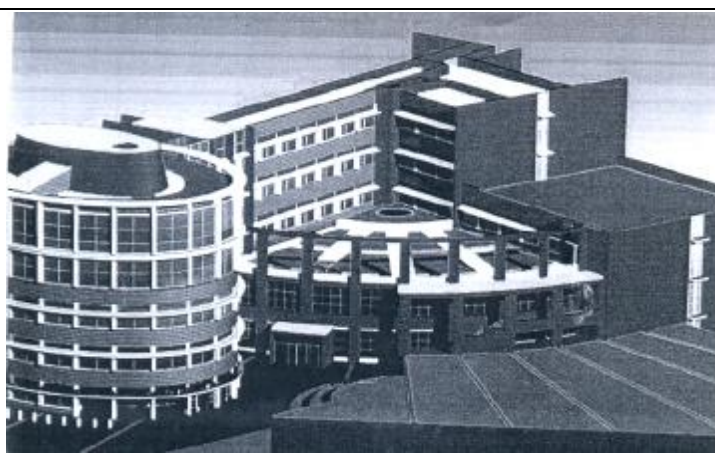
**EXAMPLE 2**

Write a **PARAGRAPH** about the *Mitchell Building*. Use the picture and **ALL** the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.

**Mitchell Building**

950 students    design/ John Doe

\$35 million    research/ teaching






**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

**EXAMPLE 3**

*Write a paragraph about Wellington Wimpy. Use the picture and ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<p><b><u>Wellington Wimpy</u></b></p> <p>good education                  since 1933</p> <p>cartoon character              L pay bill</p>	
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**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

**EXAMPLE 4**


*Write a PARAGRAPH about Jimmy Rae. Use the picture and ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<p><b><u>Jimmy Rae</u></b></p> <p>live/ work/ New York                  calm/ relaxed</p> <p>sold/ 10 million records              excellent voice</p>	
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**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

**EXAMPLE 5**

*Write a PARAGRAPH about Paolo Canetti. Use the picture and ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*


<p><b><u>Paolo Canetti</u></b></p> <p>left school/ 14                      enjoys good food</p> <p>owner/ four factories/ tinned food</p>	
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**WRT/ FORMAT1/ INFORMATION POINTS**

**EXAMPLE 6**

*Write a paragraph about Popeye. Use the picture and ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<p><b><u>Popeye</u></b></p> <p>favourite food/ spinach</p> <p>fight/ enemies                      since 1929</p>	
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**WRITING**

**FORMAT 2  
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

## WRT/ FORMAT2/ ASSESSMENT REPORT

### EXAMPLE 1

**Situation:** *Your company wants to find a good medical centre for its staff, so your boss has asked you to write an ASSESSMENT REPORT about the New Medical Centre. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<b>1) Introduction</b>		
<b>2) Main Body</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*modern building/ 2004</li><li>* closed after 6 p.m.</li><li>*own pharmacy/ laboratories</li><li>*no dental clinic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*location (central)</li><li>*children's specialists</li><li>*qualified/ well-trained staff</li><li>*150 rooms/ comfortable, well-equipped</li></ul>
	<b>3) Conclusion</b>	

## WRT/ FORMAT2/ ASSESSMENT REPORT

### EXAMPLE 2

**Situation:** *Your company is organizing a five-day international conference, and needs a good catering company to provide food for the participants. So your boss has asked you to write an ASSESSMENT REPORT about a new catering company called Sunshine Foods. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be clear, correct and well-organised.*

<b>1) Introduction</b>		
<b>2) Main Body</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*international/ many kinds of food</li><li>*food/ fresh/ high quality</li><li>*started business/ April this year</li><li>*high prices/ 20% more/ other companies</li><li>*staff/ polite, smartly-dressed</li><li>*location/ far away</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*bookings/ 4 weeks before</li><li>*delivery/ sometimes late</li><li>*cleanliness/ hygiene/ good</li></ul>
	<b>3) Conclusion</b>	

## WRT/ FORMAT2/ ASSESSMENT REPORT

### EXAMPLE 3

*Situation: Your company wants to find a good hotel for a conference, so your boss has asked you to write an ASSESSMENT REPORT about the Grand Hotel. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<b>1) Introduction</b>		
<b>2) Main Body</b>	*large hall (opening ceremony)	*location (central)
	*well-trained, helpful staff	* equipment in rooms (poor quality)
	*excellent food	*price (too expensive)
	*4 smaller rooms for workshops (enough)	*no technicians
<b>3) Conclusion</b>		

---

## WRT/ FORMAT2/ ASSESSMENT REPORT

### EXAMPLE 4

*Situation: Your company wants to buy a small bus to transport its staff, so your boss has asked you to write an ASSESSMENT REPORT about the Sagado Carrier. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

<b>1) Introduction</b>		
<b>2) Main Body</b>	*comfortable seats	*new model/ June 2006
	*carry/ nine passengers	*not enough luggage
	space	
	*powerful/ 3-litre engine	*price/8000 rials
	*good safety features	*small petrol tank
<b>3) Conclusion</b>		

**WRITING**

**FORMAT 3  
NEWS REPORT**

## WRT/ FORMAT3/ NEWS REPORT

### EXAMPLE 1

*You are a reporter for a local newspaper. Your editor has asked you to write A NEWS REPORT about a fire. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

**Headline: "Twenty die in factory fire"**

\*afternoon/ during lunch break

\*furniture factory/ near airport

\*three buildings/ destroyed

owner/ Klaus Netzer/ German businessman

\*stop production/ three months

\*factory restaurant/ workers/ lunch

\*kitchen/ gas explosion/ fire

\*'New Design'/ 500 employees

\*put out fire/ late last night

\*not enough time/ all workers/ get out

---

## WRT/ FORMAT3/ NEWS REPORT

### EXAMPLE 2

*You are a reporter for a newspaper. Your editor has asked you to write a NEWS REPORT about an earthquake in China. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be clear, formal and well-organised. Include a Headline, an Introduction, a Main Body and a Conclusion. Do not write your name.*

\*10,000 dead/30,000 injured

\*Sechuan region/ Central China

\*panic/ ran into street

\*eight o'clock/ yesterday morning

\* very strong/ 7.4 on Richter scale

\*schools/homes/ offices

\*United Nations/ food/ medicine

\*many buildings/ destroyed

\*rescue teams/ searching/ survivors

\*third earthquake/ Sechuan/ this year

## WRT/ FORMAT3/ NEWS REPORT

### EXAMPLE 3

*You are a reporter for a newspaper. Your editor has asked you to write a NEWS REPORT about the discovery of a new species. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be clear, formal and well-organised. Include a Headline, an Introduction, a Main Body and a Conclusion. Do not write your name.*

\*blue and white body/long tail

\*new species/ bird

\*team/ German scientists

\*believe/ many more species/ not yet found

\*discovered/ three weeks ago

\*forest/ hills/ south-west/ country

\*main food/ insects

\*Uganda/ East Africa

\*new species/ no name yet

\*press conference/ announced/ yesterday

---

## WRT/ FORMAT3/ NEWS REPORT

### EXAMPLE 4

*You are a reporter for a local newspaper. Your editor has asked you to write a NEWS REPORT about a road accident. In your report, use ALL the information in the box. Your writing should be correct and well-organised.*

**Headline: "Teenager killed in car crash"**

\*Sunday evening/ seven o'clock

\*14-year-old boy/ Wayne Wilkins/ bicycle

\*died in hospital/ eight o'clock

55-year-old teacher/ London/ red BMW

\*snow/ ice/ fog

\*80 kph / didn't see boy/ hit

\*ambulance/ 20 minutes

\*city centre/ near the museum

\*police spokesman/ three cyclists killed/ this month

\*advise/ drivers/ carefully



**WRITING**

**FORMAT 4  
SITUATION**

## WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER

### EXAMPLE 1

*Write a letter of at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Your British penfriend, John/ Joanna, is doing a project about *transport* in different countries. He/She has written a letter asking you about Oman. Reply to his/her letter. Tell him/her about the kinds of transport (car, bus, plane, etc) that people use in Oman.

*Your letter should be friendly, informative and interesting.*

*Your name is Salim/Salma. Do not write an address.*

---

## WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER

### EXAMPLE 2

*Complete the following task. Write at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine that you are Badr/ Badriya Al-Riyami. You have bought a new television set. The set was delivered six weeks ago, but since then you have had several problems with it. Write a *letter of complaint* to the manager of the shop:

- Describe the problems that you have had
- Say what you think the shop should do

Your letter should be formal, polite, correct and clear. Do *not* use your own name.

---

## WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER

### EXAMPLE 3

*Complete the following task. Write at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine that you are Badr/ Badriya Al-Riyami. You have just received a telephone bill that is much higher than it should be. Write a *letter of complaint* to the manager of the telephone company:

- Say what has happened, and explain why the bill is not correct.
- Say what you think the telephone company should do.

Your letter should be formal, polite, correct and clear. Do *not* use your own name.

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 4**

*Write a letter of at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Your British penfriend, Paul/ Paula, has written to you about outdoor activities in the UK. Reply to his/ her letter. Describe the *outdoor activities* that are popular with young people in Oman.

*Your letter should be friendly, informative and interesting.*

*Your name is Nasr/Nasra. Do not write an address.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 5**

*Complete the following task. Write at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine that you are Nasr/ Nasra Al-Riyami. You are applying for a job in a school for handicapped children.

Write a *letter* to the school principal, Fawzia Al-Hasmi. Write about:

- how you heard about the job
- your education, skills and work experience
- why you want to work for the school

*Your letter should be polite, correct and clear. Do not write your address.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 6**

*Complete the following task. Write at least 75 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine that your friend Nasr/ Nasra has written a letter to you. He/She has a problem. He/ She wrote: "I feel unhappy and depressed all the time, but I don't know why."

Write a *letter* to Nasr/ Nasra. Give him/her advice about what he/she should do. *Your letter should be friendly and helpful. Do not write your address.*

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 7**

*Write a letter of at least 60 words*

**Situation:** You want to have your birthday party at a restaurant. Write to your friend *Faiz/ Faiza* inviting him/her to come. In your letter, include the most important information about the party.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your letter should be friendly and clear*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 8**

*Write a letter of at least 60 words.*

**Situation:** You want to invite your pen-friend *Paul/ Paula* in Australia to visit you in Oman. Write to him/her with some suggestions. Also, ask him/her for one important piece of information.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your letter should be friendly and clear.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 9**

*Write a letter of at least 60 words.*

**Situation:** A friend ( *Faiz/ Faiza* ) has invited you to visit his/her new farmhouse for the weekend. Write a letter *refusing* the invitation. Give your reason(s), and then suggest another date when you would be able to visit.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your letter should be friendly and clear.*

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ LETTER**

**EXAMPLE 10**

*Write a letter of at least 60 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine you have just finished a computer course at the 'Techno Centre'. It was a very good course. Write a letter to your friend (*Faiz/ Faiza*). Tell him/her about the course and why you enjoyed it. Then suggest that he/she takes the same course.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your letter should be friendly and clear.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ E-MAIL**

**EXAMPLE 11**

*Write an e-mail of at least 60 words.*

**Situation:** Imagine you have just read a very interesting book. Write a letter to your friend (*Faiz/ Faiza*). Tell him/her about the book and why you like it. Then suggest that he/she buys it.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your letter should be friendly and clear.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT4/ SITUATIONAL/ E-MAIL**

**EXAMPLE 12**

*Write an e-mail of at least 60 words.*

**Situation:** A friend (*Faiz/ Faiza*) has had a new baby, and has invited you to his/her house. Write a reply **accepting** the invitation. Also, ask for **two** pieces of information that you need before the visit.

*Your name is Nasir/Nada. Do not write an address.*

*Your e-mail should be friendly and clear.*

**WRITING**

**FORMAT 5  
TOPIC/QUESTION/TITLE**

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITLE/QUESTION

EXAMPLE 1

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“People should not receive a driving license  
until they are 21.”**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

---

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITLE/QUESTION

EXAMPLE 2

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“Mobile phones (GSM) are very useful; they have many advantages.”**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

---

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITLE/QUESTION

EXAMPLE 3

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“Young people today spend too much time  
on the Internet.”**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION

**EXAMPLE 4**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“Some people like to study alone. Others like to study with other people.**

**Which do you prefer?”**

— Answer the question. Give your reasons

*Your writing should be clear, lively and interesting.*

---

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION

**EXAMPLE 5**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“Boys and girls should study together in the same schools.”**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

---

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION

**EXAMPLE 6**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**“Women should take part in sport, just as men do.”**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting*



**WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION**  
**EXAMPLE 7**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**"In some countries, teenagers have part-time jobs while they are still students.**

**Do you think this is a good idea?"**

— Answer the question. Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear, lively and interesting.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION**

**EXAMPLE 8**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**"Everybody should learn how to cook."**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

---

**WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITILE/QUESTION**

**EXAMPLE 9**

*Write at least 100 words on the following topic:*

**"Playing football on the beach should not be allowed."**

— Do you agree or not? Give your reasons.

*Your writing should be clear and interesting.*

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITLE/QUESTION

**EXAMPLE 10**

*Write about your own experience. Write at least 100 words about:*

***“The most interesting journey I have ever made”***

*Your story should be clear, lively and interesting.*

---

WRT/ FORMAT5/ TOPIC/TITLE/QUESTION

**EXAMPLE 11**

*Write about your own experience. Write at least 100 words about:*

***“The last time I was ill”***

*Your story should be clear, lively and interesting.*

**WRITING**

**FORMAT 6  
PICTURE STORY**

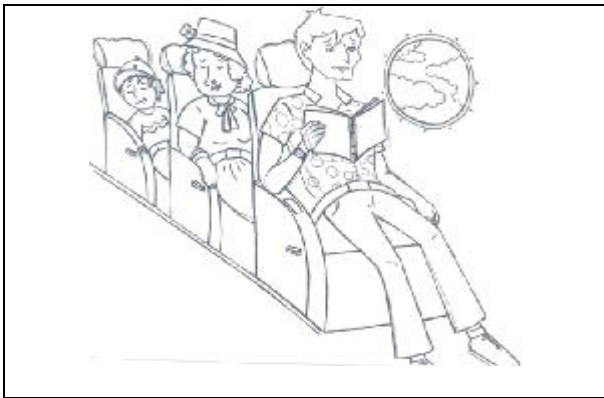
# WRT/ FORMAT6/ PICTURE STORY

## EXAMPLE 1

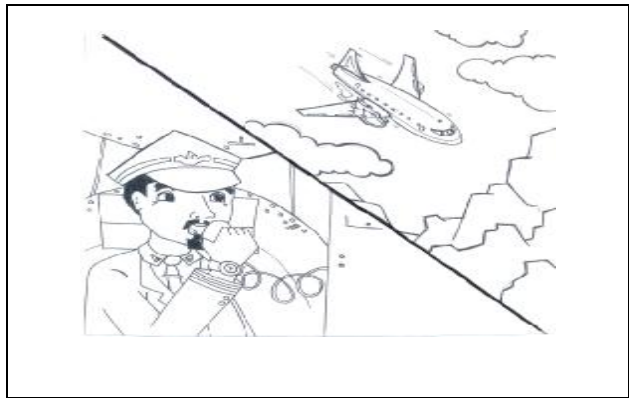
Write a story of at least 100 words based on the following pictures. You can use the words in the box to help you. You can also put in more details to make your story lively and interesting.

holiday	engine/ fire	crash	mountains
small child	carry	village	TV/ interview

**j**



**k**



**l**



**m**



**n**



**o**



# WRT/ FORMAT6/ PICTURE STORY

## EXAMPLE 2

Write a story of at least 100 words based on the following pictures. You can use the words in the box to help you. You can also put in more details to make your story lively and interesting.

boat	have fun	engine	break down
try/ repair	all night/ sea	sun/ hot	rescue

**j**



**l**



**n**



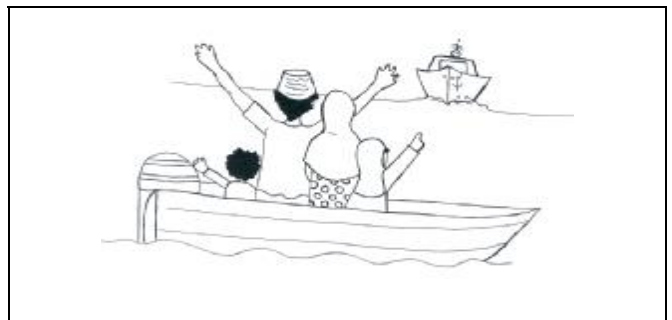
**k**



**m**



**o**



**WRT/ FORMAT6/ PICTURE STORY**

**EXAMPLE 3**

Write a story of at least 100 words based on the following pictures.

You can use the words in the box to help you. You can also put in more details to make your story lively and interesting.

boat	have fun	engine	break down
try/ repair	all night/ sea	sun/ hot	rescue

**j**



**k**



**l**



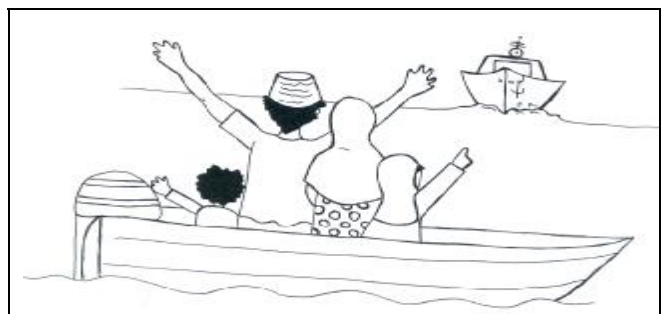
**m**



**n**



**o**



# WRT/ FORMAT6/ PICTURE STORY

## EXAMPLE 4

Write a story of at least 100 words based on the following pictures.

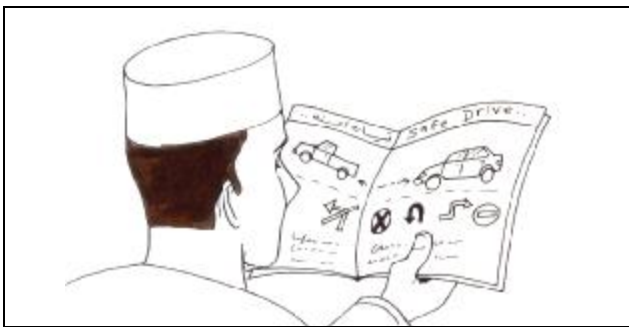
You can use the words in the box to help you. You can also put in more details to make your story lively and interesting.

driving license	application form	driving test	fail
study	pass	friend/ car-keys	crash

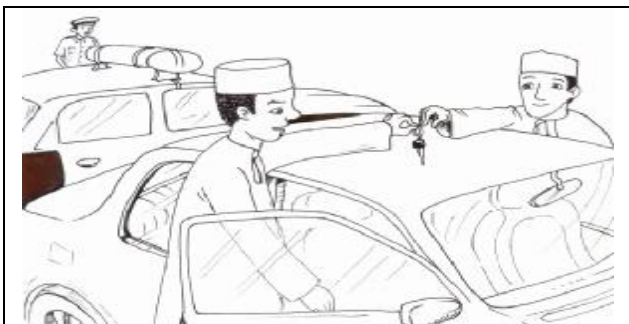
**j**



**l**



**n**



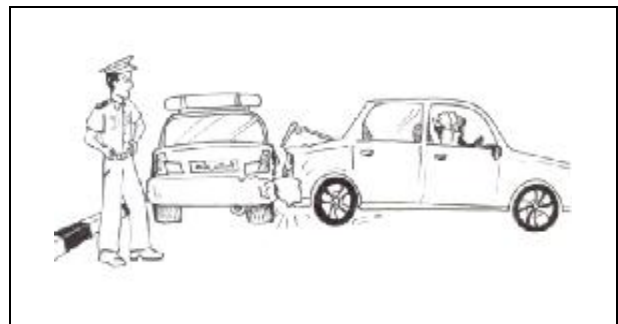
**k**



**m**



**o**





# WRT/ FORMAT6/ PICTURE STORY

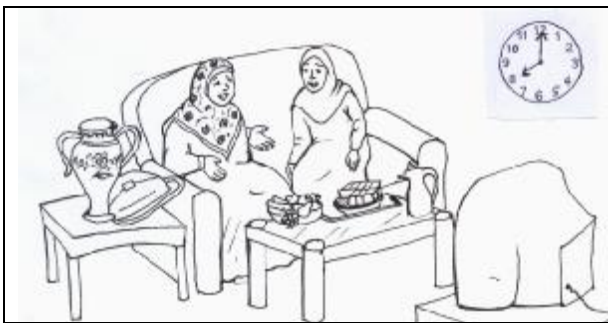
## EXAMPLE 5

Write a story of at least 100 words based on the following pictures.

You can use the words in the box to help you. You can also put in more details to make your story lively and interesting.

friends	visit	chat	vase
upset	new	package	broken

**j**



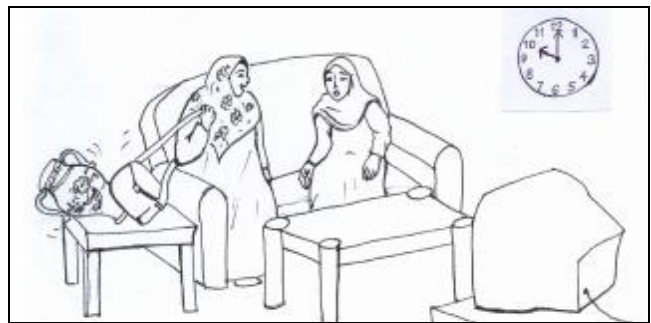
**l**



**n**



**k**



**m**



**o**

