
THERESA NUZZO SCHOOL MARSA

Half-Yearly Exams 2015-2016

GRADE 6 ENGLISH

READING COMPREHENSION

Monday, 1st February, 2016

Time: 50 mins

Name: _____

Class: _____

Register Number: _____

Marks

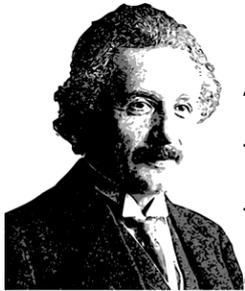
TOTAL

(max. 30 marks)

GRADE 6 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 1

Look at these short lives of famous people.

(6 marks)



Born in 1879, in Ulm, Germany, **Albert Einstein** was to become the most celebrated scientist of the Twentieth Century. His discoveries were to lay the

framework for new branches of physics. He also became a well-known person speaking out against nuclear weapons – weapons he had indirectly contributed towards creating.

Einstein is one of the undisputed geniuses of the Twentieth Century, but, his early school reports suggested anything but a genius. His early teachers found him dim and slow to learn. Part of the problem was that Albert expressed no interest in learning languages and learning by heart that was very popular at the time.



Mother Teresa (1910-1997) was a Roman Catholic nun, who devoted her life to serving

the poor and destitute around the world.

She spent many years in Calcutta, India where she founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation devoted to helping those in great need.

In 1979, Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and has become a symbol of charitable selfless work. She was beatified in 2003, the first step on the path to sainthood, within the Catholic church.

Underline the correct word in the brackets.

(1 mark each)

1. Albert Einstein was born in (Malta, England, **Germany**).
2. Albert Einstein spoke a lot against (physics, **nuclear weapons**, language).
3. Mother Teresa was born in (**1910**, 1979, 1997).
4. Mother Teresa helped a lot of (rich, **poor**, American) people.

Fill in the blank with one word from the text.

(1 mark each)

1. Einstein did not show interest in learning **languages**.
2. Calcutta is a city that can be found in **India**.

GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 2

SECTION 1**(10 marks)****UMBRELLA**

It was a cloudy night; the darkness covered the city like a thick blanket. The wind blew gusts of air smelling of car fumes through the streets; it sneaked under the cracks of doors and whispered down sooty chimneys. **(paragraph 1)**

Mr Bell hurried down a dark street, holding onto his bowler hat so that the harsh breeze couldn't steal it. The wind blew harder, almost blowing the short, stout man off-course. Eyes narrowed, Mr Bell tried again to walk into the path of the determined gale. A hazy drizzle of misty rain drifted down in sheets, making him shiver and cough. Cursing the cold, he drew his coat tighter around his large figure. As he made to clamp his hat to his head again, he spotted something black and flapping on the pavement. An umbrella! **(paragraph 2)**

His heart leapt; the umbrella would be perfect! Feeling pleased with himself, Mr Bell ran towards it and snatched it up. The handle was smooth and glossy, and the waterproof dome was black and very large. **(paragraph 3)**

As Mr Bell raised it above his head, something remarkable happened. He began to feel lighter as he ran over the cobbled street, holding tight. Lighter and lighter. With a gasp, he realised that his leather shoes were no longer making contact with the pavement. He was flying! The wind lifted him up like hundreds of hands, all pushing upwards. **(paragraph 4)**

A. Underline the correct answer.

(½ mark each)

1. The weather was (fine, **bad**, sunny).
2. Mr Bell was a (tall, **short**, thin) man.
3. Mr Bell found it (easy, **difficult**, pleasant) to walk that night.
4. The umbrella was (small, long, **black**).

B. Find from the passage:

(½ mark each)

1. Two adjectives from **paragraph 1**: **cloudy/thick/sooty** .
2. A simile from **paragraph 1**: **darkness covered the city like a thick blanket.**
3. A personification from **paragraph 2**: **the harsh breeze couldn't steal it.**

C. Tick: True (T), False (F) or No Information Given (NIG)

(½ mark each)

		T	F	NIG
1	This story happened in London.			✓
2	Mr Bell was in a hurry.	✓		
3	Mr Bell was walking along a path at first.		✓	
4	It was not very windy.		✓	
5	The road was tarmacked.		✓	
6	The umbrella that Mr Bell found was very large.	✓		

D. Choose the best answer by ticking the box.

(½ mark each)

1. *The wind blew harder, almost blowing the short stout man off-course. (par. 2)*

This shows that:

- Mr Bell was finding it hard to walk.**
- The wind was pushing him against a wall.
- Mr Bell was walking calmly on the street.

2. *His heart leapt (par. 3)*

This means that:

- He was jumping up the path.
- The rain splashed on his coat.
- He was happy that he found the umbrella.**

D. Answer this question:

(2 marks)

1. Do you think it was easy to hold the umbrella? Why?

It was not easy because of the hard wind. The umbrella was also very large making it more difficult. (If one reason is mentioned—give one mark.)

UMBRELLA (*continued*)

With a delighted and shocked shout, Mr Bell gazed down at the sprawling city below him. The street lamps looked like beautiful, luminous flowers reaching up to him. Cars reminded him of jewel-coloured beetles crawling through the concrete maze.

(paragraph 5)

The wind led him towards the park; it was the only splash of green in a grey ocean of buildings and roads. Clutching the umbrella tightly, he drifted towards two bronze statues of lions guarding the park entrance. Mr Bell outstretched his free hand and reached towards one. As he passed, he patted it on its cold head. The lion roared deeply and shook its impressive mane, whilst watching the small man float past. Wide-eyed, Mr Bell swung himself away. The umbrella swayed dangerously and as he grasped the handle harder, he waited dizzily for the world to stop spinning.

(paragraph 6)

Still the wind carried him on. He glanced back at the now still statues. The trees swayed in time with the umbrella as he drifted higher again. A white barn owl flew past Mr Bell like a winged ghost. (paragraph 7)

As he rose, he scanned the sprawling city for his house. There. He gently coaxed the umbrella down towards his street. The wind rushed down and with a bump, Mr Bell landed outside his house. He looked around to check that nobody had noticed him disembarking, before making his way up the garden path. The promise of light and warmth beckoned him inside. As he stood on the front porch, he folded the umbrella up and smiled as he thought about what an exciting bedtime story his daughters would have that night. (paragraph 8)

A. Choose the correct answer:

(½ mark each)

1. Swayed (paragraph 6) means

opened.

swung.

walked.

2. Glanced (paragraph 7) means

looked.

jumped.

flew.

B. Match column A with Column B to make correct sentences. The first one is done for you as an example. (½ mark each)

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
1	Mr Bell was flying	2	was lit up.
2	The city below him	4	to his house.
3	Mr Bell held to the umbrella	1	over the city.
4	The umbrella carried Mr Bell	5	to arrive home.
5	Mr Bell was happy	3	very tightly.

C. Underline the correct answer (½ mark each)

In the story the

- city looked like a (flower, jewel, **maze**).
- street lamps are compared to (**flowers**, lights, ocean).
- cars are compared to (jewels, **beetles**, maze).
- park looked like (an ocean, **a splash of green**, a statue).
- building and roads are compared to a (maze, lion, **grey ocean**).
- owl is compared to a (black umbrella, white flower, **winged ghost**).

Answer these questions: (1 mark each)

- How do you know that Mr Bell was happy that he was flying?

The story says that he was “delighted” seeing the city below him.

- What did Mr Bell touch with his hand while flying over the park?

The bronze statue of a lion. (Accept “statue of a lion”. Do not accept “lion” or “statue” only.)

- What two animals are mentioned in the story?

Two of lion, owl, beetles.

- How did the umbrella know where Mr Bell’s house was?

Mr Bell himself showed the umbrella where to go down.

E. Answer these questions about both sections:

(2 marks each)

1. Why did Mr Bell “*looked around to check that nobody had noticed him disembarking*” (paragraph 8)?

He wanted to keep the secret to himself. *(accept something similar.)*

2. Do you think that Mr Bell will share his adventure with anyone or would he keep it a secret? Why do you think so?

Yes he would share it because he was going to tell the story to his daughters

No he would keep it a secret because before he went in the house, he checked if anyone was watching.