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THERESA NUZZO SCHOOL MARSA  
Half-Yearly Exams 2017-2018

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**GRADE 5 ENGLISH**  
**READING COMPREHENSION**

Wednesday, 7th February, 2018

Time: 50 minutes

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Register Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Marks

TOTAL

(max. 30 marks)

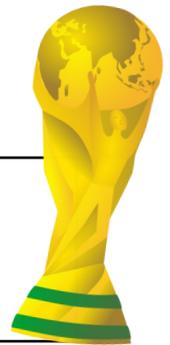


**GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 1**

Look at this information about **GOLD**

(6 marks)

The biggest gold nugget\* was found in Australia in 1869 and weighed 78 kilograms.



If all the gold that has ever been found in the world were refined, it would form only a single 20m cube and fit easily under the legs of the Eiffel Tower.

The Football World Cup trophy is 36cm high and is made of solid gold.



A fine wire of gold is used in computers to connect different parts together. This wire is thinner than a human hair.



Seawater contain huge amounts of dissolved gold. There is more dissolved gold in the Bering Sea than in any other sea. It won't make anyone rich though, because the effort needed to get it is too great.

\* A gold nugget is a piece of gold as found in the bed of a river or lake. It usually is a little bit polished by the water that brushes against it.

**A. Give short answers to these questions:**

(1 mark each)

1. Where was the biggest gold nugget found? **Australia**
2. How high is the football World Cup trophy? **36 cm**
3. In which sea, do you find the most dissolved gold? **Bering Sea**

**B. Underline the correct word from the brackets.**

(½ mark each)

1. The biggest gold nugget found weighs (20 kg, 36 kg, 78 kg).
2. The football World Cup trophy is made of (gold, nuggets, wires).
3. It needs a (little, lot of, small) effort to get gold from sea.
4. Gold can also be used in (the Eiffel Tower, the Bering Sea, computers).
5. Human hair is (bigger, thinner, thicker) than some gold wire.
6. A gold nugget can be found in a (sea, lake, mine).

**GRADE 5 ENGLISH READING COMPREHENSION 2****SECTION 1**

(10 marks)

**KING MIDAS AND HIS TOUCH**

The story of King Midas is a story about how bad greed is and narrates what happens when people look for happiness in material things. Midas was a man who wished that everything he touched would turn into gold. However, he had not thought that this wish was not actually a good thing but a bad one. His greed invites us to think and realize the consequences that may lead us to think what really makes us happy. The phrase “the Midas touch” comes from this story and is used to say that somebody has a good fortune. (paragraph 1)

Midas was a king of great fortune who ruled the country of Phrygia, in Asia Minor. He had everything a king could wish for. He lived in luxury in a great castle. He shared his rich life with his beautiful daughter, Philomena. Even though he was very rich, Midas thought that his greatest happiness was provided by gold. His greed was such that he used to spend his days counting his golden coins! Occasionally he used to cover his body with gold objects, as if he wanted to bath in them. Money was his obsession. (paragraph 2)

One day, Silenus, a friend of Dionysus, the god of wine was passing through Midas’ kingdom. Silenus got tired and decided to take a nap in the famous rose gardens surrounding the palace of king Midas. There, he was found by the king, who recognized him instantly and invited him to spend a few days at his palace. Dionysus was very grateful to Midas for his kindness and granted him any wish that he wanted. Midas thought and thought but at last his greed make him think of gold. He told Dionysus, “I hope that everything I touch becomes gold.” (paragraph 3)

Dionysus warned the king, “Are you sure about this wish?”

Midas replied happily, “Of course I am.”

Dionysus could do nothing else and promised the king that from that following day everything he touched would turn into gold. (paragraph 4)

**A. Write:**

(½ mark each)

1. the name of King Midas' daughter: **Philomena**
2. the country where King Midas ruled: **Phrygia**
3. the name of the god of wine: **Dionyssus**
4. the name of the one who slept in the king's garden: **Silensus**

**B. Underline the correct answer.**

(½ mark each)

1. "Midas touch" means that someone has a lot of (money, gold, fortune).
2. King Midas thought that his happiness came from his (daughter, gold, castle).
3. King Midas' palace was surrounded by (gardens, houses, fields).
4. Dionyssus was a (friend of Midas, king, god).
5. King Midas was not a (cruel, rich, kind) king.
6. King Midas thought (for a short time, a little bit, a lot) about what to wish.
7. Dionyssus warned the king about (his friend, the wish, his daughter).
8. The wish had to start (immediately, the next day, the next week).

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

(½ mark each)

		T	F	NIG
1	King Midas was rich even before he got his golden touch.	✓		
2	Phrygia was in Asia Minor.	✓		
3	The castle where King Midas lived was on top of a hill.			✓
4	At times, King Midas used to cover himself in gold.	✓		
5	The king and his daughter were very happy together.	✓		
6	The king did not know who Dionyssus was.		✓	
7	The king hoped that everything he touches turns into silver.		✓	
8	King Midas' wife was called Persephone.			✓

The next day, Midas, woke up eager to see if his wish would become true. He extended his arm touching a small table that immediately turned into gold. **Midas jumped with happiness!** He then touched a chair, the carpet, the door, his bathtub, a table and so he kept on running in his madness all over his palace until he got **exhausted** and happy at the same time! He sat at the table to have breakfast and took a rose between his hands to smell its fragrance. When he touched it, the rose became gold. (paragraph 5)

“I will have to smell the fragrance without touching the roses, I suppose,” he thought in disappointment. (paragraph 6)

Without even thinking, he picked a grape but it also turned into gold! The same happened with a slice of bread and a glass of water. Suddenly, he started to sense fear. **Tears filled his eyes** and that moment, his beloved daughter entered the room. When Midas hugged her, she turned into a golden statue! (paragraph 7)

“What have I done?!” he shouted. “Philomena is more precious to me than all this gold could ever be!” Despaired and fearful, he raised his arms and prayed to Dionysus to take this **curse** from him. (paragraph 8)

The god heard Midas and felt sorry for him. He told Midas to go to river Pactolus and wash his hands. Midas did so. He ran to the river, washed his hands and was astonished to see gold flowing from his hands onto the bank of the river. The ancient Greeks said they had found gold on the banks of the river Pactolus. (paragraph 9)

When he turned home, everything Midas had touched had become normal again. Midas hugged his daughter in full happiness and decided to share his great fortune with his people. From now on, Midas became a better person, generous and grateful for all goods of his life. His people led a prosperous life and when he died, they all **mourned for their beloved king.** (paragraph 10)

D. Find: (½ mark each)

1. A word from **paragraph 5** that means **at once**: **immediately**
2. A word from **paragraph 8** that shows how **special** Philomena was for the king: **precious**
3. A word from **paragraph 9** that means **very surprised**: **astonished**
4. A word from **paragraph 9** that means **the sides of the river**: **banks**

E. Choose the correct answer:

(½ mark each)

1. “Midas jumped with happiness!” (paragraph 5).

**Jumped with happiness** shows that the king was

- was very happy.  
 jumping all around.  
 a little bit happy.

2. **Tears filled his eye** in paragraph 7 means that

- he was laughing.  
 his eyes were wet with water.  
 the king started to cry.

F. Answer these questions

1. What was the first thing that the king turned into gold with his touch? (½ mark)

**a small table (accept table)**

2. Why was the king **exhausted** (paragraph 5)? (½ mark)

**Because he was running around the palace turning everything into gold**

3. What was the problem when he turned the rose into gold? (1 mark)

**He could not smell the rose.**

4. When did he start to become afraid? Why? (1 mark)

**When he started to turn food into gold. Because he realised he could not eat.**

5. When did Philomena turn into gold? (½ mark)

**When the king hugged her.**

6. What did Dionyssus tell the king to do to get rid of the “wish”? (½ mark)

**Wash his hands in the river Patoclus**

7. Why did the people **mourn their beloved king** (paragraph 10)? (1 mark)

**because he was very generous to them.**

**NOW, ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT BOTH SECTIONS**

**D. Tick which section of the story shows the following.** (½ mark each)

One or more statements can be shown in both sections. If you think this is the case, tick both columns. *(maximum 3 marks—½ for each correct tick)*

	Which sections shows that the king ...	Section 1	Section 2
1	... was greedy.	✓	✓
2	... became a better person.		✓
3	... was desperate.		✓
4	... was very rich.	✓	✓
5	... was kind.	✓	✓

**I. Answer these questions** (1 mark each)

1. Why do you think that Dionyssus warned King Midas about the wish?

*Because he knew that it was going to be a bad thing / because the wish included everything including food (and flowers) / he could not eat (½ mark)*

2. Why do you think that the ancient Greeks said that they found gold on the banks of the river Patoclus?

*Because King Midas washed his hands in the river (½ mark) and all the gold of the objects he had turned flowed from his hands.*

3. What is the lesson that we learn from the story?

*That we should be happy with the things we have / grateful for all the things we have. do not accept: we should share with others / we should not ask for more gold.*