



Question Paper

Write all your answers on the Answer Sheet

Total number of pages: **10**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part I Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

Passage A (20 marks)

Read the following passage carefully then answer the questions in complete sentences in your own words.

First Palestinian Male Ballet Dancer Battles Prejudices	
1	[1] As the young ballet dancer stretches backwards lifting his leg over the barre and rising up on to demi-pointe, beads of sweat appear on his forehead. The two hour-long routine takes place daily in south London in a practice studio surrounded by mirrors. The practice is so demanding that it would break the will, not to mention the physical strength, of anyone less passionate about dance.
5	[2] But it is not just the gruelling requirements of ballet that this young dancer has to contend with but also entrenched cultural prejudices. As the only classically-trained, male Palestinian dancer, 21-year-old Ayman Safiah has had to face huge opposition from within his own community. "My desire to study classical ballet was simply beyond the understanding of my classmates," he explains. "They only knew that it was something women enjoyed. It was completely alien to them."
10	[3] An Arab citizen of Israel, Ayman was born in Kafr Yassif in the Galilee - the pre-eminent cultural town from where well-known artists and writers such as Mahmoud Darwish have sprung on to the international stage. Relations between Arabs and Jews in the town are cordial and it has retained most of the land it held before 1948. Safiah recognises that he is fortunate to come from a liberal family open to new ideas. "My parents knew that ballet was going to be a large part of my life from early on," he
15	says. "Even my grandfather accepted my career choice even though he didn't fully understand what it entailed."
20	[4] But it has not been an easy road from being a student at the Rabeah Murkus Dance Studio, Israel's first Arab dance studio and located in his hometown, to graduating from the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in Richmond, where he has been a student for the past three years. "I was the only male student in the ballet class at the local cultural centre in Kafr Yassif," Safiah says. "I was spotted

by Rabeah Murkus, the first female Palestinian ballet dancer, who took me under her wing and helped me find funding to come and study in London." Initial funding came from the Clore Duffield Foundation.

25 [5] Opposition from some of his Arab compatriots is based on religion. "They say that performing ballet is against Islam," Safiah explains. "They say that for a man to wear tights and dance topless on the stage is 'haram', or 'forbidden'." Safiah was able to shrug off being ridiculed when he went to buy tights and ballet shoes in his local area. But now that he has graduated from the Rambert School he says he faces a new obstacle. "When Yehudit Arnon founded the Kibbutz Dance School Gaaton, where I studied, the idea was to bring Arabs and Jews together," Safiah explains. "But now that the founder is no longer in charge, that ethos has changed and the school is reluctant to accept Palestinians." The dance school 30 denied the accusations, telling the BBC: "The parameters to get accepted to the Company as dancers are strictly professional and artistic, regardless of religion, race or sex... The auditions are open to everyone."

35 [6] When the Israel Ballet, the only company in Israel performing the great classical ballets toured the United States, protesters pointed out that that the company had no Palestinian dancers. But Safiah is unwilling to enter into this debate. "The arts in Israel are more segregated than before, but I am not interested in that sort of environment. I don't like politics having a role in the arts. I just want to dance." But visa requirements may force him to return to Israel.

40 [7] "Even if I have to go back and spend a year in one of the major Israeli dance companies, I am sure my future lies here in London," he adds. "I've already got offers from the likes of the Matthew Bourne Company." Having participated in the short film, *A Bigger Space for Dancing*, projected at the Royal Academy's David Hockney show, *A Bigger Picture*, Safiah feels that his personal success is also enabling other Palestinian boys who want to be ballet dancers. "When I last went back home I paid a visit to the cultural centre in my town, where I was the only boy taking classical ballet," he recalls. "I was really surprised to see that there were quite a few boys in the class - eight or nine. They thanked me and said that they were grateful to me for showing them the way and opening the door."

Refer to the passage and answer questions 1 to 8 on the Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. What does the word 'it' refer to in paragraph 2, line 5? (1 mark)
2. How has Safiah's dancing attracted opposition? (1 mark)
3. What does the phrase 'an easy road' mean as used in paragraph 4, line 1? (1 mark)
4. What does Safiah think about the state of arts in Israel? (2 marks)
5. How has the Kibbutz Dance School changes since Safiah left for London? (1 mark)
6. What accusations have been made about the Israel Ballet? (1 mark)

7. What particular things that Safiah has to do in his performances have angered some Muslims?

(2 marks)

8. What effect does Safiah think his success is having on Palestinian youths? (1 mark)

True (T) or False (F)? (5 marks)

9. Safiah's family is unsupportive of his career choice.

10. Safiah thinks he will be in London in the future.

11. Rabeah Murkus funded Sabeah for his studies in London.

12. Safiah is a political man.

13. The Kibbutz Dance School says it is not true that it doesn't let Palestinians in.

Fill in each blank with ONE word only. The words may or may not appear in the passage. (5 marks)

Ayman Safiah is Palestine's only __14__ ballet dancer, who grew up in Israel but came to ballet school in __15__. He has faced opposition from some in his homeland who think that ballet is something that only __16__ do, but he has been able to pursue his chosen career with the support of his __17__. He now hopes that he can inspire other young Palestinian boys to take up __18__.

Passage B (10 marks)

Read the following passage carefully then answer the questions in complete sentences in your own words .

World's Smallest Flying Robot Takes Off

1 [1] Scientists in the US have created a robot the size of a fly that is able to perform the agile
manoeuvres of the common insects. This "robo-fly", built from carbon fibre, weighs a fraction
of a gram and has super-fast electronic "muscles" to power its wings. Its Harvard University
5 developers say tiny robots like theirs may eventually be used in rescue operations. It could, for
example, navigate through tiny spaces in collapsed buildings.

[2] The robot was made by Dr Kevin Ma from Harvard University and his team, led by Dr Robert
Wood. It also has the fly-like agility that allows the insects to evade even the swiftest of human
efforts to swat them. This comes largely from very **precise** wing movements. By constantly
adjusting the effect of lift and thrust acting on its body at an incredibly high speed, the insect's
10 (and the robot's) wings enable it to hover, or to perform sudden evasive manoeuvres. And just
like a real fly, the robot's thin, flexible wings beat approximately 120 times every second. The
researchers achieved this wing speed with special substance called piezoelectric material, which
contracts every time a voltage is applied to it. By very rapidly switching the voltage on and off,
the scientists were able to make this material behave like just like the tiny muscles that makes
15 a fly's wings beat so fast. "We get **it** to contract and relax, like biological muscle," said Dr Ma.

[3] The main goal of this research was to understand how insect flight works, rather than to build
a useful robot. He added though that there could be many uses for such a diminutive flying
vehicle. "We could envision these robots being used for search-and-rescue operations to search
for human survivors under collapsed buildings or [in] other hazardous environments," he said.
20 "They [could] be used for environmental monitoring, to be dispersed into a habitat to sense
trace chemicals or other factors." Dr Ma even suggested that the robots could behave like many
real insects and assist with the pollination of crops, "to function as the now-struggling honeybee
populations do in supporting agriculture around the world".

[4] The current model of robo-fly is tethered to a small, off-board power source but Dr Ma says
the next step will be to miniaturise the other bits of technology that will be needed to create a
"fully wireless flying robot". "It will be a few more years before full integration is possible," he
said. "Until then, this research project continues to be very captivating work because of its
similarity to natural insects. It is a demonstration of how far human engineering ingenuity has
25 reached, to be mimicking natural systems."
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[5] Dr Jon Dyhr, a biologist from the University of Washington who also studies insect flight,

35	said these flying robots were "impressive feats of engineering". "The physics of flight at such small scales is relatively poorly understood which makes designing small flying systems very difficult," he told BBC News, adding that biological systems provided "critical insights into designing our own artificial flyers".
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Refer to the article and answer questions 19 to 26 on the Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

For questions 19-23, write the letter of each answer only. (1 mark each)

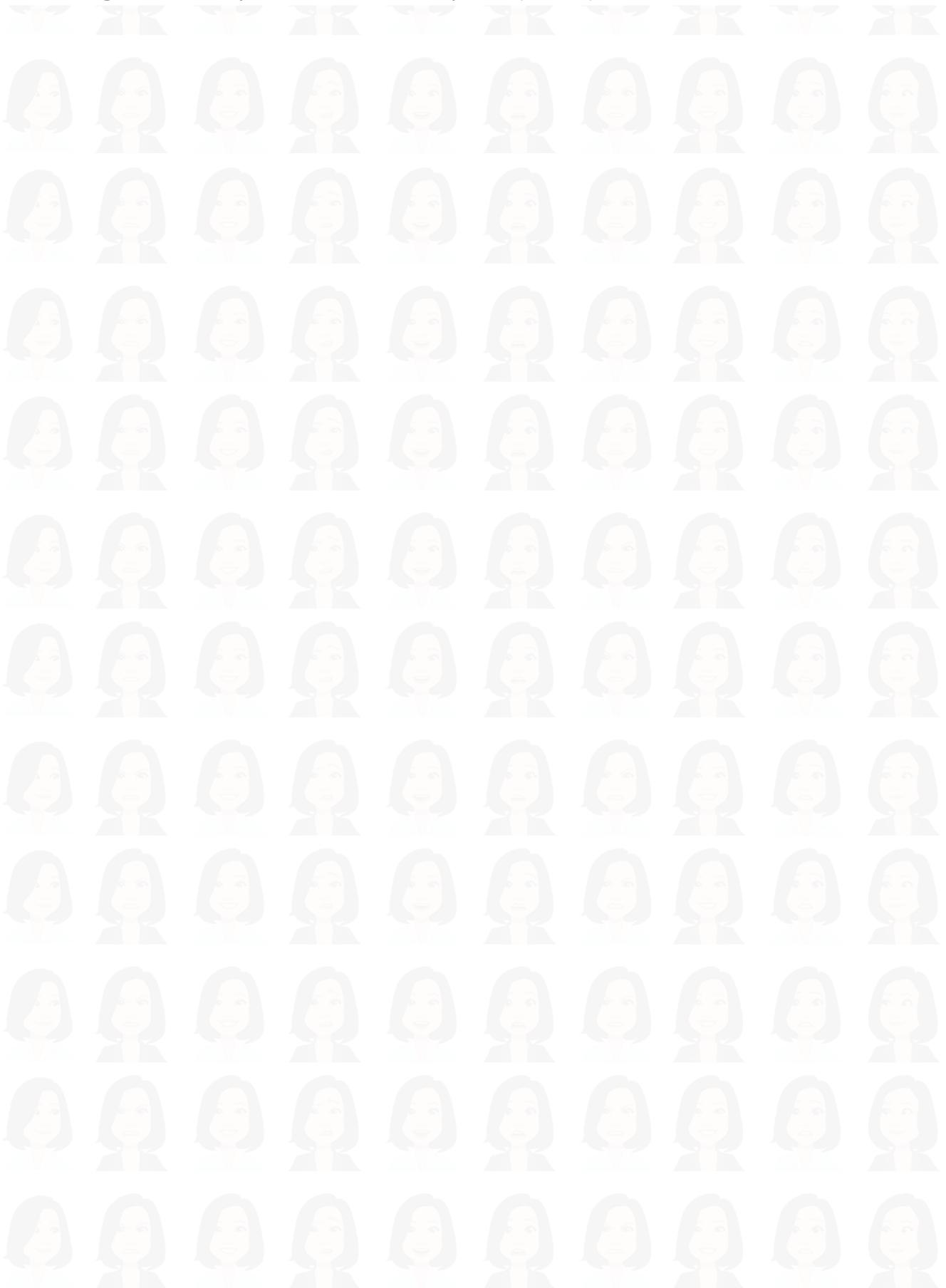
19. What was the scientists' main goal in building the robot?
- A. To help in search-and-rescue operations.
 - B. To monitor the environment.
 - C. To understand more about insect flight.
 - D. To assist with the pollination of crops.
20. What does the word 'it' refer to in paragraph 2, line 10?
- A. The robo-fly.
 - B. The material used to make the insect's wings.
 - C. Muscle tissue.
 - D. A real fly.
21. In paragraph 2, line 3, what does the word 'precise' mean?
- A. Perfect
 - B. Fast
 - C. Life-like
 - D. Exact
22. The purpose of this article is
- A. to entertain.
 - B. to persuade.
 - C. to review.
 - D. to inform.
23. Why does Dr Jon Dyhr think that the robots are particularly impressive?
- A. Because it is difficult to understand how to make very small things fly.
 - B. Because it can do so many things that can make the world better.
 - C. Because its wings can move so fast.
 - D. Because it can fly both up and down.

Answer questions 24-26 in complete sentences in your own words. (5 marks)

24. Give three potential practical uses for the robo-fly mentioned in the article. (3 marks)

25. What needs to be done before the robot becomes fully wireless? (1 mark)

26. How might the robo-fly be useful in an earthquake? (1 mark)



Part II Grammar Usage (37 marks)

A. Vocabulary (15 marks)

Choose from the words or expressions in the box below to complete the sentences. You may have to change the form of the vocabulary.

suspect	tedious	nostalgia	tooth-and-nail	contain
abundant	irony	conspicuous	consequential	need
participate	consume	curious	lenient	persuade

1. The teacher became more _____ with her marking when she found out what Jeffrey had been through.
2. Whilst Barry was enthralled by the new film, his sister found it _____ and was glad when it was over.
3. She found reading through her old journal extremely _____.
4. Elsie was prepared to fight _____ to secure her place at a prestigious university.
5. Due to his food allergy, Ben couldn't eat anything which _____ nuts.
6. It became _____ clear that nothing was going to dissuade Molly from doing the right thing.
7. It was _____ that for such a tall person, his name was Mr Small.
8. Everything about Jon was _____. He dressed extremely flamboyantly and made a scene wherever he was.
9. As a _____ of not revising, Bethany failed her exams.
10. After her suitcase was stolen, Clare was in desperate _____ of some new clothes.
11. Barbara thanked Anthony for his _____ in the school fair.
12. The _____ of fossil fuels is contributing to global warming.
13. Sometimes an unhealthy level of _____ can lead you into dangerous situations.
14. Her _____ were first aroused when she found loads of money hidden under his friend's bed.
15. It was impossible _____ Harry to do something he didn't want to do.

B. MC Cloze (12 marks)

Choose the best answer for each of the blanks.

Most people are born with the natural ability to tell stories, but only a rare few have the determination to become professional authors, and even fewer have the joy of seeing their novels top the __1__ of bestselling books. Some of the world's most famous crime writers have achieved the __2__ of all. Who can __3__ the appeal of famous detectives like Sherlock Holmes, Miss Marple or Hercule Poirot? Even if you haven't read the __4__ books you will have seen them in films or on the TV. If you have an ambition to become the __5__ Agatha Christie, what should you do? The best starting __6__ is to read lots of examples of crime fiction written by good authors. You will need a notebook to carry around with you or, __7__ better, some loose __8__ of paper that you can __9__ notes on and then file into a folder. After all, the most everyday situation – for example, watching a woman get __10__ a train – may be the __11__ for your first bestseller. Like any good recipe you have to know the main __12__ of a successful novel. These are: an original story, strong characters and a memorable setting.

1	A. queue B. list C. row D. line	2	A. largest B. greatest C. highest D. prime	3	A. refuses B. deny C. insist D. hide
4	A. first B. initial C. early D. original	5	A. following B. next C. subsequent D. late	6	A. spot B. tip C. point D. mark
7	A. even B. still C. very D. so	8	A. strips B. sheets C. layers D. piece	9	A. complete B. do C. fill D. scribble
10	A. out B. down C. off D. from	11	A. notion B. ideas C. invention D. plot	12	A. parts B. ingredients C. pieces D. sections

C. Form of Words (10 marks)

Fill in each blank with the correct form of the word in the bracket.

- Mary was very _____ (judge) of people who smoked.
- He looked on with great _____ (passive) even though the teacher was shouting very loudly at him.
- It is a _____ (concept) to think that Africa is a country.

policemen, members of the royal family, and children. In addition his two-dimensional work, Banksy is known his installation artwork. One of the most celebrated of these pieces, which featured a live elephant painted with a Victorian wallpaper pattern, sparked controversy among animal rites activists.

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Other pieces have drawn attention for their edgy themes or the boldness of their execution. Banksy's work on the West Bank barrier, between Israel and Palestine, received significant media attention in 2005. He is also known for his use of copyrighted material and subverse of classical images. An example of this is Banksy's version of Monet's famous series of water lilies paintings, adapted by Banksy to include drifting trash and debris.

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Banksy's worldwide fame has transformed his artwork from acts of vandalism to a sought-after high art pieces. Journalist Max Foster has referred to the rising prices of graffiti and street art as "the Banksy effect." Interest in Banksy escalated with the release of the 2010 documentary *Exit Threw the Gift Shop*. The film, which was premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, was nominated for an Academy Award.

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