



Name: _____

Date: _____

Part I Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Passage A (10 marks)

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

A Dozen Kinds of Love

1 **[1]** Andrew Solomon's newest book, *Far From the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity*, tells the stories of parents who not only learn to deal with their exceptional children, but also find profound meaning in doing so. Solomon's startling proposition is that **diversity** is what unites us. He writes about families coping with deafness, dwarfism, Down syndrome, autism, schizophrenia, multiple severe disabilities, with children who are prodigies, who are
5 conceived in rape, who become criminals, who are transgender. While each of these characteristics is potentially isolating, the experience of difference within families is universal, as are the struggles toward compassion and the triumphs of love Solomon documents in every chapter. Woven into these courageous and affirming stories is Solomon's journey to accepting
10 his own identity, which culminated in his midlife decision, influenced by this research, to become a parent.

[2] Solomon says the book, which is a real **doorstopper** at 976 pages long, took eleven years to complete, and that it was both a source of enormous relief and enormous anxiety when he finished it. He claims **it** still feels like a miracle that he did actually finish it – there was a long
15 time when he thought he would never reach the end. Solomon explored how families coped with having children who were in some way different from them, and interviewed 300 families in total. "I think the detail is necessary," he says. "The tension of the book is what all these experiences have in common but I also wanted to describe what each of them individually is like. I felt that I couldn't write about the experience of families dealing with deafness if I only
20 interviewed four families. I felt that you would only be telling the stories of four families. Whereas if you have 15 families and have also done a great deal of other research, you can make

a claim that it's a representation of the deaf experience.”

25 **[3]** Solomon says that in writing the book he addressed a profound sadness in himself which he was able to cure through the act of writing. As the gay child of straight parents, he says that he “managed to find
30 some sort of peace with being gay but I still felt some sort of legacy of disapprobation that had been attached to my coming out, and it had lingered really throughout my adult life. It was a relief to discover that many families struggle with having children who are different. And the fact that a family takes a while to get to the point of acceptance does not mean that the family does not also experience love. People who are different are constantly dealing with families who don’t understand them. I suddenly
30 felt that it’s almost everybody’s experience at one level or another, and that was really amazing.”

35 **[4]** Although he seemed to be writing about everything that could go wrong with parenting, Solomon has chosen to adopt a child himself. He claims that “it's actually not a book about everything that can go wrong, it's a book about how well things can be pulled together, even when everything goes wrong. How much love parents can experience, even when facing these difficulties. I thought, ‘Gee, I see, even in
35 these terrible cases, how profoundly rewarding parenting is for all these people.’ And it drew me toward that experience. My now husband is the biological father of two children with some lesbian friends in Minneapolis, and he had already had one of them at the time I was working on the book. I have a daughter with a friend from university and they live in Texas. And then my husband and I decided that we wanted to have a child together, and we now have a son, George, who is here with us now at this
40 very moment, running in and out of the room. He'll be four in April. It's five parents and four children in three states.”

45 **[5]** Solomon’s books includes some striking interviews, for instance with the parents of Dylan Klebold, the teenage killer in the Columbine massacre. “I thought that if I really got to know them I could understand why things had gone so horribly wrong, and how they could have had a child who committed
45 such a heinous crime. And the more I got to know them, the more bewildered I felt. The Klebolds showed me that this thing of having a child who is broken in some way and is wantonly destructive could happen to any of us.” Solomon lives in Britain part-time, where he did his graduate studies. “It’s a big piece of my life. I like the relative literacy of at least some of England. I mean, I didn’t come for the food or the weather!”

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

1. What is meant by the word ‘doorstopper’ in paragraph 2, line 1? (1 mark)
2. Why did Andrew Solomon believe that it was necessary to interview so many families? (2 marks)
3. What personal experience did writing the book help Solomon to come to terms with? (1 mark)

4. What was the decision that Andrew Solomon made with respect to having children of his own, and why did that decision seem strange given the subject matter of his book? (2 marks)
5. Why do you think Andrew Solomon decided to call his book *Far From the Tree*? (1 mark)
6. What does the word 'it' refer to in paragraph 2 line 3? (1 mark)
7. Why was Andrew Solomon 'bewildered' when he met the family of Dylan Klebold? (1 mark)
8. What does the phrase 'diversity is what unites us' mean in paragraph 1, line 3? (1 mark)

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

9. Andrew Solomon thought that Dylan Klebold's parents were horrible people.
10. Andrew Solomon is homosexual.
11. Andrew Solomon lives in Britain all the time.
12. Andrew Solomon dislikes the British food and weather.
13. Andrew Solomon focuses on the experience of 15 families in his book.

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

Andrew Solomon is an __14__ who has written a book dealing with the experience of __15__ with disabled children. He interviewed __16__ families when researching for his book, which was inspired by his own experience as the gay child of __17__ parents. Despite the stories which he writes about, Solomon has a __18__ of his own with his partner.

Passage B (10 marks)

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

Monster Mash-Up	
1	<i>While making the follow-up to Monsters, Inc., the director consulted a few nasty critters of his own. It's always the way with sequels: bigger, better, more. In the case of Monsters University, it's hundreds more. This prequel takes Monsters, Inc.'s Mike and Sulley back to college, with an army of monsters of all shapes and sizes. "It was overwhelming at times," admits director Dan Scanlon.</i>
5	<i>So how abstract did Scanlon go in his creation of otherworldly beasts? "We want these characters to look bizarre and original," he says, "but we still want you to be able to relate to them." Scanlon's team based most of their 400 critters on five basic body types, including slugs and fungi, "and from that," he says, "they could stretch them around so out of each individual category they could make several varieties of that species." Scanlon enthuses the most about</i>
10	<i>one-off characters such as Dean Hardscrabble, who has a lizardy face and bat wings, and was based on a poisonous Peruvian centipede. They had one to study in meetings. "It was kept in a plastic jar that looked like it had coleslaw in it previously," laughs Scanlon. "I thought I'd walk into someone's office one day, and that thing would be missing, but it's safely back home."</i>

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. Monsters University is...

- A. a film.
- B. a book.
- C. a university.
- D. a ballet.

20. Mike and Sulley are...

- A. directors.
- B. 3D software designers.
- C. monsters.
- D. fungus experts.

21. What does the word 'bizarre' mean in line 6?

- A. Larger than life
- B. Realistic
- C. Scary
- D. Strange

22. Dean Hardscrabble is...
- A. a Peruvian centipede.
 - B. a monster.
 - C. a director.
 - D. the main character.

23. The purpose of this article is...
- A. to sell.
 - B. to review.
 - C. to persuade.
 - D. to inform.

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

24. How many monsters are in Monsters University? (1 mark)
25. What sources did the creators draw inspiration from for their monsters? (3 marks)
26. What did they keep in a plastic jar at meetings? (1 mark)

Part II Grammar Usage (37 marks)

C. 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.

head over heels	magnet	fog	begin	magnification
obliged	record	refer	fulfilment	periphery
the plot thickens	relate	eradicate	induction	religious

1. An _____ day will be held to help student familiarise themselves with our facilities.
2. My friend still holds the world _____ for eating the most marshmallows in a minute.
3. Despite my poor grades, I got a really positive _____ from my tutor.
4. I saw the accident happen in my _____ vision.
5. I saw the bacteria _____ in the microscope's lens.
6. Compasses work due to the Earth's _____ field.
7. It was my moral _____ to give my sandwich to the homeless man.
8. I find it impossible to _____ to people who support foxhunting.
9. There is some controversy as to whether Scientology can be considered a _____.
10. I fell _____ in love with him.
11. From the _____, I could tell that the plan wasn't going to work.
12. I hadn't the _____ idea where I had left my notebook.
13. My parents had very high expectations of me that were impossible to _____.
14. _____ when it was revealed that the suspect was the victim's brother.
15. Election lessons have totally _____ my regional accent.

B. MC Cloze (12 marks)

Choose the best answer for each of the blanks.

In the ecological balance of nature, there is a place for every kind of bug. However, __1__ are puzzled as to where a bedbug should fit into the scheme of nature. These bugs seem to have survived more than a few thousand years due to a hearty resilience and __2__ reproduction. The history of the __3__ bedbug dates back to some of the earliest civilizations. Mankind has curiously wondered where the bedbugs originated and how they managed to __4__ the world. Bedbugs were presumably first noticed by colonists in the early 1700's, but they are not __5__ to America. Many believe they came from Europe on sail boats, __6__ the sailors' bedding. For most of the population, living with bedbugs was simply a way of life as the standard of cleanliness was not as __7__ as it is currently in most countries. Not surprisingly, when higher standards of hygiene were __8__ as well as providing public education of the dangers of the bugs, steps were taken to destroy all kinds of insects that invaded people's lives. These tiny __9__

creatures were brought under control after the pesticide DDT was used, but when it was banned in 1970, the bugs became extremely prolific. In the past few years, bedbug __10__ have dramatically increased, equalling what was previously known to exist in the 16th century. One reason for the __11__ is because society tends to be much more __12__ than in earlier times, travelling to various countries on vacations, unknowingly carrying the pests from one hotel to another or to their own homes.

1	A. polygamists B. protagonists C. entomologists D. geologists	2	A. sluggish B. prolific C. advanced D. domestic	3	A. incontinent B. infestations C. horrendous D. viable
4	A. converse B. exist C. traverse D. increase	5	A. prodigious B. indigenous C. industrious D. fastidious	6	A. infecting B. rotting C. contaminating D. infesting
7	A. pronounced B. programmed C. devised D. diminished	8	A. constant B. implemented C. fastidious D. finalized	9	A. fascinating B. adventurous C. insidious D. creative
10	A. colonisations B. existences C. infestations D. imagination	11	A. rising B. increase C. inflate D. proliferate	12	A. mobile B. manageable C. transit D. practical

C. Form of Words (10 marks)

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

It is simply this. That Space, as our __1__ (math) have it, is spoken of as having three dimensions, which one may call __2__ (long), __3__ (broad), and __4__ (thick), and is always definable by __5__ (refer) to three planes, each at right angles to the others. But some __6__ (philosophy) have been asking why THREE dimensions __7__ (particular) – why not another direction at right angles to the other three? – and have even tried to construct a four-dimension geometry. Professor Simon Newcomb was expounding this to the New York Mathematical Society only a month or so ago. You know how on a flat surface, which has only two dimensions, we can represent a figure of a three __8__ (dimension) solid, and __9__ (similar) they think that by models of thee dimensions they could represent one of four – if they could master the __10__ (perceive) of the thing. See?

Part III Proofreading (14 marks)

Correct the mistakes in the numbered lines without change the meaning. Do not make unnecessary changes or changes to punctuation. There is only one mistake in each numbered line. Corrections must be done as follows:

Wrong word: underline the wrong word and write the correct word above it (example a).
 Missing word: mark the position of the missing word with a '^' and write the missing word above it (example b)
 Extra word: delete the extra word with a 'X' (example c)

proofread	
I have <u>proofreaded</u> the work.	a
have	
Jessie and Kenneth ^ just finished their dinner.	b
Coming to school early without x having breakfast is...	c

Deep Blue Drama	
"We're obsessed by man versus machine theme," says playwright Matt Charman. "But I don't think there is a more than powerful examples of it than this moment."	1
	2
He's talking about moment in New York in May 1997, while world chess champion Garry Kasparov took up a 1.27-tonne chess monster capable of 200 million calculations per second: IBM's Deep Blue. It formed the bases of Charman's new play The Machine, which has its world premiere at the Manchester International Festival July 10.	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
"For me," says Charman, "the play is about what goes in making something like Deep Blue, and what made Garry Kasparov that the man he was."	8
	9
Center to the plot is the supercomputer's 'human' move that spooked Kasparov ("Was that the result of a bug? Did Deep Blue make mistake?").	10
	11
And don't expect to end up to be siding with the human...	12
"Deep Blue was lovely built," says Charman. "You realise that this isn't just a machine to the guys who built it. It's a stepping stone artificial intelligence. The machine's humanity comes from the guys who made it."	13
	14