We were driving from Switzerland toward the lovely Italian city of Verona. Just outside the city two boys stopped us. They were selling strawberries that looked delicious. "Don't buy them," our driver said. "You find better strawberries in Verona." His face showed that he did not like their appearance. It was true that their clothes were untidy and poor. But as we looked at these two slim children, we wanted to know more about them.

My friend spoke to the boys and found that they were brothers. Nicola was 13; Jacopo, the smaller one, was almost 12. We bought their biggest basket of strawberries and then continued toward Verona.

The next morning, coming out of our hotel, we saw the two boys again. They were busy selling fruit and newspapers, shining shoes and guiding people through Verona.

One night I saw them at the windy bus-station. They looked tired. "Why aren't you at home in bed?" I asked. Nicola looked at me. "We are waiting for the last bus," he said. "We will sell all our newspapers when it comes," he continued. It was almost midnight. Poor kids! They were living in the streets.

Adapted from: Two Gentlemen of Verona
by A. J. Cronin
I/ READING COMPREHENSION [7 marks]

1/ Tick (√) the proper alternative (0.5 mark)
The text is about two
a. [ ] silly boys.  b. [ ] street boys.  c. [ ] rich boys.

2/ Read paragraph 1 and find words that mean: (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)
a. thin = .......................................................... 
b. the way they looked = ..................................

3/ The narrator met the boys 3 times. Complete the table with the proper information about the places where he met them and the jobs they were doing then. (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Places where they met</th>
<th>The jobs the boys were doing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The first time</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>d) Selling fruit and newspapers, shining shoes and guiding people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The third time</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>f</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4/ Answer the following questions. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)
a. Did the narrator buy the strawberries from the boys?

b. Did the boys go to bed early?

c. Was the narrator travelling alone?

d. When did the last bus arrive at the station?
   - It arrived ...........................................

5/ What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)
a. he (paragraph 1) refers to ..........................................................
b. it (paragraph 4) refers to ..........................................................
II/ LANGUAGE  8 marks

1/ Choose the correct alternatives to complete the paragraph (0.5 x 6 = 3 marks)

It was late. David was driving back home from work. He was tired; so he drove slowly and ③ carefully. When he got to the crossroads, the traffic ⑤ lights were red; so he stopped and waited. When they turned green, he drove on. As he tried to cross the road, another car came ⑥ running the opposite direction and ④ jumped into his car. David ② out of his car and looked at the damages. His headlights were smashed and so ① those of the other car, but no one was hurt.

2/ Match the sentence parts in column A with those in column B to get a coherent paragraph. There is an extra part in column B. The parts in column A are in the correct order. Number 1 is an example. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Deborah Jenkins worked for</td>
<td>a. as a T.V reporter in Chicago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Then, she heard about an interesting job</td>
<td>b. she was frightened and nervous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. She applied for the job and had to go there for an interview.</td>
<td>c. she was frightened and nervous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. It was a great success because she knew</td>
<td>d. ten years as a reporter for the Houston Times newspaper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. She was happy with her new job but</td>
<td>e. went there for an interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f. a lot about reporting the news and talked well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answers | 1+d | 2+ | 3+ | 4+ | 5+ |

3/ Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the box. (0.5 x 6 = 3 marks)

Giraffes are the tallest animals on Earth. A large adult giraffe ② be up to 6 meters ⑦ tall. Thanks to its ⑤ long legs and ⑥ be up to 6 meters tall. Thanks to its ⑤ long legs and ⑥ leaves, it can eat the ④ leaves from the tops of ⑦ trees.
Peter's family have just moved from the country to a big town. Peter didn't like it, so he wrote his friend Tony a letter to complain about life in town. Write Peter's letter.

The following hints may help you:
noisy, polluted, too many people, too many cars, no friends, expensive.

Dear Tony,

..............................................................
..............................................................
..............................................................
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..............................................................
..............................................................
..............................................................
..............................................................
..............................................................
..............................................................

Yours,

Peter

N.B : PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME.
We were driving from Switzerland toward the lovely Italian city of Verona. Just outside the city two boys stopped us. They were selling strawberries that looked delicious. “Don’t buy them,” our driver said. “You find better strawberries in Verona.” His face showed that he did not like their appearance. It was true that their clothes were untidy and poor. But as we looked at these two slim children, we wanted to know more about them.

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Adapted from: *Two Gentlemen of Verona* by A. J. Cronin
1/ READING COMPREHENSION 7 marks

1/ Tick (✓) the proper alternative (0.5 mark)

The text is about two

a.  [ ] silly boys.  b. [✓] street boys.  c. [ ] rich boys.

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<td>Selling strawberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second time</td>
<td>Outside/ in front/near the hotel</td>
<td>Selling fruit and newspapers, shining shoes and guiding people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The third time</td>
<td>At the bus station</td>
<td>Selling newspapers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4/ Answer the following questions: (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

a. Did the narrator buy the strawberries from the boys?
   - Yes, he did. He bought their biggest basket of strawberries.

b. Did the boys go to bed early?
   - No, they didn't. They were still in the street, selling papers by midnight. They slept by after midnight very late.

c. Was the narrator traveling alone?
   - No, he wasn't. He was with a friend.

d. When did the last bus arrive at the station?
   - It arrived around... after... by... midnight

5/ What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)

a. he (paragraph 1) refers to ____________

b. it (paragraph 4) refers to ____________
1/ Choose the correct alternatives to complete the paragraph (0.5 x 6 = 3 marks)

It was late. David was driving back home from work. He was tired; so he drove slowly and 3**carefully**. When he got to the crossroads, the traffic **lights** were red; so he stopped and waited. When they turned green, he drove on. As he tried to cross the road, another car came 4**from** in the opposite direction and 5**ran** into his car. David 6**jumped** out of his car and looked at the damages. His headlights were smashed and so 7**were** those of the other car, but no one was hurt.

2/ Match the sentence parts in column A with those in column B to get a coherent paragraph. There is an extra part in column B. The parts in column A are in the correct order. Number 1 is an example. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

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<td>job but</td>
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Answers

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</table>

3/ Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the box. (0.5 x 6 = 3 marks)

**tail, neck, tall, taller, leaves, can, trees, long**

Giraffes are the tallest animals on Earth. A large adult giraffe **can** be up to 6 meters **tall**. Thanks to its **long** legs and **neck**, it can eat the **leaves** from the tops of **trees**.
III/ WRITING 5 marks

Peter's family have just moved from the country to a big town. Peter didn't like it, so he wrote his friend Tony a letter to complain about life in town. Write Peter's letter.

The following hints may help you:
noisy, polluted, too many people, too many cars, no friends, expensive.

Dear Tony,

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Adherence to task and organization ................................................ 2 marks

Language (grammar, accuracy and lexical appropriacy) ........................ 2 marks

Mechanical accuracy (spelling, punctuation and capitalization) .......... 1 mark

........................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................

Yours,

Peter

N.B: PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME.