THE LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES

The London 2012 Olympic Games will take place from 27 July to 12 August. The Games will involve more than 200 countries, over 10,500 Olympic athletes and 26 Olympic sports taking place in 34 venues. East London, one of the capital’s most disadvantaged areas, will be transformed into a world-class centre for living, leisure, business and sport.

The Games will centre on the Olympic Park in East London, home to the Olympic Stadium, and key venues such as the Aquatics Centre.

The Games will offer a fantastic opportunity to improve the lives of young people. They will allow them to promote the Olympic ideals of striving for excellence, doing your best and fair play. Besides, the Games will help young people live a healthy life, make them more aware of other countries and other cultures, and get them involved in different sports. The following programmes will deliver this vision: “Get Set”, a web-based resource for young people aged 3-19 and their teachers; and “International Inspiration”, which uses sport to inspire young people across the world.

The legacy of hosting the Games will make a difference to the lives of people across London and the UK. It will last long after the Games have ended.

Adapted from http://www.culture.gov.uk/

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer.
NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. Thanks to the Games, East London will change for the better.
2. The Games will only take place at the Olympic Stadium.
3. The Games will help youngsters to give up unhealthy habits.
4. The Games will not really change the lives of British people.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):
A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.
1. poorest.
2. free time.
3. very important.
4. furthermore.

B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)
1. Write two words from the text that include the same sound as “young” /ŋ/. (0.5)
2. Write a word from the text that includes the same diphthong sound as “place” /eɪ/. (0.25)
3. How is the “-ed” pronounced in “ended”, /t/, /d/ or /tɹd/.? (0.25)
III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)
Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1. “Did you buy the newspaper yesterday?” I asked my brother.
   I asked my brother …………………………………………………………………………………………

2. I don’t need your help.
   You ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

3. My son is not tall enough to play basketball.
   My son is ………………………………………………………………………………………………………

4. It will probably rain this afternoon.
   It ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

5. My nephew is not as stupid as my cousin.
   My cousin ………………………………………………………………………………………………………

6. Write the correct question for the underlined words.
   ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
   John has worked in Australia since 2005.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)
Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Advantages and disadvantages of being a professional sportsman/sportswoman.
CELEBRITIES AND DRUG USE

It seems that every time we turn on the television or watch the news, there is at least one celebrity into or getting out of some type of drug treatment centre. Does it seem as if celebrities don’t care about their image?

Contrary to popular belief, the life of a celebrity isn’t all fun and games. It is a life that is often filled with horrible schedules, back to back travelling and photo shoots. Maybe celebrities should get more sleep. One thing is for sure: money cannot buy you happiness … but surely can buy you drugs.

Everyone has problems - with their parents, friends or other family members. However the difference between a regular person and a celebrity is that most of us cannot afford a drug-ridden life style. We would never have enough money. When you are a celebrity, you have everything. All you have to do is to say the magic words to the right person and you can get whatever your heart or your body desires.

When you become involved in relationships and break up, no one knows about it unless we tell them. We are emotionally worried, but our sadness is done in private. This is not the case in the life of a celebrity. For celebrities, everything is under the microcospe.

The problem with celebrities and drug use is that many of them think that they are above the law. This is clearly not the case. In fact, many celebrities have ended up in prison.

Adapted from http://ezinearticles.com

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)
Add TRUE or FALSE and copy the evidence from the text to support your answer.
NO marks are given for only true or false.

1. People think that the life of a celebrity is always funny. 
2. Celebrities have a very busy life.
3. Famous people can get what they want.
4. Nobody is interested in the life of a celebrity.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS):
A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)
Find words or phrases in the text that mean the same as these given.

1. awful
2. sufficient
3. misery, grief
4. jail
B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

1. Write one word from the text that includes the same sound as “people” /iː/.
2. Write two words from the text that include the same sound as “some” /ʌ/.
3. Is the “-n” pronounced /n/ or /ŋ/ in “travelling”? 

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1. I didn’t move the table because Jack didn’t help me.
   If ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2. I visited my aunt’s cottage. It is near the river.
   I visited …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

3. My mother prefers cooking to cleaning the rooms.
   My mother would ………………………………………………………………………………………………………

4. They are considering your application for the job.
   Your application for the job ……………………………………………………………………………………………

5. I haven’t spoken German for fifteen years.
   The last time …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

6. Although the questions were difficult, he answered them all.
   Despite …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Would you like to have the life of a celebrity?