

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL OF VARDA

FINAL WRITING EXAMS - ENGLISH

SCHOOL YEAR 2013-2014

CLASS A

NAME:

DATE:

A Dream school

Humaira Bachal, a Pakistani woman, has overcome many obstacles in order to set up a school for poor children from her neighbourhood. In Moach Goth, the slum in the Pakistani city of Karachi where Humaira grew up, very few children went to school. Many families couldn't afford to pay school fees, buy books or cover the other expenses involved. Also, there were people with conservative attitudes who didn't approve of girls going to school. Some children worked in local factories to earn money for their families.

Humaira's mother wanted more for her children. She persuaded her husband to send Humaira and her sister to school. Humaira worked hard at school and felt sorry for her friends who didn't have the opportunity to get an education. Then she had a brainwave! She collected old school books and stationery from her classmates and started teaching girls from her neighbourhood at home. The idea was an instant success. Every afternoon the Bachal's kitchen would fill up with girls waiting for Humaira to share what she had learnt that day.

By 2005, when Humaira was 15, there simply wasn't room in her house for all the children who wanted to come to her lesson and she was under pressure from her father who wanted her to drop school and get married.

However Humaira was determined to continue both her studies and her teaching work. She persuaded her father to allow her to finish school and she also contacted the ARM Youth Welfare Society, an organization that helped her get funding to rent a building and buy school supplies. Today the school has 22 volunteer teachers aged between 13 and 24!

Humaira has made a huge difference in Moach Goth and although she "retired" from teaching at the school in 2007, she is still closely involved with it, helping the staff raise money in order to build their own school.

ACTIVITY 1. Read the text adapted from TAKE OFF B1+ and answer the questions. [30 points]



1. This text focuses on

- a. Education in general b. the unusual story of a Pakistani girl c. child labour
2. The writer finds the story
- a. Funny b. extraordinary c. ordinary
3. Which of the following is true according to the text? Many children in Karachi did not go to school because
- a. Of lack of money b. they did not like it c. school was far away
4. Girls in particular did not go to school because
- a. Their parents did not approve of it b. because they did not want to be educated c. they were busy
5. Humaira first taught
- a. in her house b. in her school c. in a rented building
6. Moach Goth is described as a "slum". What does it mean?
- a. an isolated area b. an expensive neighbourhood c. a poor part of a city
7. What does the word in italics mean? "She *persuaded* her father to allow her to finish school"
- a. Came up with b. set up c. talked into
8. What does the word in italics mean? "Her father wanted her to *drop* school and get married".
- a. Continue b. establish c. stop
9. "The ARM is an organization which helped Humaira find money to rent a building for her school". This statement is
- a. TRUE b. FALSE c. NOT STATED
10. "Humaira stopped teaching at the age of 17 because she got married". This statement is
- a. TRUE b. FALSE c. NOT STATED



ACTIVITY 2a. Fill in the text with the correct form of the words given. [20 points]

Many years ago I came across a person I can never forget! We met at an English **(1)**class in London where we used to read and analyze novels in order to improve our language skills. His name was Ngobo and he came from Nigeria, a country with extremely low **(2)**..... levels. Ngobo grew up in a poor family, did not go to school and was a child **(3)**from the age of 5! He told me that he had left his country, amidst a war, with other **(4)**.....who wanted to have a better life. He was such a highly **(5)**person that managed to learn the English language in just three months! After a while he decided to learn how to read and write as well, so he went to a night school and graduated two years later. He found that **(6)**was much to his liking and continued studying it at a local college. This person was **(7)**.....motivated by both his need to succeed and his desire to make friends. That is why some years later he opened a cafeteria where he was the **(8)**.....and the owner at the same time. I found it very **(9)**.....when I realized that Ngobo today is a **(10)**.....businessman with many companies and the will to set up even more!

1. Literate
2. Literate
3. Labour
4. Young
5. Motivate
6. Economy
7. Equal
8. Manage
9. Interest

10. Remark



THE HEADMASTER

THE INSTRUCTOR

Skoulikariti Sotiria