

# Mid-term exam revision

## Reading comprehension

I live in a modest flat in Wellington, New Zealand. But for the past three decades, I have travelled to India every year to visit the children's home for underprivileged kids that I established in a village called Nilakottai. Earlier in my life, I gained fame and success as a writer, especially with my novel 'Stand in the Rain'. Yet, it was during a holiday I took to India in 1984 that I found my true purpose in life. By chance, I met a man who was collecting for a local orphanage, and slowly developed a yearning to help the people – especially the children – of the area.

□ Faced with the prospect of raising enough money to pay for the building and staff, I returned to New Zealand to find people who would support my cause. I ended up selling my house which I had purchased with royalties from my novel. For the last three decades, our children's home has offered board to poor children until they complete their schooling. As many as 550 students have stayed in the home since 1987, and there are 40 boys and girls currently living there. Many have gone on to have careers. From a modest building, the orphanage has grown into a children's home with a primary school and vocational training centre.

□ I'm very pleased that people have taken interest in my work, and that a film about my time in India, called 'Aunty and the Star People', is being released in New Zealand this week. The title 'Aunty' is the affectionate name that the Indian children call me each time I visit them. I'm described as the New Zealand Mother Teresa, but I don't think I can be compared to her. However, the work I do in India has given my life meaning. Now that I'm in my eighties, the travel and distance are harder, but I will keep travelling until I am unable to do so. It's great to see the children developing, getting jobs and expanding their lives. Dear all,

<http://www.nzwomansweekly.co.nz/your-stories/weekly-people> By 'Aunty' Joan



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## Reading Comprehension: (12 marks)

### 1) Tick (II) the quote that best summarizes the text: (1 mark)

- To be happy, we must not be too concerned with others.
- One must be poor to know the luxury of giving.
- Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice.

### 2) Correct these false statements with details from the text. (3 marks)

a- Mrs. Joan's establishment is no more than a shelter for the orphans.  
(paragraph 2) .....

b- Mrs. Joan failed to win the children's love. (paragraph 3)  
.....

c- Aunty Joan intends to give up her annual trips to India. (paragraph 3)  
.....

### 3) Complete the following table with information from the text: (2 marks)

| <i>Cause</i>  | <i>Result</i>   |
|---|---|
| .....<br>.....  | - She got a strong desire to support children.                        |
| The writer needed money to build the children's home. | a- She sought contributions from citizens in her country.<br>b- ..... |

### 4) Focus on paragraph 3 and answer the following question. (2 marks)

What are the two factors showing that Joan's philanthropy is very appreciated both in New Zealand and in India. What are they?

- a- .....
- b- .....



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**5) Tick | the appropriate option: (1 mark)**

“The work I do in India has given my life meaning” means:

- My work has saved my family life.
- My work has revived solidarity in India.
- My work has made my life more valuable.

**6) What does the underlined word in the text refer to? (1mark)**

there (P2) refers to: .....

**7) Find a word in the text having nearly the same meaning as: (1mark)**

needy: ..... (paragraph 1)

**8) Give a personal justified answer to the following question. (1 mark)**

If you were Joan, would you give up a successful career to become a philanthropist? Why? / Why not?

.....  
.....

**Language: (6 marks)**

**1) Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the list below. (3 marks)**

chores - expect - instrumental - seriously - whereas - shared - accept- hard

Even in an age when most women go out to work, they still find themselves doing most of the household tasks. Research shows that mothers spend on average three hours a day doing housework and cooking ..... fathers spend just 45 minutes. Men still ..... women to do the housework on their own. When men do some ....., they act as if they were doing their partner a favour instead of regarding it as something which benefits both of them. Sharing roles is so important that couples should discuss it ..... with all the other big issues when deciding to marry. Housework is one of the areas that couples find so ..... to discuss. If it's not ..... and talked about, it can lead to a sense of dissatisfaction and resentment, which can threaten the couple's relationship.



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## 2) Put the bracketed words in the right tense and / or form. (3 marks)

An Irish American billionaire who kept his philanthropy secret for 15 years has given away \$7.5 billion and plans for all his fortune to go to charity before he dies. Since 1980, Chuck Feeney (**donate**) ..... away 99 per cent of his fortune to health, science and education causes around the world through his Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation. Feeney, who made his money from duty free shopping, quietly started his (**philanthropy**) ..... journey early in his life. Until 1997, his (**generous**) ..... went unknown. He even wanted charities (**keep**) ..... the source of their donations secret. "People who have money have an obligation towards those who don't. I became (**convince**) ..... that there was greater satisfaction from giving my money away and (**see**) ..... something comes out of the ground, like a hospital or a university," Feeney said.

## III- Writing: (12 marks)

### 1) Dialogue Completion. (4 marks) Complete the following conversation with the appropriate utterances.

Journalist: Could you introduce yourself to our readers?

CIFF member: I am a volunteer at Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF).

Journalist: .....

CIFF member: The CIFF was established in 2002 by manager Chris John and his wife Jamie.

Journalist: .....

CIFF member: CIFF's goals are child survival, hunger alleviation and educational achievement.

Journalist: Where do you get the money from to keep your foundation running?

CIFF member:

Journalist: As you focus on various areas to support children,

CIFF member: Unfortunately, no. Although we have many volunteers, we do need more donations.



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**2) A letter: (8 marks)**

*Dear columnist,*

*My son is 17. His misconduct is becoming more and more noticeable. If I yell at him, he accuses me of being very strict and narrow-minded. He often threatens to leave home. What shall I do to have a better relationship with him? Please help.*

Yours,

Anxious father

As a columnist, you received the letter above from a worried father, write him back to give him advice and suggest solutions to solve his problem with his son.

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