



Ministero dell' Istruzione, dell' Università e della Ricerca

ESAME DI STATO DI ISTRUZIONE SECONDARIA SUPERIORE

Indirizzi: ISJV - ARTISTICO

ISEV, EA14 - GIURIDICO ECONOMICO

Tema di: LINGUA E CULTURA STRANIERA - INGLESE

PART 1 – COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

Question A

Read the following text

Tuesday morning, then, in the kitchen. Reenie and Mother were making the bread. No: Reenie was making the bread, and Mother was having a cup of tea. Reenie had said to Mother that she wouldn't be surprised if there was thunder later in the day, the air was so heavy, and shouldn't Mother be out in the shade, or lying down; but Mother had said she hated doing nothing. She said it made her feel useless; she said she'd like to keep Reenie company.

Mother could walk on water as far as Reenie was concerned, and in any case she had no power to order her around. So Mother sat drinking her tea while Reenie stood at the table, turning the mound of bread dough, pushing down into it with both hands, folding, turning, pushing down. Her hands were covered with flour; she looked as if she had white floury gloves on. There was flour on the bib of her apron too. She had half-circles of sweat under her arms, darkening the yellow daisies on her house dress. Some of the loaves were already shaped and in the pans, with a clean, damp dishtowel over each one. The humid mushroom smell filled the kitchen.

The kitchen was hot, because the oven needed a good bed of coals, and also because there was a heat wave. The window was open, the wave of heat rolled in through it. The flour for the bread came out of the big barrel in the pantry. You should never climb into that barrel because the flour could get into your nose and mouth and smother you. Reenie had known a baby who was stuck into the flour barrel upside down by its brothers and sisters and almost choked to death.

Laura and I were under the kitchen table. I was reading an illustrated book for children called *Great Men of History*. Napoleon was in exile on the island of St. Helena, standing on a cliff with his hand inside his coat. I thought he must have a stomach ache. Laura was restless. She crawled out from under the table to get a drink of water. "You want some dough to make a bread man?" said Reenie.

"No," said Laura

"No, *thank* you," said Mother.

Laura crawled back under the table. We could see the two pairs of feet, Mother's narrow ones and Reenie's wider ones in their sturdy shoes, and Mother's skinny legs and Reenie's plump ones in their pinky-brown stockings. We could hear the muffled turning and thumping of the bread dough. Then all of a sudden the teacup shattered and Mother was down on the floor, and Reenie was kneeling beside her. "Oh dear God," she was saying. "Iris, go get your father."

(459 words)

from *The Blind Assassin*, 2000 (Margaret Atwood, 1939 -)



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*Say whether each of the following statements is **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Stated (NS)**. Put a cross in the correct box*

1. Reenie is deeply protective and shows great devotion to Mother.

T **F** **NS**

2. Reenie is kneading the dough after having cooked some mushrooms.

T **F** **NS**

3. Mother is irritated by Reenie offering the child some dough to play with.

T **F** **NS**

4. Laura is Iris's elder sister.

T **F** **NS**

5. Mother faints.

T **F** **NS**

Answer the following questions. Use complete sentences and your own words.

6. Focus on the details concerning the characters and describe them and their relationships to each other.

7. What general atmosphere is created through the description of what is happening in the kitchen? Support your statements with references to the text.

8. From whose point of view are the events narrated? Which narrative technique is used?



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Question B

Read the following text

Kenyan science teacher Peter Tabichi wins global prize

A science teacher from rural Kenya, who gives away most of his salary to support poorer pupils, has won a \$1m prize (£760,000) for the world's best teacher.

Peter Tabichi, a member of the Franciscan religious order, won the 2019 Global Teacher Prize.

Brother Peter has been praised for his achievements in a deprived school with crowded classes and few textbooks.

He wants pupils to see "science is the way to go" for their futures.

The award, announced in a ceremony in Dubai, recognises the "exceptional" teacher's commitment to pupils in a remote part of Kenya's Rift Valley.

He gives away 80% of his pay to support pupils, at the Keriko Mixed Day Secondary School in Pwani Village, Nakuru, who otherwise could not afford uniforms or books.

Improving science

"It's not all about money," says Brother Peter, whose pupils are almost all from very disadvantaged families. Many are orphaned or have lost a parent.

The 36-year-old teacher wants to raise aspirations and to promote the cause of science, not just in Kenya but across Africa.

On winning the prize, Brother Peter hailed the potential of Africa's young population.

"As a teacher working on the frontline I have seen the promise of its young people - their curiosity, talent, their intelligence, their belief.

"Africa's young people will no longer be held back by low expectations. Africa will produce scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs whose names will be one day famous in every corner of the world. And girls will be a huge part of this story."

The award, in a competition run by the Varkey Foundation, has seen him beating 10,000 other nominations from 179 countries.

He is a Franciscan friar, a member of the Catholic religious order founded by St Francis of Assisi in the 13th Century.

Brother Peter says there are "challenges with a lack of facilities" at his school, including not enough books or teachers.

Classes meant to have 35 to 40 pupils are taught in groups of 70 or 80, which, he says, means overcrowded classrooms and problems for teachers.



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30 The lack of a reliable internet connection means he has to travel to a cyber-cafe to download resources for his science lessons.

And many of the pupils walk more than four miles (6km) on bad roads to reach the school.

But Brother Peter says he is determined to give them a chance to learn about science and to raise their horizons.

35 His pupils have been successful in national and international science competitions, including an award from the Royal Society of Chemistry in the UK.

The judges said that his work at the school had "dramatically improved his pupils' achievement", with many more now going on to college or university, despite resources at the schools being "severely constrained".

(460 words)

https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47658803?intlink_from_url=https://www.bbc.com/news/education&link_location=live-reporting-story

Choose the answer which fits best according to the text. Circle one letter.

1. Peter Tabichi wants his pupils to
 - a. manage to complete full-time education
 - b. become science literate
 - c. be awarded a grant to fund their studies
 - d. move abroad to carry out scientific research

2. One of the awarded teacher's aims is to
 - a. set up a college for outstanding students
 - b. sponsor an African educational organization
 - c. attract the interest of potential investors
 - d. allow young people to reach their full potential



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3. The school where Peter Tabichi teaches
 - a. fails to provide an adequate number of teaching staff
 - b. offers a facilitated curriculum to special needs pupils
 - c. shows an appalling deficiency of sanitation systems
 - d. competes with other schools to receive more funding

4. One of the major issues in Tabichi's institution
 - a. is related to an intermittent internet access
 - b. concerns poor school discipline
 - c. involves students prone to hacking
 - d. deals with inappropriate use of social media

5. Peter Tabichi's students' excellence has been
 - a. recognized both at national and international level
 - b. reflected in increased international funding
 - c. forgotten by the scientific institutions
 - d. neglected because of economic difficulties

Answer the following questions. Use complete sentences and your own words.

1. What are the main challenges Peter Tabichi has to cope with?
2. How does Peter Tabichi contribute to raising students' aspirations in such a constrained educational environment?



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PART 2 - WRITTEN PRODUCTION

Complete both Task A and Task B.

TASK A

“We cannot tell the precise moment when friendship is formed. As in filling a vessel drop by drop, there is at last a drop which makes it run over; so in a series of kindnesses there is a last one which makes the heart run over.”

Ray Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451

Friendship can develop in different ways, sometimes we become good friends with someone after a long time, some other times it takes shortly. Discuss the quotation in a 300-word essay. Refer to your readings and personal experiences.

TASK B

According to UNWTO “the basic motivations of youth tourism are learning, meeting other people, adding value on career development, getting knowledge of other cultures, enhancing self-development”.

You have been asked to write an article for your school magazine on the following topic:

Your reasons for travelling and your favourite destinations. Share your experience.

Write your article in about 300 words.

END OF EXAMINATION

Durata massima della prova: 6 ore.

È consentito l'uso di dizionari bilingue e monolingue.

Non è consentito lasciare l'Istituto prima che siano trascorse 3 ore dalla dettatura del tema.