

**PART B : READING COMPREHENSION (TIME: 45 min.)**

**READING TASK 1**

**Read the text and decide whether A, B, C, or D is the correct answer. One mark for each correct answer.**

**Schools Give Students Tools to Fight Back Against Bullies**

Bullies are a big problem in schools. Every week, many children are afraid to go to school. They are afraid they will be picked on by a bully. One study found that 52% of children reported being bullied at least once a week. Sixty percent say that they know someone who could harm them. Some children choose not to go to school at all so they can avoid the bullies. When they miss school, students fall behind their classmates.

A new program is helping put an end to this problem. The program is teaching children how to deal with bullies and is helping them to feel safe in school. One school principal is working to end this negative behavior. Last year, he decided to let students know bullying is not allowed there. Students are now encouraged to report bullies and stand up for themselves. In this program, students work together to prevent violence. They give other students strategies on how to deal with bullies.

The principal says that the school has changed since he has addressed the bullying problem. But there are other steps parents can take to help their children with this problem. First, students and their parents should know the school's rules about bullying and what they should do if it happens. Second, children should be taught to stand up for themselves. Children should tell someone if they are being picked on since many children keep bullying a secret.

Last, but not least, parents should look for warning signs of bullying. These can include cuts and bruises, worrying, wanting to stay home from school, or a sudden drop in grades.

*(This extract was adapted from an original story provided by News10 KX TV Sacramento, U.S.A.)*

**EXAMPLE:** *Most students are bullied \_\_\_\_\_.*

A  every week    B every day    C every weekend    D at home

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is helping students feel safer in school.

A. A study    B. A new program    C. A parent    D. A bully

2. The children who report being bullied once a week are \_\_\_\_\_.

A. more than 52%.    B. less than 52%    C. 52%    D. 60%

3. Parents should look for \_\_\_\_\_

A. bullying stories    B. significant signs    C. teachers    D. warning ideas

4. Many children are \_\_\_\_\_ to go to school.

A. willing    B. afraid    C. unable    D. excited

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ told students that bullying is not allowed.

A. principal    B. teacher    C. police    D. law

## READING TASK 2

Read the following text and decide if the following questions are true, false or not given . One mark for each correct answer.

### Why use songs in the primary classroom?

Traditional songs are repetitive and have a strong rhythm. They are readily learnt by primary children and quickly become favorites because of their familiarity. They are fun and motivating for children. They allow language to be reinforced in a natural context, both with structures and vocabulary. All songs build confidence in young learners and even shy children will enjoy singing or acting out a song as part of a group or whole class. This also develops a sense of class identity. Many songs can help develop memory and concentration. For the teacher, songs can be a wonderful starting point for a topic and can fit in well with topics, skills, and cross-curricular work.

Songs are also particularly useful for developing pronunciation and acclimatizing young learners to the sounds of the language. At primary school level, teachers generally tend to concentrate more on single word items, while songs allow learners to learn about how sounds connect together. Traditional songs allow them to learn 'chunks' or meaningful phrases of language rather than single words. Songs are also important for developing stress patterns and rhythm. Other songs are good for reinforcing structures and grammar. For example the song 'This is the way we brush our teeth' is excellent for practicing present tense and provides ample opportunity for acting out with gestures for each part of the daily routine.

*(adapted from Using Learnkids BBC by Sue Clarke, British Council )*

#### *Example*

0) *The article was published two years ago.*

A True B False C  Not given

1. Traditional songs are difficult to learn by children

A True B False C Not given

2. Shy children do not like singing.

A True B False C Not given

3. Traditional songs encourage children to learn chunks of language.

A True B False C Not given

4. Teachers always tend to teach only words.

A True B False C Not given

5. Many teachers are starting to use songs as a starting point.

A True B False C Not given

### READING TASK 3

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, mark the correct letter A, B, C or D.

#### Further Education

Around the age 0) \_\_\_\_\_ sixteen you must make one of the most difficult decisions of your life. Do I want to stay on at school and hopefully go on to university 1) \_\_\_\_\_ ? Do I leave and start working or begin a training 2) \_\_\_\_\_ ? The decision is yours, but it may be 3) \_\_\_\_\_ remembering two things: there is more unemployment 4) \_\_\_\_\_ people who have not been to university, and people who have the 5) \_\_\_\_\_ will have a big advantage in the competition for jobs.

*Example 0. A □ of B to C with D for*

1. A Still            B Later            C Then            D Past
2. A School            B Class            C Mission            D Term
3. A Worth            B Necessary            C Important            D Useful
4. A Between            B Among            C With            D for
5. A Notes            B Papers            C Arts            D Skills

## KEYS

### Reading Task 1

1) B   2) C   3) B   4) B   5) A

### Reading Task 2

1) F   2) F   3) A   4) F   5) F

### Reading Task 3

1) B   2) A   3) A   4) B   5) D