

ANGLAIS (60 MINUTES)

Note :



Total des points : _____ /49 points

Votre nom et prénom : _____ N° de candidat : _____

Read the text below and do the exercises that follow.

The Millionaire With A Secret

Jeff Pearce was a successful businessman-but he had a secret...

His name is not really Jeff. His mother changed it because he could never really spell his real name, James, and she thought Jeff was easier.

Pearce was born in Liverpool in the 1950s, in a very poor family. At school, all the teachers thought he was stupid because he couldn't learn to read or write – at that time not many people knew about dyslexia. But there was something that he was good at: selling things. Pearce's first experience as a salesman was when he was a boy, and he and his mother used to go door-to-door asking for old clothes that they could sell in the market. He instinctively knew what people wanted, and it soon seemed that he could make money from anything. His mother always believed in him and told him that one day he would be successful and famous.

In 1983, when he already owned a small boutique, he decided to invest £750 in leather trousers, and to sell them very cheaply in his shop. "Quite honestly, it was a bit of a risk," he says. But Liverpool loved it, and there were photos of shoppers sleeping in the street outside the boutique on the front page of the local newspaper. The first day the trousers went on sale, the shop took £25,000. Jeff became a millionaire, but later he lost most of his money in the recession of the Nineties. He was almost 40, and he was broke again. He even had to go back to selling clothes in the market. But he never gave up, and soon he set up a new business, a department store, called *Jeff's*, which again made him a millionaire.

However, success didn't mean anything to Jeff because he still couldn't read or write. Even his two daughters did not realize that their father couldn't read. When one of them asked him to read her a bedtime story he went downstairs and cried because he felt so ashamed.

At work he calculated figures in his head, while his wife Gina wrote all the cheques and read contracts.

25 In 1992 Pearce was awarded a “Businessman of the year” prize for the best clothes store in Liverpool. It was at this moment that he told his friends and colleagues the truth, and decided to write a book about the experience. But first he had to learn to read and write. He went to evening classes, and employed a private teacher, but he found it very difficult because of his dyslexia.

30 Finally, with the help of a **ghost-writer***, his autobiography, *A Pocketful of Holes and Dreams*, was published, and became a bestseller. Recently, he was woken in the middle of the night by someone knocking on his front door. It was his daughter to whom he hadn’t been able to read a bedtime story all those years earlier. She had come to tell him that she had just read his book. “Dad, I’m so proud of you,” she said, and burst into tears in his arms.

Glossary

***Ghost-writer:** somebody who writes a book for another person.

A. Comprehension check - Read the article again and put the events (A-L) in the order in which they happened / 12 marks

- | | |
|--|---------|
| A. He became a millionaire again. | 1 ____ |
| B. He learnt to read and write. | 2 ____ |
| C. He lost all his money. | 3 ____ |
| D. He sold old clothes in the market. | 4 ____ |
| E. His daughter felt happy for him. | 5 ____ |
| F. He opened a department store. | 6 ____ |
| G. He won an important prize. | 7 ____ |
| H. He opened a small clothes shop. | 8 ____ |
| I. He became a millionaire. | 9 ____ |
| J. He sold clothes in the market again. | 10 ____ |
| K. He wrote his autobiography. | 11 ____ |
| L. His shop was on the front page of a newspaper | 12 ____ |

B. Vocabulary

/ 10 marks

Match the key words in the box with the definitions.

⚠ There are two extra words/expressions which you do not have to use!

sad | spell | dyslexia | proud | dysmorphia | bestseller
invest | figure | recession | ashamed | broke | colleagues

1. _____ having a high opinion of yourself or someone else
2. _____ put money into something to make a profit
3. _____ a difficulty in learning to read or interpret words, letters or other symbols
4. _____ number
5. _____ having no money
6. _____ feeling embarrassed
7. _____ write or say letters that form a word in the correct order
8. _____ period of temporary economic problems
9. _____ people you work with
10. _____ something that sells in large numbers

C. Grammar

/ 15 marks

Change the following sentences into a) questions, b) negative sentences, c) sentences in the past.

1. Jeff can finally read a book to his daughter.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____
2. Jeff already owns a shop at the age of 33.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____
3. Jeff's daughter is very proud of her father.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____
4. Jeff goes downstairs to cry in the evening.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____
5. The millionaire has a wife and two daughters.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____

D. Composition

/ 12 marks

6 marks for content, 6 marks for language

Choose one of the topics - (a) or (b) – and write about it.

- a) Write about a famous person that you admire, explaining what he / she has done in their life and why you admire them.

OR

- b) Write about your last challenging or interesting learning experience at school or in life.

Your text should be approximately 100 words long.

TOPIC: A | B
