

### Part One: Reading (15 points)

#### A) Comprehension: (07pts)

Nepotism or as we usually call it here, "les épaules", (shoulders) is a wrecking and widespread phenomenon in the Algerian society. Nepotism has become the golden key by which people can open up success doors, and it is that big gate through which they can find the castle of happiness. Recently, the final results of competitions and exams lead the Algerians to look for those standards that officials are following in choosing the winners. The Algerian people have a very interesting view of nepotism, as they have become proudly boastful of being part of it and having the clout needed for placing family members in positions of power.

Even if nepotism is the most dreadful thing which must be deeply cut off from any society, it has been seen as the only way which may help people get what they want and reach a position of influence at the expense of those poor unlucky individuals who are truly qualified, and willing and able to perform the job.

This form of corruption has strong potentials to destroy the country since there are thousands of people who should not be in their roles, and that surely harms the economy of our country. Obviously, some key positions are filled with incompetent individuals who do not do their jobs in the right way since their educational level, for instance, does not fit the necessities of their work resulting in them showing low production, and low quality of work.

The government must serve all people equally and fairly and should not create a family atmosphere which is built upon the officials' relatives and friends. Let's try to form a society that is based on competence, potential, honesty and talent, not on clout, and hopefully make a change for the better.

1. Are these statements True or False? Write T or F next to the letter corresponding to the statement.

- Nepotism is inexistent in Algeria.
- People use nepotism to get important positions and jobs.
- This behavior has no effect on the country's economy.
- Privileged selected workers have the full competency to achieve the required jobs.

2. In which paragraph is it mentioned that nepotism is the unique road to get important status?

3. Answer the following questions according to the text.

- How do Algerians view nepotism?
- What are the results of choosing incompetent individuals for jobs?
- Do you think that nepotism is ethical? Justify.

4. Who or what do the underlined words refer to in the text?

- which (\$1)
- it (\$2)
- who (\$3)
- that (\$4)

5. Give a title to the text.

**B/Text Exploration:**

**(07pts)**

1. Find in the text words or phrases that are closest in meaning to the following:

- a) perspective (\$1)                      b) ruin (\$3)                      c) justly (\$4)

2. Divide the following words into roots and affixes.

competition - degenerate - unlucky

Prefix	Root	Suffix

3. Rewrite sentence (b) so that it means the same as sentence (a).

A- a) Different forms of corruption are affecting societies in a bad way.

b) Societies .....

B- a) Authorities should make sure that any winners' conquest aren't the fruit of favoritism.

b) It's high time .....

C- a) The government didn't deal with the problem of nepotism seriously.

b) I wish .....

4. Underline the stressed syllable in the following words.

perform - competition - powerful - honesty

5. Fill in the gaps with only **FOUR** words from the list below.

impression - promote - concern - work - relative

The basic ..... about nepotism in business is that it contradicts typical customs in employment to hire and ..... the most qualified candidate for a job. Even when a ..... is most qualified, hiring him may give the ..... of nepotism.

**Part Two: Written Expression**

**(05points)**

Choose ONE of the following topics.

Topic One: You are soon to become a town mayor thanks to nepotism. Yet, you don't feel proud about it and you want to give up and denounce how unfair and illegal, it would be to take over that position. Using the following notes, write a composition of about 80-100 words in which you depict the serious effects of nepotism, and taking advantage of those standards, on our community.

The following notes may help you:

- Employee morale decreases
- Reduction of organizational productivity
- Destruction of Peers relations
- Lack of balance between authority and responsibility

Topic Two: You are the president of The National Eating Disorders Association and you are giving a speech to children and their parents explaining the impact of food advertisements on their health. write a speech in ten lines, stating your opinion.