

على المترشح أن يختار أحد الموضوعين الآتيين: الموضوع الأول

Part one: Reading

(15 pts)

Read the text carefully and do the following activities

Predatory pricing is the illegal business practice of setting prices for a product unrealistically low in order to eliminate the competition. **It** violates antitrust laws, as its goal is to create a monopoly.

Competitive pricing benefits consumers in the short-term, offering lower prices, increased leverage, and wider choice. However, if one company cuts **its** prices too low or even below cost, other competitors will exit the market, eliminating these advantages.

Luckily for consumers, predatory pricing practices usually don't work out well in the end. In order to drive all rivals out of business, the predator must sell below **their** costs, hoping to raise prices once the competition is gone. Thankfully, this isn't easy. Eliminating all rivals in a given market comes with considerable risk.

For example, if a town has many gas stations, any one of **them** could attract more business by cutting prices deeply. But keeping prices low long enough to eliminate rivals is harder. Even if it worked, the company must regain lost revenue fast. Once prices rise again, competitors will likely return.

Predatory pricing, though illegal, is difficult to prove. Prosecutors have to prove that the accused company did not just intend to compete but intended to eliminate the competition. On the other side, defendants may argue that lowering prices is a normal business practice in a competitive market rather than a deliberate attempt to undermine the marketplace.

Adapted from Investopedia's website:

<https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/predatory-pricing.asp>

A/ Comprehension

(08 pts)

1) *Identify the type of the text.*

The text is : a) argumentative. b) descriptive. c) expository.

2) *Say whether the following statements are true or false.*

- For consumers, predatory pricing offers lasting benefits.
- Removing competitors from a specific market involves significant risks.
- Predatory pricing is always effective.

3) *Answer the following questions according to the text.*

- What is predatory pricing?
- What are the temporary advantages of predatory pricing for consumers?
- How might defendants justify lowering prices in a competitive market?

4) *Find what or who the underlined words in the text refer to.*

- it (§1). b) its (§2). c) their (§3). d) them (§4).

5) *Identify the paragraph in which the following ideas are mentioned.*

- Competitors may re-enter the market once prices increase again.
- Proving that predatory pricing is an illegal practice in court can be challenging.

6) *Give a title to the text.*

B/ Text Exploration

(07 pts)

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

- a) leave (§2) = ... b) competitors (§3) = ... c) demonstrate (§5) = ...

2) Provide the opposite of these words keeping the same root.

- a) advantages ≠ ... b) lawful ≠ ... c) normal ≠ ...

3) Divide the following words into roots and affixes.

unrealistically – thankfully – considerable – deeply

Prefix	Root	Suffix

4) Combine each pair of sentences with one of the connectors provided. Make changes where necessary

- a) Lowering prices is a normal practice in business. Others think that lowering prices is illegal. (**however / in order to**)
 b) Consumers benefit from low prices. Prices don't rise again. (**provided that / because**)

5) Fill in each gap with the appropriate word from the list given.

Bonus – clients – smiles – respecting – quality – serving

Good ethics means ... (1) ... the people both those working for the company and the people that the company is ... (2) Good ethics is seeing ... (3) ... on the faces of the workers. It also helps to give them a ...(4) ... according to the success of the company.

6) Classify the following words according to the number of their syllables.

competition - monopoly - eliminating - lowery

2 syllables	3 syllables	4 syllables	5 syllables

Part Two: Written expression (05 pts)

Choose ONE of the following topics:

Topic One:

During Gaza war, Israel restricted the number of aid trucks entering the Gaza Strip, leading to "price gouging" which means the exploitation of such situations to increase prices of essential goods.

Write an opinion piece of about 80 to 120 words discussing the negative impacts of price gouging during times of crisis and the measures that can be taken to address this issue.

Make the best use of the following notes:

- Natural disasters or crises, including wars, create hardship.
- Price gouging involves profiting and exploitation.
- Impacts: increased suffering / distrust / societal instability /inequality.
- Example of Gaza war: aid restrictions / expensive goods / worsening crisis.
- Solution: implement rules / ensure fair pricing / increase transparency / promote ethics.

Topic Two:

A huge sum of money is nowadays spent on space exploration missions. Write a composition of about 80 to 120 words in which you mention the importance of space exploration to the development and wellbeing of mankind.

انتهى الموضوع الأول

B/ Text Exploration

(07 pts)

1) Find words in the text whose definitions follow.

- Power for your body (§2).
- Groups of people born around the same time (§5).
- Routine behaviors that are repeated regularly (§5).

2) Find in the text words or phrases that are opposite in meaning to the following.

- simple (§2) ≠ ...
- decline (§3) ≠ ...
- improved (§4) ≠ ...

3) Divide the following words into roots and affixes.

enjoyment – traditional – overeating – promoting

Prefix	Root	Suffix

4) Ask questions which the underlined words answer.

- During Ramadan, there's a problem with overeating and food waste.
- The government should implement policies to encourage healthy eating habits.

5) Reorder the following sentences to get a coherent passage.

- This way, your body doesn't get the necessary nutrition.
- When you starve for junk food,
- In the long run, you will have a fragile immune system.
- you neglect fruits, vegetables and various other wholesome foods.

6) Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of the final 's'.

experiences - carbohydrates - issues - dishes

/s/	/z/	/iz/

Part Two: Written expression (05 pts)

Choose ONE of the following topics:

Topic One:

Today, young people tend to eat more and more unhealthy food which often exposes them to complex health problems. Being conscious of the importance of this issue, write an article of about 80 to 120 words to your school magazine to give your school mates some pieces of advice on how to adopt a balanced diet.

Make the best use of the following notes:

- Balanced food
- Healthy habits and exercise
- No junk food
- More vitamins than calories

Topic Two:

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a powerful tool with vast potential. However, there are concerns about its misuse. Write an opinion article of about 80 to 120 words discussing the negative impacts of the unethical use of AI.