Grade 9 - English Paper 1

Junior School Assessment

TASK 1: READING COMPREHENSION

Read the passage below and answer questions 1-5.

In the quiet valley of Wonder, a small village thrived, untouched by the chaos of the outside world. The people of Wonder had a simple rule; no one stands alone. Every task, from farming to rebuilding homes after a storm, was done together. They believed that a community's strength was not in its wealth, but in its unity.

When a sudden earthquake shook the valley, splitting the main road and cutting off their water supply, fear crept into their hearts. For the first time, the village faced a crisis that threatened their way of life.

Some argued that they should fend for themselves, gathering what little they had and looking after their families only. Others, led by Mary, a young healer, refused to let the village fall apart.

"We survive together or we don't survive at all," she reminded them.

With the blacksmith forging tools, the farmers rationing food and the builders working day and night, the village slowly began to heal. But the biggest challenge came when they discovered a neighboring village in ruins, its people injured and desperate.

Wonder had barely enough for themselves, could they afford to help strangers?

Mary made the decision for them. "When we give, we grow stronger."

Despite their hardships, the people of Wonder opened their homes and hearts. Together, they rebuilt not just houses, but trust, hope and a bond stronger than stone.

Months later, the valley flourished once more. Wonder was no longer just a village; it was a beacon of what humanity could achieve when people stood together.

And so, the village's rule remained: No one stands alone.

Questions

1. What was the most important belief of the people in Wonder?
   A. Wealth determines a village's strength.
   B. No one stands alone.
   C. Only the strongest survive.
   D. Each family should fend for itself.
2. What major crisis did Wonder face?
   A. A drought that dried up their crops.
   B. An invasion from a rival village.
   C. An earthquake that damaged the village and cut off their water supply.
   D. A fire that destroyed their homes.
3. Who was the young healer who encouraged the village to stay united?
   A. Lori
   B. Mary
   C. Elden
   D. Sori
4. What was the biggest challenge Wonder faced after the earthquake?
   A. Rebuilding their own homes quickly.
   B. Finding a way to leave the valley.
   C. Deciding whether to help a neighboring village in ruins.
   D. Gathering food before winter arrived.
5. What was the final message of the story?
   A. True strength comes from helping one another.
   B. A community must focus only on its own survival.
   C. It is better to be independent than to rely on others.
   D. Hard work is more important than kindness.