



Jeddah Knowledge International School
Grade 7, Quarter 2, 2014
English Revision Pack

Student's Name: _____

Class: _____

SECTION A: LITERATURE

1. Answer the following questions relating to **Mongoose on the Loose** in your Prentice Hall pp. 219-220.

a. How were mongooses first introduced to the island? [1 mark]

.....

b. What has Horst found out about the life expectancy of mongooses which differs from what has been originally anticipated? [1 mark]

.....

c. Name **two** countries other than Puerto Rico where they have problems with mongooses? [1 mark]

.....

d. Name **two** things that Horst and his volunteers undertake as part of their five year study? [2 marks]

(1)

(2)

2. Answer the following questions relating to *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens* to be found in your Prentice Hall on pp.397-402.

a. Which of Alice Walker's mother's personal qualities do you most admire? Why? [1 mark]

.....

b. Describe the home and setting in which Walker grew up? [1 mark]

.....

c. What does the home and setting suggest about Walker's mother? [1 mark]

.....

d. In what ways does Walker's mother represent women in general? [1 marks]

.....

e. Why does Walker call this essay 'In Search of Our Mother's Gardens' instead of 'In Search of My Mother's Gardens'? [1 mark]

.....

f. Explain why one title is more appropriate than the other? (*Our Mothers' Gardens* vs *My Mothers' Gardens*) [1 mark]

.....

g. Walker includes useful creations such as gardens and quilts in her definition of art. How does this compare with your definition of art? [2 marks]

.....

3. From statements A to F select the **three** that are **true**. Write the appropriate letter (in any order) in the answer boxes provided. [4 marks]

- A. Gardening was an important means of self-expression for Walker's mother.
- B. This reflective essay is only about one person.
- C. According to the text, Alice Walker tells how all her family's clothes were knitted by her mother.
- D. Many ideas about how to live longer are mentioned in the text.
- E. Telling stories was Walker's mothers only talent.
- F. Alice Walker shows her admiration for her mother.

SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION

McDonald's can be found almost everywhere these days, and, in the United States, it is more than a restaurant—it has become a symbol of the American way of life. Not only do people around the world associate McDonald's with the United States, but here at home, one poll found that 98 percent of school children could identify Ronald McDonald, making him as well known as Santa Claus. Yet, is this something the founder, Ray Kroc aimed for or has this been pushed by his steering committee.

Even more important, the organizational principles that underlie McDonald's are coming to dominate our society. Our culture is becoming "McDonaldized," an awkward way of saying that many aspects of life are modeled on the famous restaurant chain.

Basic principles. What do all these developments have in common? According to George Ritzer, the McDonaldization of society involves four basic organizational principles:

4. **Efficiency.** Ray Kroc, the marketing genius behind McDonald's, set out with one goal: to serve a hamburger, French fries, and milkshake to a customer in fifty seconds or less. Today, one of the company's most popular items is the Egg McMuffin, an entire breakfast in a single sandwich. In the restaurant, customers clean their own trays or, better still, drive away from the pick-up window taking whatever mess they make with them. Efficiency is a value virtually without criticism in our society. The bottom line is people tend to think that anything done quickly is, for that reason alone, good.
5. **Size Determination.** The first McDonald's operating manual declared the weight of a regular raw hamburger to be 1.6 ounces, its size to be 3.875 inches across, and its fat content to be 19 percent. In training, when learning the ropes an employee will know a slice of cheese weighs exactly half an ounce, and French fries are cut precisely $\frac{9}{32}$ of an inch thick. Think about how many objects around the home, the workplace, or the campus are designed and mass-produced uniformly according to a standard plan. Not just our environment but our life experiences—from traveling the nation's interstates to sitting at home viewing television—are now more deliberately planned than ever before. In this line of work, size means not only amount but also
6. **Uniformity and predictability.** An individual can walk into a McDonald's restaurant almost anywhere and buy the same sandwiches, drinks, and desserts prepared in precisely the same way. Uniformity results from a highly rational system that specifies every action and leaves nothing to chance.
7. **Control through automation.** The most unreliable element in the McDonald's system is human beings. People, after all, have good and bad days, sometimes let their minds wander, or decide to try something a different way. To minimize the unpredictable human element, McDonald's has automated their equipment to cook food at fixed temperatures for set lengths of time. Even the cash register at a McDonald's is keyed to pictures of the items, so that ringing up a customer's order is as simple as possible. Similarly, automatic teller machines are replacing banks, highly automated bakeries produce bread with scarcely any human intervention, and chickens and eggs emerge from automated hatcheries. In supermarkets, laser scanners are phasing out human checkers. This eliminates any type of small talk between server and customer.
8. **Can rationality be irrational?**

Max Weber was alarmed at the increasing rationalization of the world, fearing that formal organizations would cage our imagination and crush the human spirit. As he saw it, rational systems were efficient but dehumanizing. McDonaldization bears him out. Each of the four principles just discussed limits human creativity, choice, and freedom. Echoing Weber, George Ritzer states we should read the fine print because "the ultimate irrationality of McDonaldization is that people could lose control over the system and it would come to control us".

Responses to the reading comprehension. Circle the correct answer. [1 mark each]

___1. **According to George Ritzer -**

- a) McDonald's is a great place to work.
- b) McDonald's has not changed our lifestyle in any way.
- c) McDonald's has been good for global economies.
- d) McDonald's has brought about many changes in the world.

___2. **Ray Kroc -**

- a) was the original Ronald McDonald.
- b) tried to do away with as much human error as possible at McDonald's.
- c) liked individual thought and imagination.
- d) thought the employees should make the decisions about how to prepare food.

___3. **Under the section on "Efficiency", people tend to think that anything done quickly is good. This means -**

- a) human beings are always efficient.
- b) efficiency is a value with almost no criticism in American society.
- c) if you always do it fast it will sell.
- d) Americans are never in a hurry at McDonald's.

___4. **Max Weber -**

- a) would have likely thought of McDonald's as creating human imagination and spirit.
- b) must have probably enjoyed eating at McDonald's.
- c) observed that rational systems were efficient but dehumanizing.
- d) encouraged the growth and spread of McDonald's.

___5. **Comparing McDonalds to our society is an example of what rhetorical device?**

- a) Rule of Four
- b) Anecdote
- c) Alliteration
- d) Analogy

Columbus and the Egg

This is a story about Columbus, the explorer who “discovered” America. We have put “discovered” in quotation marks because actually other people already lived on the continent long before Columbus made his voyage in 1492. This is a story about what might have happened long ago when he was back in Spain. Is it accurate, did it really occur? That’s not known, but it is a story that could have happened. Stories such as this are passed from generation to generation and sometimes are based on facts.

When Columbus came back from his trip to the Americas, many people praised him. He was made an admiral, he had made a remarkable voyage despite many challenges. People said what a great thing he had done, discovering the Americas. However, not everyone appreciated him, there were some who were jealous of all the adulation.

One day Columbus was at a party that a Spanish gentleman gave in his honor. People were saying, “What a great discovery you have made!” Several persons were present who resented this great admiral's success. They were proud and conceited, and they very soon began to try to make Columbus uncomfortable.

“You have discovered strange lands beyond the seas,” they said, “but what of that? We do not see why there should be so much said about it. Anybody can sail across the ocean; and anybody can coast along the islands on the other side, just as you have done. It is the simplest thing in the world. All you need to do is sail West, that’s not a remarkable feat.”

Columbus made no answer; but after a while he took an egg from a dish and said to the company: “Who among you, gentlemen, can make this egg stand on end?” “That’s impossible,” the host replied. “You would need to be a magician to do that.” One by one those at the table tried the experiment. When the egg had gone entirely around and none had succeeded, all said that it could not be done, it was defying gravity.

Then Columbus took the egg and struck its small end gently upon the table so as to break the shell a little. After that there was no trouble in making it stand upright. “Gentlemen,” said he, “What is easier than to do this which you said was impossible? It is the simplest thing in the world. Anybody can do it—AFTER HE HAS BEEN SHOWN HOW!”

Answer the following questions.

6. Which event happened first? Which happened last?

.....

7. How does the story start? What are three important events?

.....

8. Name one trait you can infer about Columbus? Explain your reasoning.

.....

9. Quote from the story of what Columbus does that shows the character trait you have selected above.

.....

.....

10. What is the setting of the story?

.....

11. In every story, someone makes a choice. What is a choice someone made that you learn about in this story? What is one effect of that choice?

.....

.....

12. Summarize the story in four sentences. Tell about the characters and what they do.

.....

.....

.....

SECTION C: GRAMMAR

1. Read each sentence. If you find a misused homophone, rewrite the sentence correctly.

a. I went to bed so late that I had trouble falling asleep last knight.

b. Our fruit salad had apples, oranges and pairs.

c. There are too people in line in front of us.

d. Her cousin is always hungry an our after eating lunch.

e. As we drove threw the countryside, we saw a heard of cattle in a field.

f. I could not find anything that I knead in the grocery store.

2. In the following question look at the underlined word and identify whether it is a proper or common noun.

- a. My cousin is going to san Francisco next month. _____
- b. Andrew enjoys collecting baseball cards. _____
- c. Lisa works as a programmer at Microsoft. _____
- d. I live in a small town in England. _____
- e. I want to visit Asia when I leave school. _____
- f. We saw whales in the Pacific Ocean. _____
- g. Ms. Jane swam last week. _____
- h. Your silly hairdo is making me laugh. _____
- i. We walked into Main Street yesterday. _____
- j. Our teacher assigns a lot of homework. _____

3. Underline the compound subjects.

- a. Potato chips and cupcakes are bad for you.
- b. Paul and James read wonderfully.
- c. Either you or your brother will be in trouble.
- d. Nobody in the bank and nobody in the store saw the incident.
- e. Either the matches or the candles caused the fire.
- f. The rugs downstairs or the carpets upstairs have not been vacuumed.
- g. The chicken in the freezer and the fish in the refrigerator must be thawed tonight.
- h. The boots by the door in the living room and the flip flops on the patio need to be put away in the cupboard.

4. Underline the compound verbs.

- a. My cats lie around all day and run around all night.
- b. The weekend either flies by or drags on forever, depending on what you're doing.
- c. The rain here either mists or drenches.
- d. She eats, drinks and sleeps all day during the vacation.
- e. I either swim during the day or do nothing at all.
- f. The "victim" sprayed her assailant with pepper spray and punched him in the nose.

