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PROPUESTA A

THE SMITHS: ONE OF THE BEST BANDS EVER

Formed in the spring of 1982 in Manchester, England when Johnny Marr, former guitarist in unsuccessful bands, was looking for a lyricist and suggested the idea of forming a band to Stephen Patrick Morrissey. By September, the duo had settled on the name "The Smiths" as a reaction against all bands who chose complicated names to emphasise their music. They recruited Marr's schoolmate Andy Rourke as their bass player and Mike Joyce as their drummer. The Smiths made their live debut late in 1982 and their live appearances were sporadic. Their first single, "Hand In Glove", became a sensation in the UK, topping the independent charts. When they released their second single "This Charming Man," in October 1983, the Smiths had already been the subjects of controversy and scandal.

In February of 1984 the Smiths released their eponymous debut "The Smiths". This album became a best seller, it was acclaimed by critics and reached number 2 on the British charts. Their third album "The Queen Is Dead" is considered by the critic as one of the masterpieces of the decade. It peaked at number 2 on the charts. Shortly before the album was completed, Andy Rourke had to quit for drug addiction, but he returned after a short time.

After their third album was released, Morrissey and Marr became increasingly irritated with each other. In August, Johnny Marr abandoned the band. Morrissey disbanded the group shortly afterwards and began an inconstant solo career.

In an intense 5 years between 1983 and 1987, The Smiths released almost 20 singles and 7 albums. Despite this short history, "The Smiths" are recognised by the critics as one of the best bands ever.

Adapted from http://www.askmeaskmeaskme.com/history.htm

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer. **NO** marks are given for only true or false.

- 1. Johnny Marr was a successful guitarist before forming The Smiths.
- 2. At the beginning of their career, The Smiths did not use to play live too often.
- 3. In October 1983, the Smiths started to get involved in scandals.
- 4. Rourke left the band due to problems with drugs.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS)

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

- 1. named after its central character or creator.
- 2. highly praised.
- 3. outstanding works of art.
- 4. annoyed.



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B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

- 1. Is the "-ed" pronounced /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/ in "disbanded"? (0.25)
- 2. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "number" /\/.(0.25)
- 3. How is the "th" pronounced in "Smiths", $/\theta/$ or $/\delta/?$ (0.25)
- 4. Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "bands" /z/. (0.25)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1.	My cousin has
2.	"Let's spend the night together" Mick suggested. Mick suggested
3.	People say that Johnny Marr is a genius. Johnny Marr
4.	He paid a lot of money for the house last year. It is now much cheaper. The house
5.	He's so stupid that he didn't listen to his father's advice. He's
6.	Write the correct question for the underlined words.
	? The album has sold over 10 000 copies

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

How important is music in your life? Do you usually listen to music? Have you ever been to a live concert?

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PROPUESTA B

MOTHER'S DAY

The modern Mother's Day is celebrated on various days in many parts of the world, most commonly in March, April, or May as a day to honour mothers and motherhood. In the UK and Ireland, it follows the traditions of Mothering Sunday, celebrated in March and April.

Historically, the celebration has it origin in ancient customs and traditions. The ancient Greeks kept a festival to *Cybele*, a great mother of Greek gods. The ancient Romans also had another holiday, *Matronalia*, that was dedicated to *Juno* (an ancient Roman goddess), though mothers were usually given gifts on this day. In Europe there were several long standing traditions where a specific Sunday was reserved to honour motherhood and mothers such as *Mothering Sunday* which is a Christian festival celebrated throughout Europe that falls on the 4th Sunday in *Lent*. One of the early calls to celebrate Mother's Day in the United States was the "*Mother's Day Proclamation*" by Julia Ward Howe. Written in 1870, this Mother's Day Proclamation was part of the belief that women had a responsibility to shape their societies at the political level.

Today the holiday has become very popular around the world. People take the day as an opportunity to pay tribute to their mothers and thank them for all their love and support. There is also a tradition of gifting flowers, cards and other gifts to mothers on the occasion.

Adapted from <www.myenglishpages.com>

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer. **NO** marks are given for only true or false.

- 1. The Mother Day's celebration is very old from a historical perspective.
- 2. Mothering Sunday is celebrated all around the world in March and April.
- 3. In the USA, Mother's Day Proclamation was related to feminist demands.
- 4. At present, the Mother's Day tradition is that mothers give flowers, cards and other presents.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS)

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

- 1. old.
- 2. devoted.
- 3. well-known.
- 4. occasion.



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B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

- 1. How is the "sh" pronounced in "shape" t / t or t / t (0.25)
- 2. Write two words from the text that include the same diphthong sound as "days" /ei/. (0.5)
- 3. Which of the following words has the same sound as "people" /i:/? (0.25)

a') Greek	h)	women	c) great
a.	i Greek	U)	women	C) great

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1.	Students were usually given grants at the end of the course. The headmaster
2.	If I were you, I'd buy a new bike. You'd
3.	In spite of studying hard, he didn't pass the exam. Although
4.	It's six months since I last ate spaghetti.
5.	"I will go sailing tomorrow", he told us. He
6.	Write the correct question for the underlined words.
	The novel was written in 1870.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Describe a moment which was very special for you.

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PROPUESTA A

TINTIN AND HERGÉ

The Adventures of Tintin series was created in 1929 by a Belgian artist who called himself Hergé. Clever and ever-curious, Tintin is a reporter-turned-detective whose pursuit of villains and criminals takes him all over the world, along with a colorful cast of friends. Hergé based his stories on real-world events and cultures that had caught the Belgian national attention — from space exploration to Arab oil wars — and brought them to life for his readers in inspiring and exciting ways.

"Tintin is myself. He reflects the best and brightest in me; he is my successful double. I am not a hero. But like all 15-year-old boys, I dreamt of being one ... and I have never stopped dreaming. Tintin has accomplished many things on my behalf", Hergé said.

The first Tintin adventure, *Tintin in the Land of the Soviets*, was an instant hit with children and adults alike. As the adventures progressed, Hergé added all kinds of characters — some of whom he based on famous people (such as Bianca Castafiore, whose character was inspired by the opera singer Maria Callas). He also based some characters on friends and family (such as Thomson & Thompson, inspired by his father and his father's twin brother).

For any child growing up amid the political and cultural changes of the twentieth century, Tintin was a role model who both inspired and delighted. Hergé drew upon the political events of the time and dedicated his life to creating adventures that transported readers to places around the world — from China in *The Blue Lotus* to the Arctic Ocean in *The Shooting Star*. Throughout his career, Hergé strove to bring as much of the real world as he could into the world of Tintin.

Source: http://us.tintin.com/about/origins/>

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer. **NO marks are given for only true or false.**

- 1. The Adventures of Tintin first appeared in the late twenties.
- 2. Tintin is a detective who became a reporter.
- 3. Tintin's stories are totally fictional.
- 4. Tintin in the Land of the Soviets was very successful from the very beginning.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS)

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

- 1. attracted.
- 2. carried out.
- 3. celebrities.
- 4. incidents.



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B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

- 1. How is the "-ed" pronounced in "based", /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/? (0.25)
- 2. Write a word from the text that includes the same diphthong sound as "both" /əu/. (0.25)
- 3. Is the "ch" in "much" pronounced as $/\int/$ or as $/t\int/$? (0.25)
- 4. Is the "n" pronounced /n/ or /ŋ/ in "shooting"? (0.25)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1.	People say that Hergé was a very talented writer. Hergé
2.	Allison is not so busy as her brother. Allison's brother
3.	I did not ask her to be my wife because she was married at that time. If
4.	"When did you find this key?" the teacher asked my sister. The teacher
5.	I'd rather stay at home than take the dog for a walk. I prefer
6.	Write the correct question for the underlined words.
	? The Adventures of Tintin first appeared in the late twenties.

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

Write about something funny that happened to you during your highschool years

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PROPUESTA B

THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Sir Timothy Berners-Lee is a British computer scientist who invented the World Wide Web. He received a knighthood from the British Queen for his efforts (so he is called 'Sir'). A leading British newspaper ranked him as the world's greatest living genius. Today's world would be very different without his discovery.

Berners-Lee was born in 1955 to parents who were mathematicians and computer scientists. He grew up with numbers and electronics and managed to build his own computer. He went to Oxford University and was banned from using the computers for hacking. Berners-Lee graduated with a degree in physics. His first jobs after graduating were as a computer programmer and software developer.

Berners-Lee spent the 1980s on a project based on sharing and updating information online. In 1991, he put the first website online. It explained what the World Wide Web was and how it was used. He gave his idea to the world for free. In 1994, Berners-Lee found W3C to improve the quality of the Web.

Berners-Lee now spends his time between W3C and as a professor of computer science in England. He also writes about the future of the Web. In 2004, he was named as the first winner of the Millennium Technology Prize. He has a string of other awards and is listed as one of 'Time' magazine's 100 most important people of the 20th Century.

Adapted from http://famouspeoplelessons.com/

QUESTIONS

I. READING COMPREHENSION. (2 POINTS) (0.5 points for each correct answer)

Add TRUE or FALSE and **copy the evidence** from the text to support your answer. **NO marks are given for only true or false.**

- 1. Few things have changed since his Berners-Lee's invention.
- 2. He finished university as a computer programmer.
- 3. Nowadays Berners-Lee dedicates his time exclusively at university.
- 4. Berners-Lee only won the Millennium Technology Prize.

II. LEXICON / PHONETICS (2 POINTS)

A. LEXICON. (1 POINT) (0.25 points for each correct answer)

- 1. top-level.
- 2. became adult.
- 3. costing nothing.
- 4. appointed.



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B. PHONETICS. (1 POINT)

- 1. How is the "-s" pronounced in "efforts", /s/, /z/ or /ɪz/? (0.25)
- 2 . Write a word from the text that includes the same sound as "computer" /ju:/. (0.25)
- 3. Write two words from the text that include the same sound as "received" /i:/. (0.5)

III. USE OF ENGLISH. (3 POINTS) (0.5 for each correct answer)

Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given:

1.	I am sorry I didn't take your advice. I wish
2.	If your friend doesn't come, he won't take part in this activity. Your friend won't
3.	I have never cleaned such a dirty room. It is
4.	The first movie is more boring than the second. The second movie
5.	Although it rained a lot, we enjoyed our holidays. Despite
6.	She asked him: "Can you give this letter to Penny?". She

IV. COMPOSITION. (3 POINTS)

Write a composition of between 100 and 125 words on the following topic:

How important is the Internet in your life? Could you live without it?