THE WOMAN BEHIND HARRY POTTER

[1] Joanne K. Rowling is one of the most popular modern writers. She is famous for writing the Harry Potter series, which have gained international attention and have won many prizes. Besides, she has recently published a book for adults named 'The Casual Vacancy'.

[2] Rowling was born in England in 1965. During her childhood she was always interested in writing stories, and she used to narrate stories to her younger sister, Diane. Rowling studied French at university and got a degree in 1986. After graduation she worked as a secretary for a while, but she quitted as she wasn't happy with her job. Later, she moved to Portugal to teach English. While **there**, she got married with a Portuguese TV journalist in 1992. Shortly after the birth of her daughter, Jessica, the marriage ended in divorce.

[3] Rowling then joined her sister in Edinburgh, Scotland, where she started writing her first book. At that time, she was going through difficult times. She was unemployed and lived on state benefits. She also had to take care of her baby while pursuing writing. In fact, she completed her first novel in different cafés, accompanied by her baby.

[4] For Rowling, success didn't come easily. Her first work was turned down by many publishers. However, she managed to find one to publish "*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*" and a success story began! Copies of **the book** were sold in millions. Actually, she didn't expect such a success. She said, "I thought I'd written something that a handful of people might quite like. So this has been something of a shock".

[5] The Harry Potter seven books have won multiple awards, including 'The British Book Awards, Children's Book of the Year' and the 'Smarties Prize'. In addition, **they** have sold more than 400 million copies and have been translated into over 60 languages. They have also been made into films. Furthermore, her last four books are the fastest-selling books in history.

[6] Thanks to the books, films and products bearing Harry Potter images, Rowling has become one of the richest people in the world. Indeed, she is considered the first person to become a multi-millionaire from writing books. She is also known as a strong financial supporter of many associations, NGOs and charities. But above all, she is credited with getting an entire generation of children interested in reading again. In 2010, she was named the "Most Influential Woman in Britain".

Adapted from: Wikipedia

I. COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS) BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT

A. FILL IN THE CHART WITH INFORMATION FROM THE TEXT. (3 pts)

Dates	**Events**
1965	*J.K. Rowling was born*
1986	.....
.....	*Rowling got married*
2010	.....

B. ARE THESE SENTENCES TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY. (4 pts)

1. Rowling has never written any books for adults.

.....

.....

2. Rowling enjoyed working as a secretary.

.....

.....

3. Rowling's marriage wasn't successful.

.....

.....

4. Rowling is a generous woman.

.....

.....

C. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS. (3 pts)

1. What problem did Rowling have with her first book?

.....

.....

2. What awards has she won for her books? (Give two examples)

.....

.....

3. How has Rowling become a multi-millionaire?

.....

.....

D. FIND IN THE TEXT WORDS OR PHRASES THAT MEAN THE SAME AS: (2 pts)

1. look after (paragraph 3): .....
2. a small number (paragraph 4): .....

E. WHAT DO THE UNDERLINED WORDS IN THE TEXT REFER TO? (3 pts)

1. there (paragraph 2): .....
2. the book (paragraph 4): .....
3. they (paragraph 5): .....

II. LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)

A. FILL IN EACH GAP WITH AN APPROPRIATE WORD OR EXPRESSION FROM THE LIST. (2 pts)

1. Rachid can't find his mobile phone. He ..... left it in his father's car.

might have - would have - will have

2. Doctors say that people ..... eat a lot of fruit and vegetables remain healthy.

whose - who - whom

B. REWRITE THE SENTENCES BEGINNING WITH THE WORDS GIVEN. (3 pts)

1. "I'll buy you a laptop after the exams," my father said.

   My father promised that .....

.....

2. They have published a new report on divorce rate in The Times magazine.

   A new report on divorce rate .....

.....

3. Bouchra and her husband don't have enough money. They can't move to a new apartment.

   If .....

.....

C. PUT THE VERBS BETWEEN BRACKETS IN THE CORRECT TENSE. (2 pts)

Chorouk (start) ..... singing three years ago. Since then, she has participated in many competitions. By the end of next year she (release) ..... her first video clip.

D. FILL IN EACH GAP WITH THE CORRECT PHRASAL VERB FROM THE LIST. (2 pts)

make up - bring about - go through - turn down - keep on

1. Connecting schools to the internet will certainly ..... important changes in education.
2. "I'll be back in a few minutes. Just ..... working," the teacher said.

E. GIVE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE WORDS BETWEEN BRACKETS. (2 pts)

Samir: How can I get (a member) ..... to join the club?

Secretary: Just fill in this form with (person) ..... information and pay the fees.

F. JOIN THE FOLLOWING PAIRS OF SENTENCES WITH THE WORDS GIVEN. (2 pts)

1. The students planted many trees. They cleaned all the classrooms, too. (not only .... but also)

.....

2. Our local association is very active. Our neighbourhood is clean and safe. (because)

.....

G. WRITE APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS. (2 pts)

1. You didn't bring your textbook to class today. Apologise to your teacher and give a reason.

   You: .....

2. You need a mobile to call your parents. Make a request to your friend.

   You: .....

III. WRITING (10 POINTS)

This is a part of an email you received from your English friend.

In general, my school experience in high school was very beneficial. I've made many friends. I enjoyed all my classes, especially English. Our basketball team won two tournaments. I went to three excursions. Our citizenship club was very active. What about your experience? Was it all good?

Write a reply in which you tell about your experience in high school.

DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME OR SIGN THE EMAIL

KEY AND MARKING SCALE

Please accept any appropriate answer not mentioned in this key.

A. CHART FILLING (3 pts: 1 pt each)

Dates	Events
1965	J.K. Rowling was born
1986	She graduated from university/ she got a university degree
1992	Rowling got married
2010	She was named the "Most Influential Woman in Britain"

B. TRUE OR FALSE (4 pts) (1 pt each: 0.5 pt for the correct choice and 0.5 pt for an appropriate justification. Consider the justification only if the choice is correct)

1. F. She has recently written a book for adults (named 'The Casual Vacancy).
2. F. She quitted as she wasn't happy with her job
3. T. Her marriage ended in divorce
4. T. She is also known as a strong financial supporter of many associations, NGOs and charities.

C. WH QUESTIONS (3 pts: 1 pt each appropriate answer)

1. It was turned down/refused by publishers/ The publishers didn't accept to publish it, etc.
2. "The British Book Awards"/ "Children's Book of the Year" / "Smarties Prize" (0.5 pt for one award; 1pt for two)
3. By selling books, films and products bearing Harry Potter images

D. WORD MEANING (2 pts: 1pt for each correct answer) 1. take care of 2: a handful

E. PRONOUN REFERENCE (3 pts: 1 pt each correct answer)

1: Portugal 2: 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' 3:(The Harry Potter seven) books

II. LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)

A.GAP WITH FILLING (2 pts/: 1 pt each correct answer) 1: might have 2: who

B. SENTENCE REWRITING (3 pts: 1 pt for each correct answer)

1. My father promised that he would buy me a laptop after the exams.
2. A new report on divorce rate has been published...
3. If Bouchra and her husband had enough money, they would/could/would be able to move to a new apartment

C.VERBS TENSE (2 pts: 1 pt for each correct answer) started - will have released

D.GAP FILLING (2 pts: 1 pt for each correct answer) bring about – keep on

E. CORRECT FORM (2 pts: 1 pt for each correct answer) membership - personal

F. SENTENCE JOINING (2 pts: 1 pt for each correct answer)

1. Our neighbourhood is clean and safe because our local association is very active.
2. The students not only planted many trees, but (they) also cleaned the classrooms. / Not only did the students plant many trees, but (they) also cleaned...

G. FUNCTIONS (2 pts: 1 pt for each appropriate answer: accept any appropriate answer)

III. WRITING (10 POINTS)

Scoring criteria	Scores
Relevance of content to the tasks	(3 pts)
Paragraph and composition organisation	(2 pts)
Appropriateness and variety of vocabulary	(2 pts)
Accuracy of grammar	(2 pts)
Mechanics (spelling, punctuation, capitalisation)	(1 pt)