

REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  TAHAR SFAR SECONDARY SCHOOL	End-term English Test N 2
	Allotted time: 2h
	Student's Name:
	Class: 4Sci1 / 4Sci4

## I – READING COMPREHENSION (12 marks)

[1] By re-entering college after a 20-year interruption, I not only completed what was unfinished, I developed a rewarding career in a field that didn't even exist when I attended college in the 1960's.

[2] Although I worked on campus, it was frightening to return to the classroom after 20 years. How would I fit in with students who were right out of high school? My math background was limited. In high school I'd taken only pre-algebra and geometry . . . and **that** had been 25 years ago. My fears proved unfounded and my nervousness soon dissipated. I took some remedial math classes to catch up. Participating in study groups and being a student was fun and I was surrounded by supportive friends and family, some of whom tutored me in math along the way.

[3] As an older student, people sometimes questioned me. For instance, in deciding on my field of study, I wanted a subject I was passionate about. I chose art with an emphasis in art history. "Why on earth would you major in art?" they asked. "Why are you going to college at this stage of the game?" was another question I encountered. "What does it have to do with your ability to earn a living?" At the time, **it** appeared to have nothing to do with work. I always felt my education was incomplete and I wanted to finish it. And I did. I graduated magna cum laude; my husband, sons and mother proudly watched me receive my degree.

[4] It all came together though the first time I set eyes on a website. Websites seemed to talk to me: Information organization, writing, problem-solving, and art all combined into one. For years, I took advantage of any opportunities within my job at Fresno State to learn website design. Eventually I realized I had to decide whether to stay at my Fresno State job, which I loved, or choose self-employment as a Freelance Web Designer/Developer so I could focus on design. Swallowing hard, I struck out on my own.

[5] My life's trajectory has surpassed my wildest dreams! Continuing to work, learn, and study brings me immeasurable joy and satisfaction in a field I love that didn't even exist until the mid 1990's. My degree in art, combined with my work experience, gives me opportunities I couldn't have predicted twenty years ago. And, how wonderful to be able to return to my previous employer, Fresno State, and assist them as a web developer.

*(Adapted from the Internet)*

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

### 1 - Complete the paragraph with reference to the text. (3 marks)

Re-entering college after being away for a long period was a troublesome decision for Robin to make. She chose a field of study which ----- strange to her college friends. However she worked hard and eventually ----- and made her family ----- of her achievement.

### 2- Correct the following statements with information from the text. (3 marks)

a- It was impossible for Robin to get up to date after being away from school for a long time. (paragraph 2)

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b- Robin never worried about finishing her studies. (paragraph 3)

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c- Leaving her job with Fresno State was an easy decision. (paragraph 4)

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3- Pick out one (1) detail from paragraph 5 that shows that Robin does not regret having decided to go back to the company where she used to work. (1 mark)

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4- Find in the text words meaning nearly the same as: (2 marks)

a- **improper** (paragraph 2) = .....

b- **path** (paragraph 5) = .....

5- What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 marks)

a- 'that' (paragraph 2) refers to .....

b- 'it' (paragraph 3) refers to .....

6- Give a personal and justified answer to the following question. (1 mark)

What do you think of Robin's achievement? Why?

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## II. LANGUAGE (6 marks)

### 1. Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the list below. (3 marks)

whatever – little – recent – nature – elements – more – fabulous – rapidly

For her 76th birthday, Judy Robinson is celebrating with a bike ride. It'll be a very special Breeze bike ride to her favourite ..... reserve. Proving that a two wheel perspective is for every woman at any age, Judy has recently led her 11th friendly and ..... Breeze bike ride in Bradford. With no plans to give it up any time soon, Judy is looking forward to the many .....years of women only rides. 'Age is no barrier' says Breeze champion Judy, 'but it does mean that I require a .....more motivation, and leading the Breeze bike rides and encouraging others has given me just that.' Showing that no barrier is too tough for her, Judy even battles the ..... and wins. 'Breeze bike rides have done me so much good. I ride ..... the weather and I always feel great, even if I'm drenched. I've met so many lovely people along the way and I've made some lasting friendships. Cycling keeps me feeling like I'm a young 76.'

### 2. Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form. (3 marks)

Nanotechnology is an exciting area of scientific development which promises 'more for less'. It **(offer)** .....ways to create smaller, cheaper, lighter and faster devices that can do more and cleverer things, use less raw materials and consume less energy. There are many examples of the application of nanotechnology from the simple to the complex. For example, there are nano coatings which can repel dirt and reduce the need for harmful **(clean)** ..... agents, or prevent the spread of hospital-borne **(infect)** ..... New-generation hip implants can **(make)** ..... more 'body friendly' because they have a nanoscale topography that encourages **(accept)** ..... by the cells in their vicinity. Moving on to more complex products, a good example of the application of nanotechnology is a mobile phone, which **(change)** ..... dramatically in a few years – becoming smaller and smaller, while paradoxically, growing cleverer and faster – and cheaper.

## III – WRITING (12 marks)

### 1. Use the notes below to write a biography of Martin Karplus. (4 marks)

Birth	Vienna, Austria / March 15, 1930/ Citizenship: American
Education	Ph.D in Chemistry, 1953/ U.S
Field of interest	theoretical chemist/ professor of Chemistry- Harvard University/ Director of the Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory

Awards	Nobel Prize 2013/ Chemistry/ reasons: the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems (with Michael Levitt and Arieh Warshel)
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**2. You read an article by a woman who was discriminated against and offered a poorly-paid job.**

**Write a 12-line letter to the company manager in which you state your opinion about the issue and support it with arguments. (DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME) (8 marks)**

Dear Sir / Madam,

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Truly yours,  
Chris (tine) Anderson

