

Niveau :3ASL

December 2014

First Term English Exam

Time: 02h00

Read the text carefully then do the activities

For decades I had longed to visit Spain, not only for its legendary charm and picturesque beauty but, more importantly, to experience the heritage of almost 800 years of Islamic presence. In December 1998, I travelled to Spain for the purpose of participating in a colloquium sponsored by the Paris- based International Society for the Study of Arab and Islamic history and Science (in conjunction with Spanish universities). The conference theme pertained to the contributions of Cordoba's most important intellectual, Death of Ibn Rushd known as Averroes in the west; Philosophy Law, Medicine, Astronomy, technology) in commemoration of his 800rh death anniversary.

The trip also provided me an opportunity to experience Spain's Islamic heritage. That heritage indeed has its reminders in every nook and corner of contemporary Spain, but especially in the province of Indalusia. That is where the two most prominent monuments of Islam's legacy are located: Granada (Arabic Gharnata) and Cordoba (Arabic Qurtaba); both are United Nations' "Heritage of Humanity" cities. Of course, these cities are well -maintained by the Spanish Government for aside from the "heritage" aspect, both are huge sources of tourist revenue, even though, in times, past Catholic fanaticism had tried to destroy all vestiges of the Islamic heritage.

Soon after landing in Madrid (Arabic Majrit, a kind of breeze), I took a night train to Granada, arriving there the next morning.

PART ONE: Reading and interpreting (15 pts.)

1/ The text is about: (0, 5 pt.)

- a- The remaining of the Islamic culture in Spain.
- b- The Islamic civilization.
- c- The biography of Ibn Rushd.

2/ Say if the following statements are true or false according to the text. (1, 5 pts.)

- a- The writer went to Spain as a visitor in 1998.
- b- Spain's Islamic heritage has its reminders on the Mediterranean provinces.
- c- Ibn Rushd is famous as Averroes.

3/ Answer the following questions according to the text. (3 pts.)

- a- When did the writer travel to Spain? What was his objective?
- b- How did the writer gain some knowledge of Islamic heritage in Spain during his trip?
- c- Why are Granada and Cordoba well maintained by the Spanish government?

5/ What or who do the underlined worlds refer to in the text? (2 pts.)

His (§1)..... That heritage (§2)..... where (§2)..... these (§2).....

B/- Text exploration (8pts)

1/ Find in the text words, phrases or expressions that are closest in meaning to the following: (1pt)

a- A period of ten years (§1) =.....

b- Chance (§2) =.....

2/ Find in the text words, phrases or expressions that are opposite in meaning to the following:(1pt)

a- Ancient (§2)≠

b- ruined (2§)≠

3/ Fill the table with the appropriate words.

(1,5 pts.)

Verbs	Nouns	Adjectives
To prosper
.....
.....	Founded
.....
.....	...belief

4/connect each pair of sentences with one of the words given .Make changes where necessary(1pt)

a- The Aztecs found an area near the lake. They built their city. (After)

b- The Aztecs didn't develop means .Their civilization flourished. (Although)

5/ Express it differently (1pt)

a-The Sumerians were obliged to build huge banks on both sides of the river.

b-The Sumerians.....

a-The Muslims left Andalusia in 1492. The Islamic civilization remained an enriching element of the Spanish cultural heritage.

b-After.....

6/ Put the verbs between brackets in the correct tense.

(1 pt.)

Because the Arabs (to be) great sailors, they (to need) to be map-makers. About 91 years ago , the Moroccan Al Idrissi (to put) together all the geographical knowledge of the East and the West and then world Atlas with 70 maps (to produce).

7/ Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of their final /ed/: (1,5 pts.)

Travelled – provided – asked – evolved – vanished – located.

PART TWO: Written expression: (5pts)

Choose one the following topics:

Topic 1: A lot of civilizations emerged, flourished and prospered but unfortunately collapsed.

Write a paragraph on the causes of their decline using the following ideas:

Drought – earthquakes – floods – famine – diseases – ruler's selfishness.....

Topic 2: Write a composition of about 100 to 200 words explaining in what way today's

civilization is Different from those of the past as regards to the different spheres of existence.

Good luck

