

PART ONE : READING (15 points)

Read the text carefully then do the activities.

We all need roots; increasingly, some of us will find them at school. The advance of globalization is challenging some of our most cherished values and ideas including an idea of what constitutes “home”.

Schools have another function. Increasingly, they have come to represent a sanctuary, a refuge even, for many children – those who whether because of poverty or discord between their parents, feel dislocated from their own families. For many children, school is starting to feel more like “home” than home.

I have spent the last two years as a member of a task force on education standards for the British government travelling the country, visiting scores of schools. My conversations with teachers have emphasized to me the extent to which schools increasingly provide the one true foundation for the children in their care. For some teachers the task is straightforward; to instruct children in the classroom. Others see part of their job as convincing children of the need for an education. For others still, the day begins with a tour of the local housing project, banging on doors to persuade the family to send their child to school. I met an extraordinary teacher who spends his Saturday evenings washing clothes of six of his students because if he doesn't, no one else will.

There used to be a lazy but common assumption that teachers were partially responsible for the problems of young people. The more enlightened view is that teachers are the solution. The parental responsibilities of teaching the difference between right or wrong or of showing the young how to look after their health have become the responsibility of teachers.

For some young members of society, the school is the only place where an adult takes a real interest in their progress. A teacher may well be the only male presence in their lives, and the only real adult role model. The school may be a reliable source of security and regular meals, and a place in which their voice is heard with some degree of respect.

A. Comprehension (8 pts)

1. Choose the idea which best summarizes the text.
 - a. The function of school is to transmit academic knowledge to youngsters.
 - b. In modern societies, schools don't play a major role.
 - c. Schools are becoming a source of security and role models for children.
2. In which paragraph is it mentioned that parents do not take their responsibilities as parents?
3. Are the following statements true or false? Write “t” for true and “F” for false next to the sentence letter.
 - a. Many children consider their schools as “home”
 - b. Schools have one function only: to educate
 - c. Some parental responsibilities have become the teachers’.
 - d. Children feel insecure at school.
4. Answer the following questions according to the text.
 - a. Why do many children consider their school as a refuge?
 - b. Some teachers do more than transmitting knowledge. What do they do?

5. Who do the underlined words refer to in the text?
a.between their parents (§2) b. ... because if he doesn't ... (§3)

B. Text exploration. (7 pts)

1. Find words in the text closest in meaning to the following.
a. progress (§1) b. duty (§3) c. convince (§3) d. true (§5)
2. Derive adjectives from the following nouns.
a. poverty b. health c. respect d. responsibility
3. Give the correct form of the verbs between brackets.
The word school (suggest) learning, discipline and education.
Educators (look for) a new and method of education to train children to become good and active members of society. They (not find) yet the best way to deal with children who (have) problems of various kinds including discipline.
4. Complete the following interview.
Journalist: What do teachers complain about when teaching
Teacher.....
Journalist: Discipline! I expected you to say class size.
Teacher.....
Journalist: Class size, too!
Teacher: Of course. Imagine the mess when 45 pupils answer at the same time.
Journalist:?
Teacher: Well, in fact each teacher has their own solution.
Journalist:?
Teacher: Mine ? The cane, of course !
5. Classify the following words according to the number of their syllables.
a. school b.globalization c. dislocated d. challenging

PART TWO: WRITING (5 points)

Write a composition of about 80 words on the following topics.
What kind of parents would you like to have? Justify your answer.