Level: 3rd year FL

## First Term English Exam

Part One: Reading and Interpreting

(14pts)

Read the text and do the following activities

In the wake of the Arab Spring, corruption has become one of the Arab World's most talked about problems. Islam strictly prohibits corruption and there are undoubtedly many in the Arab World who take the Quran's injunction seriously. Corruption continues, however, to be a fact of life across the Arab World and has been a key trigger for the popular protests that have swept the region since 2011. Several countries have since stepped up efforts to fight <u>it</u> although with mixed results. In the United Arab Emirates, for instance, a federal anti-corruption law has been drafted and is expected to be ratified soon. The law expected to call for the establishment of a Federal Authority for combating corruption and for measures to protect whistle-blowers.

Though the initiatives are notable in a region that haslong tolerated corruption, still there is a hidden force in Arab society, which is called Wasta. Often jokingly referred to as "vitamin W", Wasta is described as "as an intrinsic part of culture that smooths the way to jobs, promotions, university places and much else in business and government. Those with Wasta can jump the queue and, with the right connections, can solve almost any problem. While Wasta may have a positive side whereby it humanises bureaucracy, it also hinders economic development and impacts business by providing unfair advantage, yielding decisions based on connections instead of merit and reducing productivity in the Arab world.

Consequently, when doing business in the Arab World, it is critical to be attuned to the invisible hand of *Wasta* by strengthening integrity systems and conducting extensive carefulness. *Wasta* remains a challenge when doing business in the Arab World, but by recognising and addressing the issue through incepth carefulness – rather than accepting it as an unavoidable risk of conducting business in the region – one can mitigate the problems associated with this cultural phenomenon.

(RanaFeghalli; the Middle East site, 2014)

## A/ Comprehension: (7pts)

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- . 1. Say if the following sentences are true or false. (2pts)
  - a) Corruption is not talked about in the Arab World.
  - b) No one takes into account the Quran's instructions.
  - c) Corruption in the Arab World is the root cause of the popular protests.
    - d) "Wasta" helps economic prosperity.
  - 2. Answer the following questions according to the text .(3pts)
    - a) When has the concept of corruption become most discussed in the Arab World?
    - b) Why is "Wasta" considered to be a bad phenomenon?
    - c) What is the best way to handle the problem of corruption and "Wasta" in the Arab World?
  - 4. In which paragraph is it mentioned : (1pt)
    - a) "Wasta" can be reduced in the Arab World by admitting its existence?
    - b) Corruption initiated several of the Arab World demonstrations?
    - 5. What or who do the underlined words refer to in the text?( 1pt )
      - a) it (§1)

b) those ( §2)

B/ Text Exploration:	(7pts)	1.04	
		airs of sentences using the appropriate connector from the list.  I that - after. Make the necessary changes.(1.5pts) the Arab World. A great deal of countries started to tackle seriously on.	
a) forbids (§1)	_	• •	
		ollowing: (0.75 pt)	
a) unknown (§ 1)	b) dishonesty		c) weakening (§3)
3. Complete the second s	entence (b) so that it means	the same as sentence	(a). (1.5 pts)
1/a) our government should pa	ss stricter anti corruption law	vs very soon.	
b) I wish			
2/a)I accepted a bribe last year			Allen.
b)I wish	•		
		nti-corruntion laws	A STATE OF THE STA
	_	4400	
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<ul> <li>a) Deadly protests swe the problem of corru</li> </ul>	•	leal of countries started	l to tackle seriously
b) The Arab countries	can eradicate corruption. The	ey take stricter measure	es.
c) Corruption is prohib	ited by Islam . A lot of Arab	World countries practi	se it.

5. Fill in the gaps with only 4 words from the list given. (1 pt)

companies - assume - ethical - business - escape - immoral

Some people say that businessmen should apply their own personal.....1.... standards when doing business. They tell us that you need......2...... to make money; that the world of business is a jungle and that if we respect ethics, we can undermine the values of hard work and freedom. Let me tell you that I don't agree with these arguments at all. I believe that such arguments are only excuses to.....3..... the responsibility of these .....4....... As far as I am concerned, I say that ethics has everything to do with money.

6. Classify the following words according to the number of their syllables. (1.5 pts)

Corruption - talked -culture - solve - promotion - protest

One syllable	Two syllables	Three syllables
6 6		e e

Part two: Written Expression: Choose one of the following topics.(6pts)

Topic 1: You are with your friend discussing about corruption. Your friend is convinced that corruption is the key to solve any problem. You don't agree with him/ her. Imagine the conversation between you and your friend.

**Topic 2:** What should be done to eradicate corruption? pass tougher laws / punish severely corrupt civil servants / improve people's living conditions .........

Good Luck

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Your teacher Mrs. KACIMI