READING 1 (Items 26-32) (7 marks)

Read each text, then shade True or False for the statement.

Hotel Notice: Dear Guests, the swimming pool will be closed on Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. for cleaning. The children's pool beside the gym will remain open all day. Thank you for your understanding.

26. Guests can swim in the children's pool on Wednesday.

○ True ○ False

Hi Khalid! We're at the airport but our flight to Salalah is delayed by two hours. Don't wait for us at the restaurant - order without us and we'll meet you at the hotel. - Zahra

27. Zahra will meet Khalid at the restaurant.

○ True ○ False

DESERT SAFARI OFFER: Full-day trip to the Wahiba Sands every Tuesday and Friday. Price: 35 rials per person, including lunch and hotel pick-up. Children under six travel free.

28. The trip price includes lunch.

○ True ○ False

Dear Mr Fahad, Thank you for choosing Sunrise Hotel. This email confirms your booking: a double room with sea view for three nights, arriving 14 March. Check-in is from 2 p.m. If your plans change, you may cancel free of charge until 48 hours before arrival.

29. Mr Fahad will arrive on 14 March.

○ True ○ False

Prepared by:
Mohamed Mostafa Al Shorbagy
Regional Supervisor, Wusta Governorate

READING 1 (continued)

TOUR GUIDES NEEDED: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism invites applications for licensed tour-guide courses. Applicants must speak English fluently and be over 18. Courses begin in September. Apply online before 15 August.

30. The courses are for licensed guides who want more training.

○ True ○ False

Please be informed that the mountain road to Jebel Akhdar is open only to four-wheel-drive vehicles. Police checkpoints operate daily. In case of fog or heavy rain, the road may be closed without notice.

31. Any car can use the Jebel Akhdar road.

○ True ○ False

Welcome aboard Oman Air flight WY 101 to Salalah. Our flying time today is one hour and forty minutes. Please remain seated with your seatbelt fastened until the aircraft comes to a complete stop.

32. The flight takes less than two hours.

○ True ○ False

READING 2 (Items 33-40) (8 marks)

Read the email, then answer the questions on the next page.

Dear Marwa,
Greetings from Salalah! I cannot believe I am finally working at the hotel we stayed in two years ago. Do you remember it?
As you know, I started my training at the Al-Waha Hotel in July. I spend two weeks in each department so that I learn everything. This month, I am at the reception desk. I answer the phone, check guests in and out, and solve small problems. Yesterday, a guest could not open his safe, and I had to call the engineer!
The khareef season has started, and the hotel is completely full. The rain makes everything green, and tourists arrive from everywhere. Last week, I helped a family from Germany who had lost their luggage at the airport. I phoned the airline three times, and the bags finally arrived at midnight. The family were so grateful that they wrote my name in their online review!
The work is tiring, and I stand for many hours, but my colleagues are wonderful. My supervisor, Ms Amal, checks my work every day and teaches me something new. She says I have a talent for customer service.
Next month, I will move to the restaurant department, which scares me a little. Carrying plates looks easy until you try it!
How is your training at the hospital going? Write soon.
Your friend,
Budoor

READING 2 (continued)

33. Budoor knew the hotel because she had _____.

○ worked there before ○ stayed there as a guest ○ seen it in an advertisement

34. This month, Budoor works at _____.

○ the reception desk ○ the restaurant ○ the engineer's office

35. The German family's problem was about _____.

○ their lost luggage ○ a wrong booking ○ a delayed tour

36. Budoor phoned the airline _____.

○ once ○ twice ○ three times

37. The family thanked Budoor by _____.

○ giving her a gift ○ mentioning her in a review ○ writing to the manager

38. Ms Amal is Budoor's _____.

○ colleague ○ teacher ○ supervisor

39. Next month, Budoor will work in _____.

○ the kitchen ○ the restaurant ○ the garden

40. Budoor asks Marwa about her training at _____.

○ a school ○ a pharmacy ○ a hospital

Prepared by:
Mohamed Mostafa Al Shorbagy
Regional Supervisor, Wusta Governorate

READING 3 (Items 41-50) (10 marks)

Read the text, then complete the tasks on the next page.

ECO-TOURISM IN OMAN

In recent years, a new kind of tourism has been growing quietly in Oman: eco-tourism. Eco-tourists are travellers who want to enjoy nature without harming it. They stay in small, simple accommodation, respect local customs, and spend their money with local communities rather than large international companies.

Oman is an ideal country for this kind of travel. In the mountains of Jebel Akhdar, local families have opened small guest houses where visitors sleep in traditional stone rooms and eat food grown in the village's own gardens. At Ras al Jinz, on the eastern coast, tourists can watch green turtles coming out of the sea at night to lay their eggs on the beach. The reserve there employs local people as rangers, so tourism directly supports the community.

Eco-tourism also helps to protect the environment. Because visitors come to see unspoilt nature, local people have a strong reason to keep beaches clean and to protect wildlife. At Ras al Jinz, the number of visitors is limited every night, and guides make sure that nobody uses bright lights near the turtles, which could frighten them.

The government supports this kind of tourism. Training programmes teach young Omanis how to work as nature guides, and small loans help villages build simple accommodation. The goal is to increase tourism income without building huge hotels that damage the landscape.

Of course, eco-tourism is not only good for the country - it is good for the traveller too. Visitors return home with real experiences: the silence of the desert, the stars over the mountains, and the warmth of Omani hospitality. These are memories that no luxury hotel can sell.

Prepared by:
Mohamed Mostafa Al Shorbagy
Regional Supervisor, Wusta Governorate

READING 3 (continued)

Task One: Write not more than FOUR WORDS OR A NUMBER.

41. What do eco-tourists want to do without harming it? (one word)

_____

42. Where do tourists watch turtles at night?

_____

43. Who works as rangers at the reserve?

_____

44. Why must visitors not use bright lights near the turtles? (Because they could...)

_____

45. What helps villages build accommodation?

_____

46. What kind of accommodation do eco-tourists prefer? (2 adjectives)

_____

Task Two: Shade the correct option.

47. Eco-tourists prefer to spend their money with _____.

○ local communities ○ international companies ○ large hotels

48. At Jebel Akhdar, visitors eat food that is _____.

○ brought from Muscat ○ grown in the village ○ cooked by hotel chefs

49. At Ras al Jinz, the number of visitors each night is _____.

○ unlimited ○ increasing every year ○ limited

50. The government's goal is to increase tourism income without _____.

○ raising prices ○ damaging the landscape ○ building any hotels

READING SCORE: _____ / 25

Prepared by:
Mohamed Mostafa Al Shorbagy
Regional Supervisor, Wusta Governorate