READING 1 (Items 1-5) (5 marks)

*Match the five texts on the left with the texts in the box. (There is **One** extra text in the box.)*

1. Before any long car journey, my father checks the car very carefully. He looks at the tyres and the water,

2. The ferry from Shinas to Khasab is my favourite way to travel. The trip takes five hours, and from the top deck

3. Last year, our class flew to Salalah for three days. Our teacher booked the tickets online two months early,

4. When you visit a new country, it is good to learn a few words of the language. In Thailand, our guide taught us

5. My uncle is a truck driver. He drives between Muscat and Salalah every week. The journey is one thousand kilometres,

A.	**so the tickets were much cheaper. We stayed in a small friendly hotel near the beach and swam in the sea every day.**
B.	**'hello', 'please' and 'thank you'. People smiled kindly every time we tried to speak their beautiful words.**
C.	**and he fills two bags with dates and water. He says the desert road at sunrise is the most beautiful thing in the world.**
D.	**and he never lets anyone sit in the front without a seat belt. Safety always comes first in our family.**
E.	**you can sometimes see dolphins swimming next to the ship. I always take sandwiches and my camera with me.**
F.	**the airport was very busy. Hundreds of people waited in long lines with their bags.**

READING 2 (Items 6–10) **(5 marks)**

Read the text. Then complete the task.

The Al Busaidi family had planned their trip for six months. Father had checked the car three times, Mother had packed enough food for an army, and eight-year-old Omani had drawn a map of the whole journey on a big piece of paper.

They left Muscat at five in the morning, when the sky was still pink. Their plan was to drive to Nizwa, see the famous fort, and then continue to their grandmother's village in the mountains.

At Nizwa fort, a friendly guide showed them the tall round tower and the old doors with sharp points. 'Long ago, these doors stopped the enemies,' the guide explained. Omani touched the heavy wood and imagined soldiers from three hundred years ago.

After lunch in the souq, they started the mountain road. It was narrow, with a hundred turns. Father drove slowly. Then, halfway up, they heard a strange sound: tok-tok-tok. One tyre was flat!

For a minute, everyone was quiet. Then Grandmother's voice came on the phone: 'Don't worry! Ahmed the mechanic lives at the top of the hill.'

Ahmed came down on his motorbike, changed the tyre in twenty minutes, and refused to take any money. 'You are guests in our mountain,' he smiled.

They arrived at the village just as the sun set behind the mountains. 'See?' said Grandmother at the door. 'The best trips always have one small adventure.'

READING 2 (continued)

*For each question, write a short answer (**not more than FOUR WORDS or a NUMBER**)*

6. How long did the family plan the trip?

_____

7. What time did they leave Muscat?

_____

8. Who showed them the fort?

_____

9. What was the problem on the mountain road?

_____

10. How did Ahmed arrive?

_____

READING SCORE	**10**