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. My friends think adventure sports are dangerous, but I think they teach you to be brave and careful.

2. When we arrived at the mountain, the friendly instructor gave us all strong helmets and carefully checked our climbing equipment three times.

3. I was afraid of deep water, so my father signed me up for swimming lessons at the sports centre.

4. The weather report said strong wind, so the paragliding centre cancelled all the flights that day.

5. Our adventure club wants to try kayaking, but none of us knows how to do it safely.

A.	**Safety always comes first in climbing. Only then did we start the long, exciting climb to the top.**
B.	**The club found a professional instructor from Muscat. He will teach us every Friday afternoon until we can kayak alone on calm water.**
C.	**The students were disappointed, but the manager said: 'The mountain will always be here. Your lives are more important.' We all agreed with him.**
D.	**Now, after six months, I can swim fifty metres without stopping. Next year, my father will teach me to dive in the sea.**
E.	**Last weekend, I climbed Jebel Shams with my uncle. When I stood at the top and looked down, I understood that courage is not the absence of fear.**
F.	**My sister works in a large hospital in Muscat. She loves her job because she helps sick children every day.**

READING 2 (Items 6–10) **(5 marks)**

Read the text. Then complete the task.

Hamza always loved mountains. Every holiday, his family drove from Muscat to their village in Jebel Akhdar, and little Hamza looked up at the high peaks and dreamed.

When he turned twelve, his uncle took him on his first real climb. They started before sunrise, when the air was cool. 'Drink water every half hour, and watch your feet,' his uncle said. The path was narrow, and sometimes Hamza's legs hurt terribly, but he never complained.

After four hours, they reached a small green village on the mountain. An old man selling pomegranates smiled at them. 'You are the youngest climber I have seen this year!' he told Hamza, and gave him a big, sweet pomegranate as a prize.

On the way down, it started to rain lightly, and the path became slippery. Hamza held his uncle's rope and moved slowly. At that moment, he learned the most important lesson: going down is harder than going up, and patience is more important than strength.

Now Hamza trains every weekend. His school adventure club chose him to lead the younger students next year. He says, 'A mountain teaches you about yourself. Every climb makes you a stronger person - inside, not outside.'

READING 2 (continued)

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

6. Where is Hamza's family village?

_____

7. When did they start climbing?

_____

8. What did the old man sell?

_____

9. Why did the path become dangerous?

_____

10. What will Hamza do next year?

_____

READING SCORE	**10**