READING 1 (Items 1–4) **(4 marks)**

*Match the four texts on the left with the texts in the box. There is **ONE** extra text in the box.)*

1. The Al-Balushi family has three young children. They want a day out where the children can see animals from Oman and Africa and play outside safely. They can only travel at the weekend. _____

2. Yousuf is a university student who loves Omani history. He enjoys walking inside old buildings and learning how people lived hundreds of years ago. He also likes taking photos of old doors and towers. _____

3. **Salim is eighteen and loves adventure. He is fit and wants an exciting day in the mountains with climbing and amazing views. He is bored with quiet places and wants a real challenge.** _____

4. Grandmother Aisha wants a quiet, relaxing place with flowers and trees. She likes slow walks and sitting in the shade with her family. She cannot walk far, so the paths must be easy. _____

A.	**Visit one of Oman's most famous forts and travel back in time. Walk through old rooms, climb the round towers and see how people lived four hundred years ago. Our guides tell wonderful stories about battles and kings, and the views from the top are perfect for your photos. Open daily.**
B.	**Everything your family needs under one roof: two hundred shops, twenty restaurants, a modern cinema and a safe children's play area. Open every day from ten in the morning until midnight, with free parking for three thousand cars and free wifi for all our visitors. Come and see us today!**
C.	**Come and meet Arabian oryx, gazelles, lions and giraffes in large open spaces. Children love our safe play areas and the small farm where they can feed the friendly goats. Open Saturday to Thursday, from nine until sunset. Bring a hat and water - it's sunny out there! Tickets online are cheaper.**
D.	**Escape the city noise in forty hectares of flowers, trees and quiet lakes. Flat, easy walking paths, comfortable seats in the shade, and a small café for tea and ice cream. Perfect for slow,**

	relaxing family afternoons, and only ten minutes by bus from the city centre. Entrance is free.
E.	**Are you brave enough? Climb Oman's highest mountains with our expert guides, try the famous mountain paths, and sleep under the stars in our camp. Full safety equipment and training are included. Only for fit visitors over sixteen who want a real adventure. Book early - places are limited. Bring your friends.**

READING 2 (Items 5–10) **(6 marks)**

Read the text. Then complete the task.

Everyone says smart homes make life easier, and I agree - but last week I read a report that made me think: is 'easier' always better for us?

There is no doubt that smart homes help us. Lights, air conditioning and doors work from one app, and families save electricity and money. My uncle's smart home even tells him when the fridge door is open! For old people and people with disabilities, voice control is not just comfortable - it gives them independence, and that is truly valuable.

However, there is another side. First, these systems need the internet. When the connection stops, people cannot open their doors or cook their food. This happened to my neighbours last month, and their children were frightened. The police in one country even asked a company for recordings from a family's kitchen. Secondly, smart devices listen and collect information about us all the time. Who keeps this information, and is it safe? A recent survey found that sixty per cent of smart-home owners never read the privacy rules.

There is also a quieter problem: we are getting lazy. When a machine does everything, we forget how to do simple things ourselves. My little cousin can control three apps but cannot make a cup of tea!

In my view, smart homes are wonderful tools, but we must stay their masters. Technology should serve us, not the other way round. Learn how your house works without the app, read the privacy rules, and sometimes - just sometimes - switch everything off and open the curtains with your own hands.

READING 2 (continued)

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

5. What did the writer read last week?

_____

6. Who does voice control give independence to?

_____

7. What happened to the neighbours last month?

_____

8. What percentage of owners never read the privacy rules?

_____

9. What can't the writer's little cousin do?

_____

10. What does the writer say we must stay?

_____

READING SCORE	**10**