"I was desperate to be a mum."

1. I stood outside the hotel room feeling very nervous. I'd never been to Guatemala before, but that wasn't why I was shaking like a leaf. The real reason was much bigger than that. I was about to meet my daughter for the first time. It had taken three long years to get to this moment, but I'd never given up.

2. The truth was, my whole life had been a battle. When I was 3, I got polio and spent the next five years in hospital. I was told I'd never walk. I refused to let it stop me, following my dreams. Independent and determined, I worked my way up to become a successful consultant. But, despite lots of happy relationships, I was desperate to be a mum.

3. Now, knocking on the hotel door, I kept the photo of my adopted daughter, Isabella, in my mind. Her picture had been emailed to me and I'd fallen in love with her.

4. 'What if she doesn't like me?' I said to Orfa, a local woman I'd hired to be a nanny while I was there. Being disabled meant I wouldn't be able to carry Isabella, who was 13 months old. Admitting to needing help was a rare thing for me, but now I had to get used to it. "It'll be fine", she smiled.

"Pick me Up" August 2005
I – READING COMPREHENSION : ( 5 marks )

1) Circle the right alternative. (1 mark )

The writer was shaking like a leaf because :
 a – it was very cold.
 b – it was the first time she went to Guatemala.
 c – she was going to meet her daughter for the first time.

2) The following statements are FALSE. Correct each statement with one sentence from the text. (2 marks )

a – As she was handicapped, the writer couldn’t get a job

b – The writer had no idea what her adopted daughter would be like.

3) Find in the last paragraph a word which means : (1 mark )

employed = ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

4) Answer this question. (1 mark )

What do you think of the fact that a handicapped woman adopts a child ? Justify your answer.

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II – LANGUAGE : ( 10 marks )

1) Match the sentence parts in column A with the sentence parts in column B. There’s an extra one in B. Column A is in the right order. Write your answers in the space provided. ( 2.5 marks )

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Thomas Edison lit up the world</td>
<td>a) was not his only invention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Without him, the world</td>
<td>b) the motion picture, and over 1200 other things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) However, the electric light</td>
<td>c) didn’t stop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) He also invented the phonograph,</td>
<td>d) with his electric light.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) About every two weeks</td>
<td>e) he created something new.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f) might still be a dark place.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 + ...... 2 + ...... 3 + ...... 4 + ...... 5 + ......

2) Fill in the blanks with the right words from the box below to get a coherent paragraph. ( 2.5 marks )


Street children exist in cities throughout the world. Go to any ......................... city, and you will find them. Like tramps, they sleep up ......................... in newspapers, under motorway ......................... . They are the forgotten children of the world. Many of them don’t even ......................... exist, beginning life with no birth......................... .
3) Circle the right alternative to get a coherent paragraph. (2.5 marks)

Polio was pronounced dead in the western hemisphere years ago, after one of the most (success – succeed – successful) health campaigns in history. But now it is stealing through a tiny community in central Minnesota. (So far – Since – Then), no one has been handicapped by the disease. The story of (what – how – who) polio came to this community is a (medical – historical – psychological) mystery. It suggests that eradicating polio may (show – justify – prove) far harder than anyone thought.

4) Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form. (2.5 marks)

The Special Olympic Games are the world’s largest sports organization for children and adults with mental retardation.

In 1991, 6000 athletes from 107 countries (compete) ................. in the 8th Special Olympics in Minnesota. Everyone of them won a prize.

If an athlete has physical disabilities that prevent her / him from (participate) ................. in regular sports, she / he may join a (development) ................. sport. The first Special Olympic Games in the United States took place in Chicago. For many years, mental retardation (be) ................. a source of (embarrass) ................. to families with these special children, that’s why the Special Olympics are changing the attitudes.

III – WRITING : (5 marks)

Yuri Gagarin was among many people who changed the world. Develop these notes to write his biography.

- Date and place of birth: 9 March 1934, Smolensk, Russia.
- 12 April 1960: 180 minute flight / space: Man’s first venture in space.
- Gagarin: national hero / and famous all over / world.

4 / 5