"This is the first summer I can go for a swim"

Helen used to be terrified of water. Now, she loves swimming. "I have always been afraid of water and while I had tried to learn to swim before, I couldn't even put my face underwater, so it never worked. I lived in West Africa for a while and had access to a pool, but I never used it, and when I took my children swimming, I'd only put my toes in water. I have always felt I missed out a lot, particularly on beach holidays. Finally, after our family holiday in Cyprus last year, I decided I had to do something about it. I was sick of feeling left out and unable to swim. So I found the company "Swimwithus" on the Internet. I didn't tell anyone, because I wasn't sure I could manage. The first few weeks were dedicated to putting my head underwater, and my teacher, Roger, was really patient. It didn't come naturally, but he persevered and so did I. When I realized I was going to succeed, I told my family, who were delighted. I can honestly say that learning to swim is one of the best things I've ever done. We're traveling down the Gulf of Mexico this year and I'm so excited about being able to use the hotel swimming pools and swim in the sea at last."

*Woman*, June 2005.
I – READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS: (5 marks)

1) Complete this sentence with words from paragraph 2: (2 marks)

Thanks to the company "Swimwithus" that the found on the ................., Helen managed to enjoy ............ like anybody else in the pools and in the sea.

2) These statements are false. Correct each statement with one sentence from the text: (2 marks)

a – Helen enjoyed swimming in west Africa.

b – The family helped Helen in her first steps of learning to swim.

3) What does the underlined word refer to? (1 mark)

it: refers to ........................................................................................................

II – LANGUAGE: (10 marks)

Match the sentence parts in column A with the right sentence parts in column B. There's an extra part in column B. Column A is in the right order. No 1 is an example. (2 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) As a Manchester United player,</td>
<td>a) then your opinion of Mr. Beckham may be quite different.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) He is one of the</td>
<td>b) comments aimed at his wife.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) If you are a Manchester United fan</td>
<td>c) has been extremely offensive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) If you aren't a fan of this team,</td>
<td>d) David Beckham is used to winning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) In fact, his treatment by fans of other teams</td>
<td>e) most famous British in the world today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f) you love him.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 + d  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)


The idea of the World Cup came from a President of FIFA, Jules Rimet. He wanted all FIFA ........................................... to play together in a “Football Olympics”. Uruguay was the ............................................. country of the 1st World Cup in 1930. And only thirteen countries participated in the ............................................. . The first World Cup was held before it was possible to travel by ............................................. between continents. A journey from Europe to south America ............................................. several weeks and was very expensive.

3) Circle the right alternative to get a meaningful paragraph. (3 marks)

A school in Dubai has started a new programme to encourage reading habits from an early age. Every (reading / read / to read) period, the teacher plans a little (lesson / shock / surprise) for her pupils. One week, it could be a reading aloud session, another a small (drama / dramatic / dramatization) of the story or asking each child to come up and give his / her own (lesson / version / task) of the story. “The role of the teacher is to instill a (love / hate / dislike) of reading, not to monitor how (many / much / often) and which books they have been reading.”

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

Every recognized country in the world except for the U.S.A and Somalia has ratified the convention on the Rights of the Child. Today, the convention (stand) ..................... as the single most (wide) ..................... ratified treaty in existence. (Adopt) ..................... by the United Nations General Assembly on November 20th, 1989, the promises of this (history) ..................... document include children’s rights to life, to be protected in armed conflicts. However, for countless children around the world, these promises (be) ..................... broken.
III – WRITING : ( 5 marks )

You have just won a gold medal in a world race competition. A journalist is interviewing you about the qualities, performance and endurance of an athlete. Complete the interview.

Journalist: To start with, let me congratulate you for your gold medal. What do you think helped you to get it?

You: Thank you. ........................................................................................................................................

Journalist: Have you won other medals?

You: ........................................................................................................................................

Journalist: What in your opinion makes a good athlete?

You: ........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................

Journalist: Thank you very much. Good luck.