

I. COMPREHENSION (12 points)**Circle the right answer (3 points).**

1. a website
2. a young Syrian basketball player
3. Friday

Are the following sentences true or false? Justify your answers by quoting from the text. (5 points)

4. **True** : "My mum kept asking me to play basketball"
5. **False** : "the Serbian coach"
6. **True** : "my team was half-Muslim and half-Christian"
7. **True** : "(There really are no words to describe my life before the crisis started in Syria.) It was heaven on earth"
8. **False** : (We were given the week off for Christmas and New Year) , so I and the other players from Aleppo flew home)

Answer the following questions (4 points)

9. He said that he had always hoped to join a well-known team in Aleppo, but he realized then that such a team would not give a chance to a new player like him. So, he decided to join a less famous team where he thought he could play and perform. ACCEPT SIMILAR ANSWERS
10. He felt honored and proud (because not everyone can get the chance to be invited to the National Team Camp.) ACCEPT SIMILAR ANSWERS
11. Because the airport was under attack.
12. The relationship between the players, whether they were muslim or Christian was so strong that they did not give importance to the possible differences that might arise with the different religions, thoughts and traditions of the players. They felt they were more than just team mates. They felt they were like a family. ACCEPT SIMILAR ANSWERS

II. WRITE (8 points)

Assessment criteria for writing

- » Very meaningful content, well-written paragraphs with topic sentence, supporting ideas, conclusion or transition to next sentence, correct grammar
- » Meaningful paragraph(s), good paragraph form with clear topic, some supporting ideas, and some transitions, and only a few grammar errors
- » Somewhat meaningful content, paragraph form, at least one supporting idea, more than a few grammar errors
- » Content not very related to topic, sentence level, not paragraph form, many grammar errors
- » Content not related to topic, incomplete sentences, not understandable, many grammar errors