

Barbara is from a small town in California. Some months ago, she had a terrible argument with her parents. She read an advert in a magazine about becoming a movie actress in Hollywood and thought her dream would finally come true. She did not expect her parents to refuse. "If you were eighteen," **they** told her, "you could answer the advert, and you could go for an interview – or even a casting – and try your luck in Hollywood. But you're too young! You have to finish your studies first. You can't give up your studies now!"

Determined to realise her dream, Barbara decided to run away from home. She hitch-hiked to Los Angeles where she expected to live with some friends who had left about a year before. But she was surprised to discover that her friends had no jobs and nowhere really decent to live in. She was also disappointed to know that she had no talent to become an actress according to the Hollywood casting committee. At first, she did part-time jobs; she was an extra in a war film last month, but there was no permanent job for people like her without qualifications.



Barbara has been living in Los Angeles for six months now. She has been begging in the street and sleeping wherever she can - sometimes on park benches or in cheap hotels. She used to say Los Angeles is a wonderful place. Now she wonders how she could have thought such a thing. In fact, she hates it. "There's nothing interesting about it ; the people are cold and indifferent, and the place is expensive and uninviting," she thought to herself.

When Barbara reached a desperate point, she went to a local centre for the homeless. She now thinks about returning home; she misses her parents very much. But she thinks that even if she asked them to return home, they would not take her back. Two months later, she saw her parents on a TV programme about missing teenagers urging her to come back home. She knew then that she was still the dear little Barbara.

I. COMPREHENSION

(15 POINTS)

BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT

A. ARE THESE SENTENCES TRUE OR FALSE ? JUSTIFY

(3 pts)

1. Barbara's parents did not want her to leave school.

.....

2. Barbara took part in a film.

.....

3. Barbara finds the people in Los Angeles friendly and kind.

.....

B. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

(3 pts)

1. How did Barbara know about the casting?

.....

2. How did she get to Los Angeles?

.....

3. What did she do when she felt desperate?

.....

C. PUT THE FOLLOWING EVENTS IN THE CORRECT ORDER ACCORDING TO THE TEXT.

(2 pts
0,5 pt
each)

EVENTS	CORRECT ORDER
- Barbara was not accepted in the casting.	1. Barbara had an argument with her parents.
- Barbara had an argument with her parents.	2.
- She saw her parents on TV.	3.
- She had to beg money in the street.	4.
- She went to Hollywood.	5.

D. COMPLETE THESE SENTENCES.

(2 pts)

1. Although her parents refused to let her go to Los Angeles; Barbara

.....

2. Barbara was not selected by the casting committee because

.....

E. FIND IN THE TEXT WORDS THAT MEAN ALMOST THE SAME AS :

(3 pts)

1. film (parag. 2)

2. find out (parg. 3)

3. fantastic (parag. 4)

F. WHAT DO THE UNDERLINED WORDS IN THE TEXT REFER TO ?

(2 pts)

1. they :

2. it :

II. LANGUAGE

(15 POINTS)

A. FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE APPROPRIATE PHRASAL VERBS.

(3 pts)

look up - turn down - hand out - take off - take care - set up

1. Mrs Baker couldn't find someone to of her grandmother during her absence.

2. Because of the heavy rain, the plane could not

3. In my view, you shouldn't such a well-paid job.

B. REWRITE THE SENTENCES AS SUGGESTED.

(4 pts)

1. "I will repair the computer," Harvey said.

Harvey promised

2. Rogers lost all his money in the lottery the other day.

He wishes

3. The Smiths didn't send their daughter to university as they couldn't pay for her studies.

Because.....

4. The students finished the school project in time.

The school project

C. FILL IN EACH GAP WITH AN APPROPRIATE WORD FROM THE LIST.

(3 pts)

1. "Youbreak the law," the policeman told the motorist.

might not - mustn't - needn't

2. Tahar Benjelloun, got the Dublin Literary Award in 2004, is a Moroccan writer.

whose - whom - who

3. Laura doesn't really regret the opportunity to marry.

miss - missing - missed

D. MATCH EACH STATEMENT WITH ITS APPROPRIATE FUNCTION

(4 pts)

1. "I'm sorry, I took your keys by mistake," he said.	a. concession
2. Nancy took up English lessons to increase her chances to get the job.	b. apology
3. "Would you like a cup of tea?" he asked me.	c. offering
4. Mr Baker attended the meeting despite his sickness.	d. purpose

1. → 2. → 3. → 4. →

E. FILL IN EACH GAP WITH AN APPROPRIATE WORD FROM THE LIST.

(1 pt;

care - subject - gap - attention - access

0,5 pt

1. Many people in the countryside now have to water and electricity.

each)

2. "Which school do you find most interesting?" Dad asked me.

III. WRITING

(10 POINTS)

Some students leave school earlier for different reasons.

Write an article for your school magazine stating some of these reasons and the effects of dropping out of school. (Approximately 200 words)

These cues may help you :

• school far from home	• poor knowledge(languages, literacy skills,...)
• no motivation to learn	• no proper education
• amily problems	• no good job in the future
• etc.	• etc.