

ENGLISH EXAM

SUMMER 2006

FAMILY NAME: _____

FIRST NAME(S): _____

GROUP: _____

**NO DICTIONARIES ALLOWED
(ORDINARY OR ELECTRONIC)**

A. READING COMPREHENSION _____ / 10 pts

B. VOCABULARY SEARCH _____ / 5 pts

C. COMPOSITION _____ / 10 pts

TOTAL _____ / 25 pts

GRADE _____ / 6

It's a race between universities and *madrasas* ⁽¹⁾

A long, painful journey brought Nahro Zagros from classically trained violinist and lecturer in Saddam Hussien's Iraq to playing gigs in *Hull* ⁽²⁾ with a band called *Yorkshire* ⁽³⁾ *Kurd*. Soon he is off on another journey to Armenia to study the music and culture of the semi-nomadic Yezidis. For, with
 5 help from the Council for Assisting Refugee Academics (Cara), Zagros is doing a masters degree in ethnomusicology at *York* ⁽²⁾ *University*, researching how music can display cultural identity.

The young Kurdish musician is one of about 60 academics currently being helped by Cara, an organisation that was set up in 1933 to help academic
 10 refugees from Hitler's Germany. Over the decades the countries of origin have changed - South Africa in the 1960s, Iraq and Iran in the 1980s and 1990s - but the need has remained.

Indeed, only a fraction of refugee academics receive help. Last month, the President of New York University, John Sexton, was in London to launch
 15 the UK network of Scholars at Risk, set up in collaboration with Cara to try to reach more of them. He told a meeting at the British Academy that by helping academics under extreme threat, they were protecting their own academic freedom against less dramatic, but real encroachments.

Zagros found himself among the extreme cases when he was a music
 20 lecturer at Iraq's Institute of Fine Arts and conductor of an orchestra that toured in the Middle East and Europe. He worked for a television station owned by Uday Hussein and was pressured into becoming involved in events run by Uday. Following a short visit to Kurdistan to see his relatives,
 25 he was imprisoned for nearly six months in 2000. He fled Iraq shortly after.

Sent to Hull, he sought out other musicians and formed Yorkshire Kurd, playing gigs to raise money for refugees and giving workshops and performances in local schools to promote diversity. They have also
 30 performed at festivals in Britain and abroad, playing a fusion of Middle Eastern music, swing jazz, eastern European Gypsy music and Jewish klezmer. Without Cara, he says, he could not have resumed study at York and researched the Yezidis, a group of Kurds from Turkey who took refuge in Armenia in the 1880s.

(1) Madrasa: a Muslim college (2) Hull and York are English cities (3) Yorkshire is a region in north-east England

35 There are plenty of other stories to tell - the Iranian professor of paediatrics,
 the Iraqi medical lecturer, both now establishing themselves in Britain, for
 instance. Applications for refugee status in the UK are falling, but pleas for
 help from academics continue to increase, says John Akker, the executive
 secretary of Cara. He estimates that of the ten thousand refugees in Glasgow,
 40 nearly one thousand have a substantial academic background.

Cara has recently been given \$875'000 over five years from the Lisbet
 Rausing charitable fund to help with grants to scholars. With the Scholars at
 Risk network, Cara is planning how universities could use refugee
 academics' services in such areas as human resources, student services,
 45 language centres, accommodation, welfare, childcare and international
 activities. So far, fifteen universities have joined the project.

The payoff to Britain for sheltering academic refugees has been spectacular.
 Of Cara's former grantees, who included names such as Karl Popper and
 Max Perutz, eighteen received a Nobel prize.

50 But Sexton made a rather different case for the work of Cara and Scholars
 at Risk - helping to defend academic freedom against more subtle pressures
 from outside the university, or even from political correctness within
 academe. "The race of our century will be a race between the university
 and madrasa, and it is important from the outset that we understand the
 55 difference between the two," he said.

"Xenophobes and ideologues seek to influence the research we undertake,
 the books we write or the classes we teach. Thus, for example, in the United
 States, research universities are pressurised to forgo stem cell research,
 and pressed to meet externally defined ideological quotas for faculty. And
 60 every university president, at some point, faces enormous external pressure
 because a speaker considered "controversial" is coming to campus ..."

"By seeing what happens in societies where universities and scholars are
 put at extreme risk, we come to better appreciate why we defend what we
 do and better recognise the warning signs of the erosion of those
 65 freedoms."

(Adapted) Donald MacLeod, the Guardian Weekly, April 14 - 20, 2006

1. Reading Comprehension

A. Answer the following questions:

1a) Write 3 of the jobs that Zagros did in Iraq: _____

1b) Write 3 of the things that Zagros is doing in the UK now:

...../ 3 points

2. For each of the following questions, choose the BEST answer.

A) According to John Sexton, Scholars at Risk is an organisation that tries

- to protect refugees

- to protect American academics

- to protect academic freedom(s) all over the world

- to protect scholars from German totalitarianism

B) Zagros's band plays

- Kurdish music

- music that reflects a number of different influences

- classical music

- Yezidi music

C) Choose the **BEST** answer:

- 10% of refugees coming to the UK have a substantial academic background
- 60 musicians are being helped by Cara at the moment
- More and more foreign academics are asking the UK for help each year
- One thousand refugees in Glasgow receive grants from Cara

...../ 3 points

B. TRUE or FALSE?

a) **Decide** whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE.

b) **Copy information** from the text that justifies your answer.

Example: Nahro Zagros’s family took refuge in Armenia in the 1880s.

a) TRUE FALSE

b) It’s **FALSE** because it says that the Yezidis took refuge there (lines 34 - 35) and, in line 24, it is mentioned that Zagros’s relatives live in Kurdistan.

3a) Nahro Zagros is due to go to Armenia for the first time.

TRUE FALSE

3b) _____

4a) Cara is also trying to integrate refugee academics by enabling them to use their skills and abilities at universities.

TRUE FALSE

4b) _____

5a) In the past, Cara has sponsored famous academics.

TRUE FALSE

5b) _____

6a) Helping refugee academics can also be a way of helping to protect American academic freedoms.

TRUE FALSE

6b) _____

...../ 4 points

2. Vocabulary Search

In the text, find **SYNONYMS** for the following words and phrases.

Example: the study of how music can display cultural identity (lines 1 - 13):

Answer = **ethnomusicology** (line 7)

1. now, at the moment (lines 1 - 12): _____

2. ran away from, escaped from (lines 19 - 34): _____

3. an adjective that describes something, or someone, that causes disagreements
(lines 50 - 65): _____

4. A name for popular, or traditional, music concerts (lines 1 - 18): _____

5. began again (lines 19 - 34): _____

...../ 5 points

