

First Term Examination of English

Read the text carefully then do the activities

Nepotism has been practised by people in power for centuries, but most people engage in nepotism at some time or another. **It** can mean hiring and advancing unqualified or under-qualified family members based simply on the familial relationship. §1

While attitudes toward nepotism vary according to cultural background, nepotism is a sensitive issue in American business. Many companies and individuals consider the practice to be unethical, largely due to its conflict with traditional American values of self-reliance and fairness. §2

Nepotism can seem terribly unfair and it can be very complicated and difficult to fight, particularly in a privately owned business, and sometimes even in the public sector. However, if you have valid concerns about barely qualified employees **who** happen to be family members but are performing corrupt work. Indeed, With your observations and documentation, you may be able to prove that doing favours for one's family members doesn't necessarily do any favours for the company. §3

Nepotism is a threat to an organization and needs to be dealt consciously before letting it creep into the system. In present times, this subject has become a very sensitive issue causing a lot of stress leading to a drop in level of the employees, dissatisfaction in the company and ultimate decision to move on from the present company. §4

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A/ Comprehension/Interpretation (7pts)

1. Say whether the following statements are true or false according to the text:

- a- Nepotism describes a variety of practices related to favoritism.
- b. Cultural differences determine people's perspectives towards nepotism.
- c. Preventing nepotism is something intricate.
- d. Appointing relatives by companies' owners comes with good turns to the company.

2. Answer the following questions according to the text:

- a- How is nepotism defined?
- b- What makes nepotism a delicate problem in America?
- c- What are the disadvantages of nepotism?

3. In which paragraph is it mentioned that: "the eradication of nepotism is something far to be achieved?"

4. What or who do the underlined words in the text refer to?

a- It §1

b- who §3

5. Choose the best answer: the text is:

- a- Perspective
- b- Descriptive
- c- Expository

B/ Text Exploration (8pts)

1. Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following ones:

a- Appointing (§1)

b- dishonest (§2)

c. menace (§4)

2. Complete the following table as shown in the example:

	<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Nouns</u>	<u>Adjectives</u>
<u>Example</u>	To corrupt	Corruption	Corrupted
	To Persuade		
		Eradication	
			Fighting

3. Rewrite sentence "b" so that it means the same as sentence "a":

1- a. I have a strong desire that all governments ban nepotism from public and private companies.

b. I wish.....

2- a. Our authorities should impose strict regulations to fight favouritism.

b. It's high time.....

3- a. Our country will prosper if we fight wrongdoings in our society.

b. providing that.....

4. Ask questions on the underlined words:

Family members are performing corrupt works.

5. Fill in the gaps with these words from the list: (integrity - if - undoubtedly time)

It's our responsibility to fight nepotism and other unethical practices. It's high

..... we worked hand in hand so as to put an end to immoral behaviours.

..... we all cooperate and keep our probity and, we will

.....succeed.

PART TWO: WRITING (5pts)

Choose ONE of the following topics

Topic One:

Many companies suffer from a decrease in their productivity because of some of their employee's unethical practices. Write a composition of 80 to 100 words urging employees to behave morally, to be more responsible and thus more productive.

Use the following notes:

- Respect the company's code of ethics.
- Be aware of the necessity of hard-work.
- Respect work time.
- Use the company's resources ethically.
- Keep the company's secret information safe.

Topic Two:

You are soon to become an important public official through nepotism. Yet, you don't feel proud about it. You want to give up and denounce how unfair and illegal it is. Concerning this, write a speech of about 80 to 100 words in which you speak about the serious effects of nepotism and how we can fight it.