

Mark Scheme (Results)

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International GCSE

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There was in Basra an elderly gentleman known respectfully as Abu al-Agharr. He was staying with the people of one of his sisters on a road through the area of Banu Mazin. His sister's people were from Quraish.

One day in Ramadan, the men of the tribe had gone out to their lands, and the women were also out at the mosque. Only the maid-servants remained in the house. A dog was on the prowl for food that night. He saw the house and entered it but the door slammed shut behind him. Some of the maid-servants heard the sound and thought that a thief had come in. One of them went to Abu al-Agharr and reported the matter.

"What on earth does this thief want?" asked Abu al-Agharr.

He then took his stick and came and stood at the door of the house.

"You wicked so-and-so!" he said. "Do you really not know who I am? And are you anyone else but one of Bani Mazin's thieves who has drunk a foul, bitter drink until your soul led you to have all sorts of hope and you said: 'I will go tonight to the Banu Amr houses and steal something from them, while the men are far away and the women are praying in the mosque'.

"What a disgrace!" Abu al-Agharr continued. "By God, a son of people who are free would not do such a thing! May you come out now, or else I will scream so horrible a scream that the two tribes of Amr and Handhala will meet together, and helpers will come with a large number of pebbles, and the men will rain upon you from here, there and everywhere.

When Abu al-Agharr noticed that nobody was answering him, he tried the gentle approach and said:

"Come out now! I do not think you know me, but if you did, you would trust me. I am Abu al-Agharr al-Nahshali, a maternal uncle of the people here. You will not come to harm here tonight, so come on out! You are under my protection!"

When the dog heard the words, he fell silent, and when Abu al-Agharr was quiet, the dog jumped up and tried to find a way out. Abu al-Agharr shouted and then laughed.

After he had been standing there for some long time, one of the maidservants came to him and said:

"You crazy Bedouin of the desert! I cannot see anything bad in the house.

She pushed the door, and the dog came rushing out. Abu al-Agharr leaned away from him, and fell over backwards.

"Good Heavens!" he said. "I have never seen anything like tonight! I assume it was just a dog all the time. If I had known what he really was, I would have gone on into him".

He was able to cross the road slowly but he felt embarrassed that any passer-by might come upon him unexpectedly and see him walking, slowly, and with confused steps. He was afraid that his brother might come up to him: this brother who would return to the room from time to time to take a book or a utensil, or some kind of food that was being stored there so that he could allay his hunger while sipping tea at other times than breakfast or supper.

Anything was easier for the boy to bear than to be surprised by his brother looking at him when he was confused. His brother would then ask him: "What's the matter with you? Where do you want to go?" The boy thus reckoned it was better for him to remain where he was. He preferred to have no trouble, churning inside himself those burning pains which he experienced, as well as other pains which were no less sharp. Among these was a longing for that house of his in his own rural village. That was when he used to come back from Quranic school and he satisfied his need for play, then relieved his hunger with a piece of dry bread. He would joke with his sisters, and recount to his mother the things he liked to tell her about his day at school. When he had finished what he wanted to say, he went out of the house and shut the door behind him. He then proceeded to the walls of the house, in front of which he stood, before passing to the south sticking to the house. When he reached one particular place, he turned right, and then he went some steps in front of him before finishing up at the shop belonging to Sheikh Muhammad Abd al-Wahid and his brother Mahmud, the young pilgrim to Mecca. He sat there chatting and listening to the men and women customers with their simple country tales, of which he enjoyed their variety, originality and simplicity.

After adding markings:

كَانَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ أَهُونَ عَلَى الصَّبِي مِن أَنْ يَقْجَأَهُ أَخُوهُ وَ هُوَ يَسْعَى مُضْطَرِباً حَائِراً: قَيَسْأَلُهُ: مَاذَا حَدَث؟ وَ إَلَى أَيْنَ ثُرِيدُ؟

فَكَانَ أِذاً يَرَى الْخَيْرَ فِي أَنْ يَبْقَى فِي مَكَانِهِ وَ يُؤثِرَ السَّلامَة، و يُرَدَّدُ فِي نَفْسِهِ تِلْكَ الآلامُ اللاذِعَةُ الَّتِي كَانَ يَجِدُهَا،

وآلامٌ أُخْرَى لَمْ تَكُنْ أَقَلَّ مِنْهَا لَدْعاً، شُعُورُ الْحَنِينِ أِلَى مَنْزِلِهِ ذَلِكَ، فِي قَرْيَتِهِ تِلْكَ

مِنْ قُرَى الرِّيفِ

هُنَالِكَ حِينَ كَانَ يَعُودُ مِنَ الْكُتَّابِ وَ قَدْ أَرْضَى حَاجَتَهُ أِلَى اللَّعِبِ، فَيَتَبَلَّغُ بِكِسْرَةٍ هُنَالِكَ حِينَ كَانَ يَعُودُ مِنَ الْكُتَّابِ وَ قَدْ أَرْضَى حَاجَتَهُ أِلَى اللَّعِبِ، فَيَتَبَلَّغُ بِكِسْرَةٍ مِنَ الْخُبْرِ الْمُجَقَّفِ مَازِحاً مَعَ أَخُواتِهِ قَاصَاً عَلَى أُمِّهِ مَا أَحَبَّ أَنْ يَقُصَّ عَلَيْهَا مِنْ أَنْبَاءِ يَوْمِهِ فِي الْكُتَّابِ.

عين مدير المدرسة مساعداً له ليتأكد أن الطلاب كلهم يستطيعون القراءة والكتابة. كان هذا المساعد شابا يطمع يائساً في الحصول على وظيفة مناسبة وكان أبوه أصلا من السودان ولكن أمه مصرية الجنسية. لم يكن الشاب موهوبا جداً و لم يوفق في حياته كثيراً حتى الآن و قد جرب العمل في وظائف متنوعة ولم يفلح في شيء منها. أرسله أبوه الى كثير من أصحاب الحرف لكي يتدرب على حرفة واحدة على الأقل ولكنه لم يفلح و حاول أبوه أن يجد له عملا في مصنع السكر كعامل أو حارس أو بواب أو خادم الشاي ولكنه لم يستطع تحمل المسئولية في أي وظيفة باستمرار و كان لابد

له أن يترك العمل. تضايق منه أبوه و صار لا يهتم به كثيراً و يفضل عليه اخوته لأنهم يعملون و يكسبون معاشهم بالاعتماد على أنفسهم.

في آخر الأمر مل الشاب حياته المنزلية التي لا يفعل فيها شيئا فذهب الى المدرسة ليشتكي للمدير حاله السيئ. وظفه المدير للاشراف على الطلاب الأصغر سنا و كان عليه أن يعلمهم القراءة والكتابة وكيف يتصرفون في الفصل بالاضافة الى فتح أبواب المدرسة في الصباح الباكرقبل طلوع الشمس وترتيب الفصول قبل وصول الطلاب صباحاً ثم اغلاق مباني المدرسة كلها بعد الدرس الأخير يوميا والمحافظة على مفتاح المدرسة معه حتى اليوم التالي و مقابل تنفيذ هذه الواجبات، سيدفع له مرتبا صغيرا في آخر كل شهر.

- (a) انَّ الناسَ فِي قديمِ الزمانِ يظنونَ الأرضَ مسطحة وحسبُوا الشمسَ تدورُ حولها.
- (b) كانَ الرجلُ الذِي نزلَ منَ القطارِ يلبسُ بدلة جديدةً قدِ اشتراهَا فِي الاسكندريةِ قبلَ أنْ يركبَ القطار .
 - مَا زالَ اخوةُ خالدٍ كَلْهُمْ يدرسونَ فِي المدرسةِ الثانويةِ لأنَّ أباهمْ يريدُ اتمامَ تعليمِهمْ فِي الجامعةِ. (C)
 - (d) أمَّا الفلاحُ، فرجعَ الى البيتِ ببطءٍ ولكنَّ الأطفالَ فرحُوا وجروا الى ملعبِ كرةِ القدمِ.
- (e) مَا أَذكَى أَختِي ميسونَ! انهَا أيضاً أكثرُ منِّي اجتهاداً فِي الدراسةِ، لذا فأرَى أنهَا ستنجحُ فِي الامتحانات.
 - (f) صاحتِ العجوزُ بصوتٍ عالٍ وطلبتْ منَ البياعِ اعادةَ نقودِهَا فِي الحال.
- (g) قضَى زميلي أحمدُ حديثاً ثلاثة أسابيع فِي مصرو زار معالم أثرية كثيرة ويخططُ لزياراتٍ عديدةٍ هناكَ فِي المستقبلِ القريبِ.
 - (h) غسلتِ البناتُ ثيابَهنَّ بسرعةٍ و وضعنَهَا فوقَ السطوحِ حتَى تجفَّ.

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