**Pakistan School, Kingdom of Bahrain**

**E- Support and Learning Material / Session 2020-2021**

**Subject: English Grade: 11**

**Unit 1.2: First Year at Harrow – Sir Winston Spencer Churchill**

**Q1. How old was Churchill when he entered “the inhospitable regions of examination”?  
Ans. Churchill was scarcely twelve years old when he entered the inhospitable regions of examination.  
Q2. Which subjects were dearest to Churchill and which ones were fancied by the examiners?  
Ans. Churchill’s choice was very different from the examiners. His dearest subjects were very simple like History, Poetry and Essay Writing. The examiners, on the other hand, fancied Latin and Mathematics. They asked questions from these subjects but Churchill did not know anything about them. The subjects of Latin and Mathematics were very difficult for him. He was not interested in them.  
Q3. In what way did Mr. Weldon take a broad minded view of Churchill’s Latin?  
Ans. Churchill once appeared in entry test to take admission in Harrow. He was unable to answer a single question in the Latin paper. But the headmaster Mr. Weldon, took a broadminded view of his Latin prose. He showed discernment in judging his general ability instead of sticking to his performance accordingly, he allowed Churchill to get admission in his school i.e, Harrow. These are the ironic remarks of the author.  
Q4. How were the names printed in the school’s list, and at which position did Churchill’s name appear?  
Ans. The names of the students were printed in the list in alphabetical order. As Churchill’s correct name Spencer Churchill began with ‘S’, so he was placed at the lowest position. He gained no more advantage from the alphabet than from the wider sphere of letters. He was in fact only two from the bottom of the whole school. Two candidates after him in the list disappeared almost immediately. As a result Churchill went into the lowest position.  
Q5. What was Mr. Somervell’s system of teaching English?  
Ans. Mr. Somervell was a most delightful man. He was an expert in teaching English. He was charged with the duty of teaching the stupidest boys. His system of teaching was different from traditional way. He had a system of his own. He took a fairly long sentence and broke it into its components by means of Black, Red, Blue and Green inks: Subject Verb, Object, Relative Clauses, Conditional clauses, Conjunctive Clauses and Disjunctive Clauses.  
Q6. Churchill says that the examiners asked questions which he could not answer and not those which he could. How would you describe your experience with examiners and examinations?  
Ans. Churchill says that the examiners asked questions which he could not answer and not those which he could. He says so only to raise laughter and create fun. In reality Churchill had no interest in Latin and mathematics and he liked English, Poetry, History and Essay writing. He wished to be asked in his favourite subjects.  
No, I do not agree with the author. If the examiners ask the questions which every candidate knows then there is no point in examining them. All the candidates will get nearly equal marks. The hardworking and lazy students can only be differentiated in this way.  
Q7. Why does Churchill think Mr. Weldon considered him to be worthy to pass into Harrow?  
Ans. Apparently, it seems to be author’s personal experience describing his entry test for admission at Harrow. The author did nothing in the test but Mr Welldon considered him worthy to pass into Harrow. He ironically says about Mr. Welldon that he showed his keen perception by judging his general ability: Moreover he was the man who could see under the surface of the things and did not depend upon the paper manifestation.**

**Q8. Why does the author consider his situation at Harrow as unpretentious?   
Ans. The author considers his situation at Harrow as unpretentious because he did not do well in the entrance examination. Though he was decided to pass into Harrow but placed quite low in the merit list. It is extremely humorous when he says that he was only two from the bottom but soon remained alone because the other two immediately disappeared. So he continued his unpretentious situation for a long time. Infact here the object of humour is writer’s own dullness as he is appeared as a dunce.**

**Q9. Why were Churchill and other students not allowed to learn Latin and Greek?  
Ans. Churchill and some other students were not allowed to learn Latin and Greek because they were considered as such dunces who were incapable of learning tough and difficult subjects like Latin and Greek. They were very dull in studies. They were very low in the merit list. Only sharp and intelligent boys were allowed to learn sublime subjects like Latin and Greek. Churchill and other dull students were bound to learn only their mother tongue i-e, English.  
Q10. Why did not Churchill feel himself at any disadvantage as compared to those who learnt Latin and Greek?  
Ans. Churchill did not feel himself at any disadvantage because the students who learnt Latin and Greek had to learn English again for their practical life.  
No doubt, Greek and Latin languages were rich in their literary values and had the advantage only in their academic life. They were not accepted much in practical life. While in the time of learning English Churchill got into his bones the essential structure of the ordinary British sentence. English had achieved its own standard in the later years. It came into fashion. It became the need of the day, Moreover, the students who were clever and intelligent had to come down again to English for their living.  
Q11. Churchill says that he would whip those students hard who do not learn English well what do you think?  
Ans. Churchill learnt English after great struggle and effort in the Harrow. He spent almost three years in learning basic English structure. He was totally in the favour of the boys learning English. English language has become indispensable. It is international language. People belonging to every sphere of life should be proficient in English language. English is used in the offices, schools and in courts etc. It is essential to get command over English for success in life. So Churchill is quite right in saying that he would whip those students hard who do not learn English.  
Q12. Do you think Churchill is only interested in telling his story or there is something more to it?  
Ans. Churchill’s purpose is not only to tell a story but he wants to convey an important message to us that things are not always same as they appear to be. He tells that he always showed poor performance in examination but actually he tells us that being poor or dull does not mean that you are a failed person in practical life. Roads to success are many. If one is not genius according to conventional standards, it does not mean that he has no abilities. Everyone has his own talent and sometimes practical life has a lot to offer to those who are considered to be inferior by the set, old social norms.**

**Language Study:**

**14. Replace the underlined words in the following passage with words having similar meanings ( synonyms). You may use a thesaurus.**

**I had scarcely (hardly) passed my twelfth birthday when I entered the inhospitable (unpleasant) regions of examinations, through which for the next seven years I was destined (ordained)to journey. These examinations were a great trial (test) to me. The subjects that were dearest to the examiners were almost invariably (consistently)those I fancied least. I would have liked to have been examined in history, poetry and writing essays. The examiners, on the other hand, were partial (biased) to Latin and mathematics and their will prevailed ( succeeded ) .Moreover the questions which they asked on both the subjects were almost invariably those to which I was unable to suggest (recommend) a satisfactory answer. I should have liked to be asked to say what I knew. They always tried to ask what I did not know. When I would have willingly displayed my knowledge, they sought ( wanted)to expose my ignorance. This sort of treatment (behavior) had only one result; I did not do well in the examinations.**

**15. Identify all the nouns in the following extract by underlining them:**

**In consequence of his decision, I was in due course place in the third, or lowest, division of the Fourth, or bottom. The names of the new boys but printed in the School List in alphabetical order and as my correct name, Spencer - Churchill, began with and ‘S’, I gained no more advantage from the alphabet than from the wider sphere of letters. I was in fact only two from the bottom of the whole school; and these two, I regret to say, disappeared almost immediately through illness or some other cause.**

**Homework:**

**Writing Assignment**

**Write an essay on your experience of learning English or any other subject in school that give you an advantage( or disadvantage) over other students? Try to bring humor into it if possible.**

**Subject : English WORKSHEET GRADE: 11**

**Q1: Multiple Choice Questions.**

1. **The writer had the greatest regard for Mr. Weldon, the headmaster as he was:**
2. **A competent administrator (b) Above any biasness**

**(c) A man of discernment (d) Very kind and sympathetic**

**ii) Winston Churchill considers his examiners to be partial in favour of certain**

**subjects as they sought to:**

1. **Ask difficult questions (b) Promote Latin and Greek**

**(c) Expose his ignorance (d) Assert their knowledge**

**iii) Winston Churchill entered the inhospitable region of examinations at the age of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

1. **15 (b) 10**

**(c) 12 (d) 16**

**(iv) Where did you find the book at last? The underlined word is a/an:**

1. **Interrogative pronoun (b) Interrogative adjective**

**(c) Interrogative adverb (d) Indefinite pronoun**

**(v) He did not inform me. The tense is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**(a) Past Perfect (b) Present Perfect**

**(c) Past Simple (d) Present Simple**

**Q2: Use the correct form of the verbs in parenthesis in any FIVE:**

1. **Food will (cook) in the kitchen.**
2. **He (live) in this house since 2016.**
3. **Had he gone there, he (bought) you a gift?**
4. **I (complete) my work by next month.**
5. **Let the job (finish).**
6. **You will (punish) if you misbehave.**

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| **Rubric:** | **Ex.** | **Go.** | **Sat.** | **NI** |
| **Content Accuracy** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **Creativity** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **Completeness** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **Neatness** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **1-Excellent 2- Good 3- Satisfactory**  **4- Needs improvement** | | | | |

1. **Where did you (see) the snake?**