

Text: Mohamed Farah’s Speech at the Arab Reading Challenge Award Ceremony in Dubai

“I read so that I can learn. I’m a pupil who is very keen on reading because reading is necessary for my mind, just like the food I eat, or the water I drink, or the air I breathe. Reading is the mind’s food. It is a religious obligation, not just an extra, superficial activity as the writer Abbas Mahmud al-Aqqad once said.

Reading is a criterion for evaluating nations. the Greek philosopher Aristotle was once asked: “How can you evaluate a man?” He replied, “I ask him about what he reads and how many books he can read.”

What makes me interested in reading is a sacred dream, one that can’t be fulfilled without reading. My dream is to become a great scholar, like Sheikh Abdulhamid ibn Badis.”(...)

Source for video: Dubai Media Office 24Oct. 2016

(Translated from Arabic)

<https://twitter.com/DXBMediaOffice>

I) I READ AND DO (7pts)

TASK ONE: I read the text and write “true”, “false”, or “not mentioned” (3pts)

- Mohamed compares his interest to the food he eats (.....)
- Reading can help us to relax (.....)
- Mohamed’s dream is to become a singer (.....)

TASK TWO: I read again and answer the questions (2pts)

- What is Mohamed interested in?
.....
- Is reading necessary for our mind?
.....

TASK THREE: a) I find from the text the synonym of (1pt)

- important = study=

b) I find from the text the opposite of (1pt)

- few ≠ bored of ≠

II) I PRACTISE (8pts)

TASK ONE: I put the verbs in brackets in the correct form (3pts)

- When we read, we can (do) more
- She never (attend) the closing ceremony
- These students are interested in (write) short stories.

TASK TWO: I reorder the words to get correct sentences (3pts)

- practise / often / does / ? / How / she / sport /
.....
- are / kind / of / What / you / ? / person
.....
- speak / can't / Spanish / He
.....

TASK THREE: I classify the words according to the pronunciation of their final S (2pts)

learns / eats / makes / forces

/S/	/Z/	/IZ/
.....
.....

III) I THINK AND WRITE

I write a short paragraph to describe myself (name, age, nationality), I speak also about my abilities, inabilities, interest, and personality.

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