

**I - Read the following text then do the tasks below : (20 P)**

The oud is a short-necked , pear-shaped musical instrument with five or six pairs of strings . The two strings in each pair sound the same . Traditionally , players plucked the strings with a bird's feather . The word oud comes from al-oud which means " a branch of wood " . The oud is the main instrument in Arab countries and popular in Turkey, Iran, Armenia and Azerbaijan .

Many people call the oud "the king of instruments" because it is the oldest and most important instrument in the Arab world music . Nobody is quite sure when it was first made but the ancient Egyptians played a similar instrument , the nefer , at the time of the pharaos . In the past , people believed that the sound of the oud could help to treat illnesses by "calming people's hearts" .

**❖ Answer the following questions :**

1. What could the oud help to treat ?  
.....
2. Why do many people call the oud " the king of instruments " ?  
.....
3. How many strings does the oud have ?  
.....
4. What did the oud players use to pull the strings.  
.....

**❖ Find words in the text which mean the following :**

5. certain: .....
6. very old: .....

**II - Complete the following dialog by writing suitable questions and answers : (16 P)**

7. A: ..... ?  
B: She goes to school every day .
- 8 A: ..... ?  
B:She goes to school by bus .
9. A: ..... ?  
B: Her favourite sport is swimming .
10. A: ..... ?  
B: She's watching TV at the moment .

**III - Complete the following by filling in the gaps : (6 P)**

11. I ..... see very well without my glasses .
12. Nour has read thirty books ..... last year.
13. Turn the TV down. I can't ..... You very well

**IV - Choose the correct words in brackets: (8 P)**

14. I love (listening - hearing) to music when I'm travelling.
15. When you ( fry - grill ) fish you cook in a pan in hot oil or fat .
16. She's(telling - saying) a story .
17. I have waited (since - for) two hours.

**V - Correct the verbs in brackets : (6 P)**

18. He phoned me while I ..... ( do ) my homework.
19. Fairouz .....(give) large public concerts since 1957.

**VI - Write the missing parts using the function in brackets : (4 P)**

20. A : I'm reading a book about Ibn Battuta .  
B : .....  
(Express your opinion )
21. A : Let's go to the cinema .  
B : .....  
(Disagree with suggestion )

**VII - Write an online guide recommending eating places for visitors to your town in Syria : (20 P)**