

(1) I have gone to the USA because I wanted to improve my language, travel, find new friends and, of course, experience American family life from the inside. I expected this experience to be very different from any experiences I've ever had before. I've stayed with my host family for two years and would stay even longer if I could...but my visa is only valid for two years. In Russia, I live in a big Siberian city called Barnaul.

(2) As an au-pair, I'm taking care of five children. I really like my current host family and got very attached to the boys. I feel that kids got attached to me too. Children learn easier and faster because I really get to know their personalities and talents. I think that I'm a lucky person because I got to experience this kind of relationship! I can even say that I have two families now – in Russia and in America.

(3) My host family contacted me and we started to talk on Skype almost every day until my arrival to their house. They welcomed me to their house with kids performances and a big welcome banner they made for me. It was very nice. I started working the next day, my host mom explained me everything in the house, showed me around. They didn't have any strict schedule for me, I was always free to do with kids what I think is good for them. They did have a list of things that had to be done every day, such as laundry, folding of clothes and putting them away, cleaning kids' bedrooms and a bathroom, and doing dishes, but they can be done whenever I have time. In my free time I like to paint. I'm a very artistic and creative person, so art is my life.

(4) I'm a very sociable and open person, so I have a lot of friends from all over the world. We like to spend free time together, share our experiences and culture. When I had my twenty-first birthday, my friends were singing "Happy Birthday To You" in ten different languages...it is probably one of the most amazing moments I've had in my life...I was almost crying. I improved my language a lot even though I didn't take any special classes. Now it is as natural for me to speak English as it is to speak Russian.

(5) It is the most amazing thing that has ever happened in my life. It made me independent, made me grow up a lot, gave me an opportunity to look at things with different eyes and made me a better person.



Au Pair  
worldwide



4. How does the experience of au pair changed the writer's life? Give at least TWO changes. ( 2 marks)

- .....
- .....

5. What do the underlined words refer to? ( 1 mark)

- ❖ Their ( paragraph 2) .....
- ❖ We (paragraph 3) .....

6. Complete the following summary with words from the text. ( 2 marks)

Before her.....(paragraph 3)to the USA, the au pair talked to her host family via Skype daily. She is a .....(paragraph 2) au pair because her host mom is very nice. She discovered a new.....(paragraph 4) and learnt a new foreign.....(paragraph 4)

7. Suggest a title for the text ( 1 mark) : .....

8. Would you like to be an au pair? Why or why not? ( 1 mark)

.....  
.....

## II. LANGUAGE ( 10 MARKS)

1. Fill in the blanks with items from the box. Be careful: there is an EXTRA item ( 3 marks)

diploma / teachers / career / joblessness / change / dropouts / who
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Finishing high school is an achievement that marks the beginning of adulthood. It also opens higher education and (1)..... opportunities for the aspiring graduate. Unfortunately, for students (2)..... leave school early, the disadvantages of dropping out of high school are many and can (3)..... their lives. High school (4)..... face fewer job opportunities than their peers who earn their diploma. The lack of a (5).....results in limited career prospects, which can have a lifelong effect. Those teenagers face the problem of (6)..... more than their peers who continue their education.

2. Circle the appropriate alternatives. ( 3.5 marks)

Is Your Teen Ready for a Job? Your teenager comes home from school and declares he wants to sell burgers ( from / of / at )the neighborhood fast-food joint. He says he needs money for CDs, clothes and to buy his ( own / owner / owning ) car. Is this a step to ( maturity / mature / immature) or a slip toward lower grades, inadequate sleep and a negative social life? A teenager's job (mustn't / shouldn't / can ) teach work skills that will serve him well in college and prepare him for careers in adulthood. He will acquire

confidence, develop a sense of ( **responsible / responsibility / responsibly** )and feel ( **more / most / many** ) independent. If your child takes a job, you need to help him look for the ( **better / good / best** ) jobs, especially jobs that relate to his dream job.

**3. Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form ( 3.5 marks)**

Since the Americans with Disabilities Act was enacted in 1990, many social barriers have been removed or reduced for people with disabilities. But there is more work that needs to be done for **(disability)**..... people to become more independent. Having a disability does not mean a person is unhealthy or that he or she cannot be **(health)**..... That means making the right choices and knowing how to prevent **(ill)**..... . In order to help children fully participate in school, they need to take special **(educate)**..... . When Jim was 3 months old, his mother was told he was **(blindness)**..... . With support from family and school, Jim **(take)**..... on more and more responsibility for his own health. He also learned to take care of himself by exercising, **(eat)**..... right, and avoiding alcohol and tobacco.

### **III. WRITING ( 15 MARKS)**

**1. Write these statements differently ( 3 marks).**

- ❖ Everyday, I wake up early and drink my coffee with my mother. ( present habit)
- ❖ When I was a child,.....and..... ( **past habit**)
- A good teacher is respectful and caring.
- A good teacher is someone.....
- She is more intelligent and nicer than her sister.
- She is the..... child in the house.

**2. Choose from the box the appropriate missing parts to complete the following paragraph. The first one is done for you. ( 2 marks)**

Au pairing can consist of a number of duties (1).  
Try not to have unrealistic expectations(2). You will  
have opportunities that might not have come your  
way (3). (4) is caring for children. It is worth insisting  
that the (5).

- a)and never think that you are on a holiday.
- b) Your primary duty
- c) job is very difficult and demanding.
- d) if you had stayed at home.
- e) more than learning a foreign language.

1 + e	2 +.....	3 +.....	4 +.....	5 +.....
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*You have a lot of family problems and you cannot get on well with your parents. Write a letter to your father / mother to tell them about the **problems** that you are facing together and to suggest some **solutions**.*



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Lots of love, .....



Communicative effectiveness:...../4

language accuracy:...../4

mechanics of language:...../2