OPTON A

"Immigrants"

1. My great-grandfather was born in Ireland in 1842. His father was a fisherman who died at sea. That's all I know about this period of his life. When he was nineteen, he and his older brother made their way to the United States. I often think about what he left behind in Ireland during the country's worst famine; I am sure that there was poverty all around them. If his family survived, there is no historical record. It must have been a hard journey across the ocean leaving his mother, brothers and sisters, perhaps forever. It is the tears of the immigrants that made the green fields of the USA.

2. My Irish ancestor somehow managed to work long and hard enough to buy a small farm in rural Indiana. He married a girl in Illinois, eventually raising ten children. He became active in rural township politics and proudly became an American citizen. Furthermore, four of his children graduated at High School, which was a success for the time. However, there were many difficult times in these new surroundings, such as poor crops, freezing winters and droughts. Through it all, he and his family survived life's difficulties.

3. I don’t know if he ever returned to Ireland or what became of his brother. His is just one of a million stories of immigrants who came to America following the dream of a better way of life. I am grateful that he made the journey.

I * COMPREHENSION (4 points: questions 1-3, 1 point each; 4-5, 0.5 points each)

ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-3 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

1. Why did the writer's ancestors have to leave their home country?

2. What does the narrator mean by saying “it is the tears of the immigrants that made the green fields of the USA”?

3. How did the protagonist’s life get better in the USA? Mention two facts.

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS.

4. The writer knows a lot about her great-grandfather’s family in Ireland.

5. Life in the USA was easy for the writer’s ancestor.

II * USE OF ENGLISH (3 points; questions 6-9, 0.25 points each; 10-13, 0.5 points each)

6. FIND IN THE TEXT THE WORD WHICH HAS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION: “Shortage of food in a certain area.”

7. FIND IN THE TEXT ONE SYNONYM FOR “moreover” (adverb).

8. GIVE AN ADJECTIVE WITH THE SAME ROOT AS “death” (noun).

9. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT OPTION: I’ll ______ you the money if you pay me back soon.
   (lend / borrow / rent / spend)

10. FILL IN THE GAP WITH THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB: I could have passed the test if you ______ (teach) me sooner.

11. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING A RELATIVE. MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY:
   Have you met the girl? She’s going out with Ted.

12. GIVE A QUESTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORDS: She has been waiting for Mark all day.

13. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING AN APPROPRIATE LINKER (DO NOT USE AND, BUT, OR BECAUSE). MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY: It’s snowing. She wants to go for a walk.

III * PRODUCTION (3 points)

14. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED. YOU MUST FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT: