I Get Ready for My BEM Examination



Samples of Paragraph Writing

By: Mr. Akram GHAOUEL

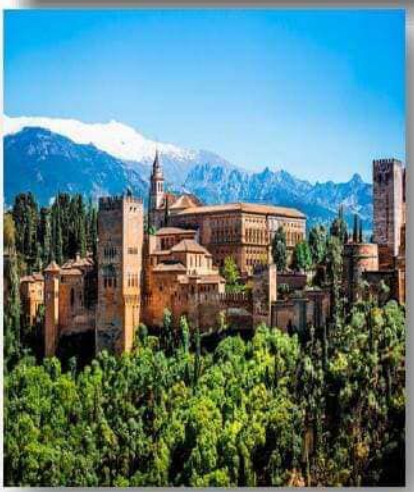
Sequence one: *Me, Universal Landmarks and Outstanding Figures in History, Literature and Arts.*

1. Universal Landmarks:

Big Ben is a **clock tower famous** for its accuracy and its massive hour bell. It is located in the **Palace of Westminster** in **London**. It was designed by **Edmund Becket Dension** in association with **Sir George** and **Edward Dent**. It chimed for the first time on **11th July 1859**. Its chime broadcasted internationally by the BBC **in 1932**. Big Ben weighs **13.7 tons**, stands **2.2 metres tall** and has a diameter of **2.7 metres**. Big Ben's hammer weighs **200 Kilos**. Big Ben is a **spectacular** landmark which lots of tourists visit it each year.



Alhambra is an **Islamic historical landmark** located in **Granada**, **Spain**. Alhambra is an **Arabic word** which means **"red"**. It was called so because of its **reddish walls**: in Arabic **"Qalat al-Hamra"** means **"Red Fortress"**. It was built in the **9th century** as a **military fortress**. It is **as big as** a town. It contains a lot of **halls**, **courtyards**, **gardens**, **fountains**, **towers** and **gates**. It extends over **100.000 square metres (m^2)**. It has a **2000 long wall**, **twenty-nine towers** and **seven gates**. Alhambra was inscribed as a **World Heritage Site** by **UNESCO** in **1984**.



Topkapi Palace is the biggest and one of the most **popular** sites to visit in **Istanbul**. It was built by the talented Turkish architect **"Mimar Sinan"** between **1465** and **1478** on top of a hill. It is used to be the residence of the Ottoman sultans between the **15th** and the **19th century**. It extends over **80. 000 square metres**. It is a huge complex which consists of **four country yards** and many different **quarters**, **halls**, **rooms**, **kitchens**, **baths** and **stables for horses**. Today, the place is a museum which was added to the **UNESCO** list of **World Heritage Site** in **1985**.

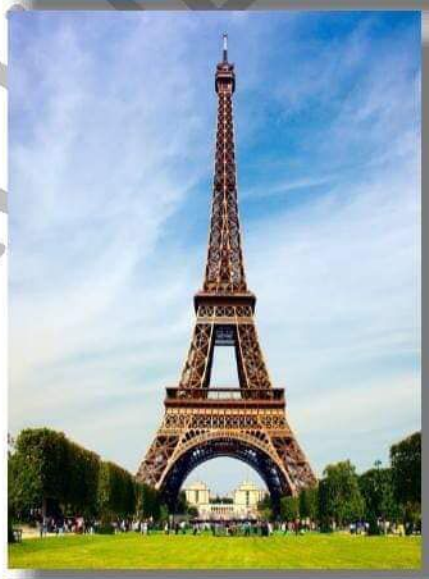


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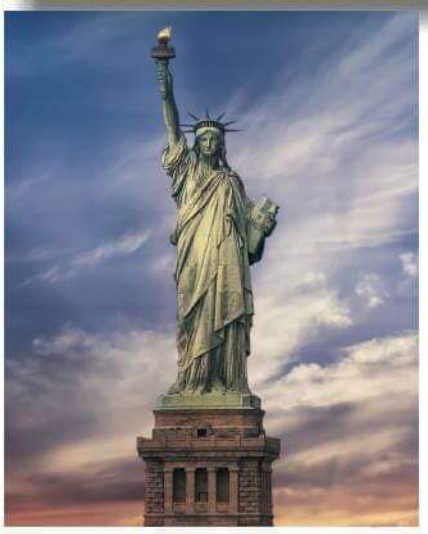
Sultan Ahmed Mosque or the **Blue Mosque**, is one of the **magnificent** buildings that is located in Istanbul, Turkey. It was constructed between **1609** and **1616**, when **Sultan Ahmed I** ruled the **Ottoman Empire**. It is the most typical example of classic **Turkish-Ottoman architecture** and was the first mosque that included six minarets in its original design. It has also an **impressive** dome which is **23,5 metres** in diameter and **43 metres** high. The building is not just a mosque, it is also a social life complex. It includes a **covered market**, a **Turkish bathhouse**, a **soup kitchen**, a **hospital**, several **schools** and **the tomb** of Sultan Ahmed. Today, it is one of the greatest tourists' attractions in Istanbul.



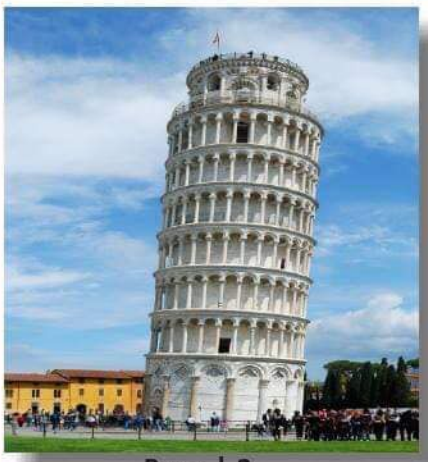
The Eiffel Tower is a **celebrated** landmark and a masterpiece in building-construction history. It was built by **Gustave Eiffel**, a **French engineer**, in only about **two years (1887-89)**. It is made of **iron** and **steel**. The tower is twice **as high as** the dome of St. Peter's in Rome or the Great Pyramids of Giza. It is **300 metres** high. It rests on a base that is **5 metres** high. The Eiffel tower was the tallest structure in the world until the topping off the Chrysler Building in New York City in 1929. The tower has **three levels** for visitors with a **restaurant** on the first and second levels. There are **20,000 bulbs** on the tower which sparkle every hour, truly cementing Paris' reputation as the **City of light**.



The Statue of Liberty is one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It is located in **New York**, **U.S.A**. It was designed by **Fredric Auguste Bartholdi**, an American sculptor, and its metal framework was built by **Gustave Eiffel**. It was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of **freedom** and **democracy**. It was built in **1885** for the 100th anniversary of America's Independence, but it was not finished until **1886**. The cooper statue stands **46 metres** tall and weighs **225 tons**. Today, the Statue of Liberty is considered as the best **known** landmark in the world.



The Leaning tower of Pisa or simply **the Tower of Pisa** is a building is **Pisa**, **Italy**, that is **famous** for the settling of its foundations, which caused it to lean 5.5 degrees (about 4.5 metres) from the perpendicular. The tower stands about **56 metres** and weighs about **14,500 tonnes** and has **294 steps**. It was built by **Bonanno Pisano**, an Italian architect, in **1173** as the third and final structure of the city of Pisa' cathedral complex. It is considered as an **impressive**landmark from medieval Europe and one of the most **attracted** place for tourists.



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2. Algerian Landmarks:

The Great Mosque of Algiers or **"Djamaa El Djazair"** is located in El Mohammadia, Algiers. It is the third largest mosque in the world after the two Holy Mosques in Saudi Arabia. The mosque was designed and constructed by the **China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC)** on **August 16th, 2012**. It sits on an area of **400,000 square metres** and has a **265 metres** high minaret, which makes it the tallest building in Africa. It includes a **20,000 square metres** praying hall which can hold a capacity of **120,00** worshippers. The Great Mosque of Algiers is truly a masterpiece of art and an **outstanding** example of rich history in the religion of Islam and the country of Algeria.



The Martyrs Memorial or **"Maquam Echahid"** is an **iconic** monument located in **Algiers**, **Algeria**. It was designed by the Algerian painter **"Bachir Yelles"** and the Polish engineer **"Marian Konieczny"**. The monument was opened in **1982** on the **20th anniversary of Algeria's independence**. It was inaugurated by the president **"Chadli Ben Djdid"** in **February 1986**. It is fashioned in the shape of **three standing palm leaves which shelter the "Eternal Flame" beneath**. This monument stands **92 metres tall** and has a **diameter of 14 metres**. It rests on an esplanade that includes the underground **Natinal Museum of El Mujahid**.



The Great mosque of Tlemcen is one of the best preserved examples of the **Almoravid dynasty's** architectural style. It is located in **Tlemcen**, a city in north-western Algeria. It was built under **Sultan Yusuf Ibn Tashfin** in **1082** and enlarged by his son **Ali Ibn Tashfin** in **1136** to hold daily and Friday prayers. The mosque used to be an **Islamic court "Makhama"** and an **Islamic university** of considerable fame. It consists of two main sections with elaborated arches and decorative designs. It is truly a **splendid** work of art and an attraction that will give visitors lasting memories.



Beni Hammad Fort or **"Al Qal'a of Beni Hamma"** is a **fabulous** and **splendid** fortified palatine city in **Algeria**. It is located **northeast of M'Sila**. It was founded by **Hammad Ibn Buluggin** in the **11th century** more exactly in **1007**. It served as the first capital of the **Hammad dynasty**. The fort stands **20 metres tall** and takes place on **150 hectares** of land. It was inscribed by **UNESCO as a World Heritage Site** in **1980** and described as an authentic picture of a fortified Muslim city.

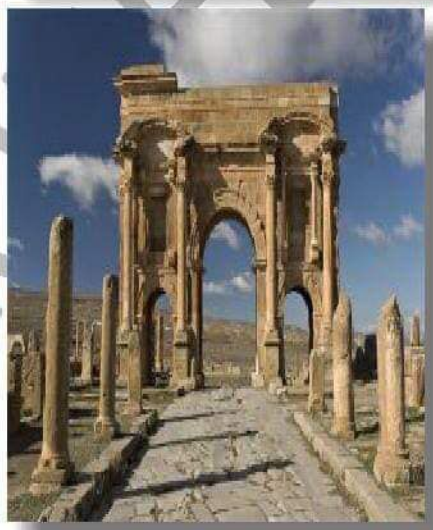


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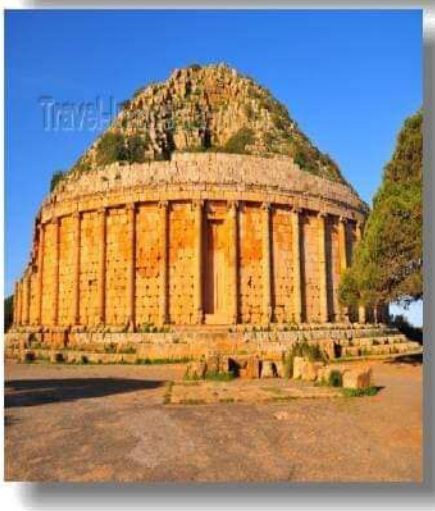
The **Sidi M'Cid Bridge**, also known as the **Suspended Bridge**, is one of highest and most **spectacular** bridges in Algeria. It is located in **Constantine**, the city of bridges. It was designed by the **French engineer Ferdinand Arnodin** on **19th April 1912**. The bridge is **164 metres long** and **175 metres high** above the **Rhumel River**. It is suspended between two arches with cables. It links the Casbah to the slopes of Sidi M'Cid hill. It was regarded as the highest bridge in the world for **17 years (from 1912 to 1929)**. It is a **stunning** monument which lots of tourists visit it every year.



Djemila is one of the three **Roman Ruins** sites in **Algeria** and one of the best preserved in all of **North Africa**. It is located **50 km northeast of the town of Setif**, a cold city. It was founded by the **Roman Emperor "Nerva Tarjan"** as a military garrison in the **1st century AD**. It was abandoned after the fall of the Roman Empire around the **6th century** when the **Arab** invasion arrived in this part of Africa. Arabs named it "Djemila" because of its unique style of Roman architecture, meaning **beautiful in Arabic**. It was inscribed by **UNESCO as Heritage Site** in **1982** and described as "one of the world's great archaeological sites".

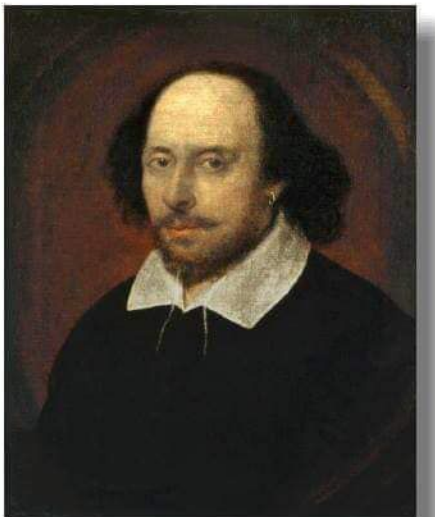


The Royal Mausoleum of Mauritania is a funerary monument located on the road between Cherchel and Algiers, in **Tipaza Province, Algeria**. The mausoleum was built in 3 BC by the Berber **King Juba II** (son of Juba I of Numidia) and the **Queen Cleopatra Selene II** to be their final resting place. It is entirely built from **stone**, while its main structure is in a circular form with a square base topped by a cone or a pyramid. The monument stands **32 metres** in height and its square base measures **60 square metres**. The site was placed on the **World Heritage in Danger** in **2002**.



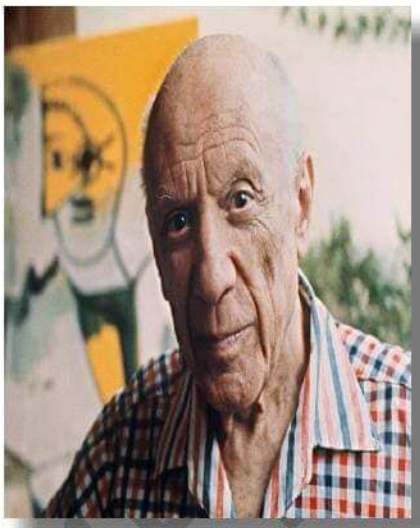
3. Outstanding Figures in History, Literature and Arts:

William Shakespeare is an **outstanding** figure in English literature. He was an **actor**, a **poet** and a **playwright**. He was born on **23rd April 1564** in **Stratford-upon-Avon**. Shakespeare is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language. He wrote about **38 plays**. His **well-known** works include **"Romeo and Juliet"**, **"Hamlet"**, **"Macbeth"** and **"Othello"**. He also wrote **154 sonnets** and **two long narrative poems**. He created his own acting company and built his own theatre, called the **"Globe Theatre"**. This **masterful** writer died on **26th April 1616** in his hometown, at the age fifty-two.



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Pablo Picasso is considered to be one of the most **famous** painters in the 20th century. He was born on **25th October 1881** in **Malaga, Spain**. In addition to painting, he was a **sculptor** and **designer**. He studied at Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernardo. Pablo Picasso's most important contribution to the world of art was his co-founding of the Cubist movement. He also contributed significantly to the invention of collage, constructed sculpture and the plastic arts. His best paintings are **"The Old Guitarist"**, **"Girl before a Mirror"**, **"Guernica"** and **"The Weeping Woman"**. This **influential** artist died in **1973** in **France**.



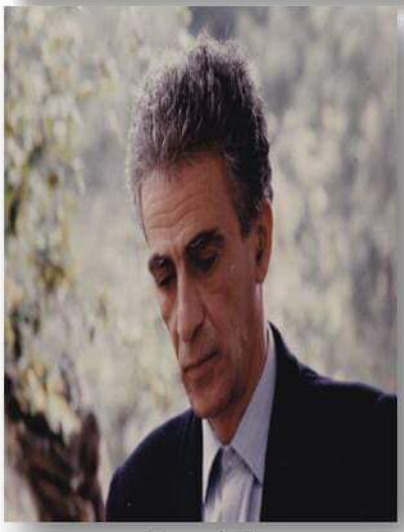
Mohammed Dib is a **famous Algerian author**, **novelist** and **poet.** He was born on **July 21st, 1920** in **Tlemcen**, into a cultured family of artisans. He wrote numerous novels like **"The Big House"** in **1952**, **"The Fire"** in **1954** and **"The Loom"** in **1957**. He also published over **thirty novels**, **short stories** and **poems**. His works covered the breadth of the **20th century** Algerian history, focusing on Algeria's fight for independence. This **prolific** and **talented** writer died on **May 2nd, 2003** (aged 83) in **La Celle-Saint-Cloud**, **France**.



El Emir Abdelkader is an **Algerian writer**, **poet**, **political leader** and **military warrior**. He was born on **6th September 1808** in **Guetna, Mascara**. This **brave** leader founded the modern Algerian state and led the Algerians struggle against the French domination. He defended his land against the French army and won many battles like; **"The Battle of Maktaa"**, **"the Battle of Sig"** and **"The Battle of Sidi Brahim"**. He protected the Algerian values, language and religion to keep the Algerians unified against their enemy. He wrote many books like the book of **"Call to the Intelligent, Warning to the Indifferent"** in **1855**. This **great** hero died on **26th May 1883** in **Damascus**, **Syria**.



Kateb Yacine is a **famed** Algerian **writer**. He was born on **August 6th, 1929** in **Smendou**, **Constantine**. He fought with his pen rather than the sword against the French colonialism to bring consciousness to the Algerian people and preserve their national identity. He wrote several novels, among of them is **"Nedjma"** in **1956**. Three years later, he created an **Algerian theatre** with a collection of plays named **"Le Cercle des Représailles"**. He also published a volume of poems called **"Soliloquies"**. As a result, he won **The Grand Prix National des Lettres** in **France** in **1987**. This **brilliant** writer died on **October 28th, 1989** in **Grenoble**, **France**.



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Fatima Zohra Imalayan, known by his pen-name **Assia Djebar** is a famous **Algerian novelist**, **essayist**, **translator**, **professor** and **filmmaker**. She was born on **June 30th**, **1936** in **Cherchel**. She is noticed for her feminist stance because most of her works deal with obstacles faced by women. She wrote different novels like **"The Thirst"** in **1957**, **"Children of the New World"** in **1962** and **"The Naïve Larks"** in **1967**. She also published over **15 books**, **short stories**, **poems** and **plays**. For the entire body of her work, she was awarded the **1996 Neustadt International Prize for Literature**. This **pre-eminent** writer died on **February 6th**, **2015** in **Paris**.



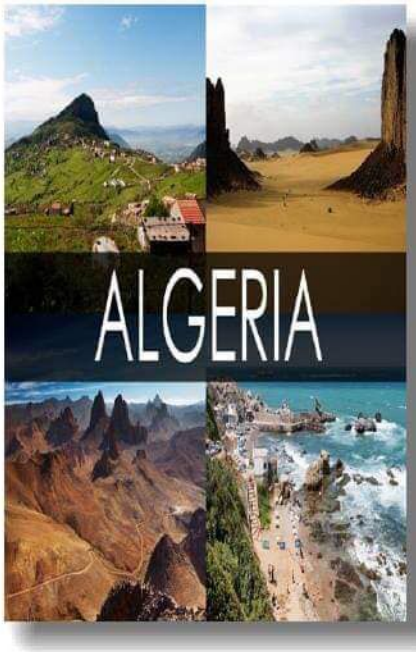
4. European Itinerary:

My itinerary around Europe was **wonderful** and **amusing**. **First**, I started my trip from the capital **Algiers** and flew to **Lisbon**, **Portugal**. I arrived at 10:00 a.m. I walked around the city where I saw many **beautiful** sights. Then, I went to **Batalha town** and visited **"Batalha Monastery"** which is one of the most impressive masterpieces. **After that**, I travelled on TGV (high speed train) to **Barcelona**, **Spain**, to see the **notable** building "La Sagrada Familia" which was designed by the **skillful** architect **Antonio Gaudi**. I took many photos there with some Spanish friends and enjoyed our dinner by having **the traditional rice dish "Paella"**. **Later**, I moved to the capital of **France "Paris"** and visited the **superb** monument made of iron the **"Eiffel Tower. Finally**, I came back to **Algeria** after having **nice** days and **unforgettable** moments.



4. Algerian Itinerary:

Last autumn holiday, my family and I went on a tour around Algeria. **First**, we travelled by coach to an **old** city in the northeast part of Algeria called **Constantine**. We saw the **splendid** suspended **Bridge of Sidi M'Cid** which was built by the French engineer **Ferdinand Arnodin**. **Then**, we took the train to **Tamanrasset**, in southern Algeria, to visit the **magnificent Hoggar Mountains** or **Ahaggar Mountains**. In this town, we saw the prehistoric wall carvings of different creatures that made the Sahara their home long ago, we enjoyed the best sunset in the world and we tasted the Saharan tea. **After that**, we flew to **Oran** with a stopover in **Bechar** for one night. **Finally**, we returned to Mascara by taxi after spending **fantastic** and **gratifying** days.



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Sequence Two: Me, my Personality and Life Experiences

1. School Memories:

One of my **special** memories was at elementary school. Many teachers shaped me who I am today. Mr. Boutaleb, a teacher of Arabic, taught me to work hard and always do my best. I can describe him as always being **helpful**. He encouraged me to make researches to learn more. I liked sciences a lot and my dream was to become a scientist as Einstein and Edison. Mrs. Chaabane taught me French and one of the most **important** things in life: to be **strong**, **self-confident** and never give up on my dream. The lessons that those teachers taught me are **invaluable**. Not only they strengthened the foundation of my life, they are the building blocks of my future.



2. Personal Profile:

My name is **Yasmine**. I'm **14 years old**. I am a **pupil** at **Saber Abdelkader middle school**. I live with my parents, two brothers and two sisters in a small flat in **Mascara** city. I'm a **trusty**, **honest** and **humble** girl. I love to be **sociable** and I'm described as **calm** and **relaxed** person. I'm very **meticulous** in my studies and I work very **hard**. My **dream** is to become a **doctor** when I grow up because I want to help people around me, especially the **poor** ones who don't receive any medical care. I want to serve and take care of them. I owe special thanks to my teachers and my parents who taught me **significant** things in life like: to be **self- determined**, **positive** and **optimistic**.



Hello, my friends. My name is **Achraf**. I'm **15 years old**. I'm form **Algeria**. I am a **pupil** at **Amine Allah Aïd middle school**. I live with my parents, three brothers and one sister in a small village known as **"Ain Fares"**. I like talking to everyone. I'm **friendly** and **outgoing** but I can be very **shy** at times. I'm **interested in reading novels** and my favourite **hobby** is **writing short stories**. My **dream** is to become a **teacher** someday because education has always been my priority. I want to teach others, especially **misfortunate** children, about the importance of education so they can prosper. I want to push myself through the rough spots for my future students since education is the only answer to poverty. Without education there are no dreams for the future career.



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Hi, everyone. My name is name is **Dalal**. I'm **14 years old**. I'm form **Algeria**. I am a **pupil** at **Saber Abdelkader middle school**. I live with my parents, three brothers and one sister in a small flat in **Medber**, **Mascara** city. Well, I'm an **ambitious**, **hardworking** and **self-assured** girl. I'm also a **mysterious**, **moody** and **picky** person. My favourite **hobby** is **drawing** because I find it a way to relax and express my feelings. I'm **keen on reading journals** that provides so many benefits. My **dream** is to become a **journalist** someday because I want to inform society with the information they need to live their lives. I want also to make people love peace and stand up against conflicts and wars.



Hi, everyone. My name is name is **Hiba**. I study at **Saber Abdelkader middle school** in **Mascara city**. I am in **class 4MS1**. I'm an **honest**, **thoughtful** and **mature** girl. I'm **fond of reading books** of different topics such as history books. In my **free time**, I play chess. One of my **saddest** childhood memories was at primary school. With many unknown fears, I accompanied my mother to school. As she left, I realised that I was in unfamiliar world. **Unlike** the other kids who were happy, I was sad. My **dream** is to become an **oncologist** one day because I want to take care of cancer patients. I want to draw a smile on their faces and make them feel **felicitous**. My ideal teacher is Mrs. Abdelouahab. She is a **polite**, **kind** and **supportive** teacher. My perfect friend is Narimen. She is an **amiable**, **active** and **smart** pupil. Thanks to all my teachers and my friends for helping me to become **caring**, **conscious** and **self-reliant**.



3. Algerian Women Freedom Fighters:

Hassiba Ben Bouali is an **Algerian** woman **freedom fighter**. She was born on **January 18th, 1938** in **Chlef**. She moved to Algiers to study at studies in Délacroix high school. She adhered to the Scout Movement and discovered the Algerian people's misery by travelling. This motivated her to the **General Union of Algerian Muslim Students** in **1954** at the age of sixteen. She was a **student** and **militant**. She was a **courageous**, **thoughtful** and **educated** woman. She participated in the Algerian national struggle as an **FLN militant** until her death. Participating in the **Battle of Algiers**, she and three companions were killed in **1957** when the French forces bombed their hideout in the Casbah in Algiers. This female hero lived and died with the dream of an independent Algeria.



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Zohra Drif is a famous Algerian **militant**, **lawyer** and **freedom fighter**. She was born on **December 28th**, **1934** in **Tissemsilet**, **Algeria**. She studied at a **French primary school** and she was an **excellent** student in her class. This **intelligent**, **brave** and **intellectual** woman is best known for her activities during the **Algerian War of Independence**. She was a key activist in her people's struggle for liberation from the French colonialism. She joined the **FLN** in **1954**. On **September 30th 1956**, she placed a bomb in the French Cafe which killed three French youths as well as injured dozens in one of the first actions of the **Battle of Algiers**. Thanks to her and millions of Algerians men and women for their long struggle. They were **determined** to fight for our freedom and independence.



Djamila Bouhired is an **Algerian** woman **freedom fighter**. She was born in **El Casbah**, Algiers in **1935**. She was a **faithful**, **fearless** and **unafraid** woman. She started her national struggle against the French colonisation since a very young age. Aged twenty years old, she joined the **Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN)** when the **Algerian Revolution** broke out in **1954**. She was the first volunteer to plant a bomb in the roads used by the French military occupation. She was also involved in the **Battle of Algiers** which occurred in 1957. This **trustworthy** freedom fighter was an important part in the struggle for the independence and the dignity of Algeria, and is still a very significant figure that calls for protest to improve legal, social, political and economic situations of women.



Sequence Two: *Me, my Community and Citizenship*

1. Charity:

Charity is the act of giving help to those in need of it. It is a humanitarian act. It involves giving money, goods or time and effort to those who need it. It is done without expecting something in return. Most charities are concerned with providing basic needs, such as food, water, clothing, health care and shelter. The most common form of charity is donating money. The money is then used to buy these basic needs. However, there are many other actions that may be performed as charity, such as teaching orphans, donating blood, or money to help fund medical research. Charitable giving can be a responsibility in many religions. This kind of charity is called almsgiving or alms. In Islam, for example, it is called "zakat". It is one of the five most important duties of being a Muslim. It is then an accepted practice to give whatever is possible in charity for the welfare of the people and the society.



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Charity is a desire of the heart to help other in distress and to think good of others. It is one kind of noble human quality. It makes our heart bountiful. It is an expression of love for human beings and the creation of Allah. Charity comes to mitigate the sufferings of humanity. It aims at improving the condition of the poor. This quality brings happiness on earth, strengthens the ties of relationship among people, removes enmity and creates fellow-feeling. There are various ways of practicing charity. The practice of giving alms is an act of charity. Charity **should** be extended to assist the really needy. It **shouldn't** be measured by money, whereas it **should** be measured by the sacrifice one makes. Charity **shouldn't** be given only for show and fame. There is a proverb that says "Charity begins at home". Therefore, we **should** practise the habit of charity at home. We **should** be sympathetic to others and inspire our children to achieve this noble virtue.



2. Solidarity:

Solidarity is an important value for any society, as well as for the entire global community. It is characterized by mutual collaboration between individuals which makes it possible to overcome difficult situations and terrible disasters, such as wars, plagues (coronavirus), diseases, etc. Solidarity is a feeling of unity and a challenge with a common goal that develops without distinction, limits or conditioning. That is why solidarity has no prejudices such as race, sex, origin, age, nationality, religion, political ideas or any other social characteristic. It crosses all borders to help those in need. Its only purpose can be to target the human being in a state of need. There are many ways of solidarity, like volunteering, participating in charity events, donating money, donating goods, food, clothing and so on. We **should** encourage an attitude of solidarity in the young, since solidarity can be seen as the basis of many other human values. In a special way, it helps one develop valuable friendships in family and social settings, based on virtues such as kindness, support, respect, and tolerance.



3. Being a Good Citizen:

As a social being, every citizen has his responsibilities towards society. Every society wants its citizens to be good, and it is the goodness of the citizens which makes society good. In considering the value of good citizens one might want to know- How to become a good citizen. A good citizen has to imbibe many qualities. He **should** respect every people's emotions and feelings towards their respective culture and traditions. He **must** live in peace and harmony with his neighbours and fellow citizens. He **must** love his nation and be a nationalist. He **should** have firm and deep faith in his motherland. He **should** obey the rules and laws of the state. He **must** always keep in mind the future of his country. He **must** raise the standard of living of his country by working honestly. He **should** have a spirit of co-operation, friendliness, humanity, dedication and devotion towards his family and society. "Greatest good of the greatest number of people" **should** be his principle. All these good qualities, <u>if possessed, make us good citizens.</u> So, one **must** be a good citizen for a happy and peaceful living.



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5. Cultural Globalisation:

➢ For:

Nowadays, there is much talk and discussion about cultural globalisation, i.e. the transmission of ideas, meanings and values around the world in such a way as to extend and intensify social relations. In my opinion, I see that cultural globalisation is a beneficial process because of the following reasons. **Firstly**, it is an access to new cultures including lifestyles like; food, movies and art. **Secondly**, it helps in understanding foreign values and attitudes which reduce favouritism against other nation. **Thirdly**, many countries around the world remain constantly connected, so knowledge and technological advances travel quickly. **Finally**, it gives better availability of products, that is, people are no longer restricted to their local brands but are able to enjoy more international goods.



➢ Against:

Cultural globalisation is a new phenomenon by which the experience of everyday life, as influenced by the diffusion of commodities and ideas, reflects a standardisation of cultural expressions around the world. To my mind, I consider that cultural globalisation is **not** a beneficial process because of the following reasons. **First**, it weakens national culture and traditions. **Second**, it makes people's way of life becomes a products, rather than something unique they had made to suit their own specific needs and circumstances. **Third**, it destroys unique cultural practices in various countries and thereby reducing the amount of cultural diversity that exists in the world. **Finally**, certain cultures (practically that of the United States) are coming to dominate the world in terms of "cultural imperialism".





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