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Louarred Abid Middle School Level: 4 MS Duration: 1 hour

The First Test of English

Mahmoud Darwish is one of the greatest figures in the Arab literature. He was born on 13th March 1941 in Western Galilee northern Palestine. He was a poet and writer. He is considered the national poet of Palestine. He won several awards for his works.

His grandfather taught him to read because his mother was illiterate. His family were landowners. In 1948, his village was occupied and his family fled to Lebanon, but they returned a year later and settled in Deir al-Asad. Darwish published his first book of poetry, *"Wingless Birds"*, at the age of 19. He decided to be a professional writer. During his lifetime, Darwish published more than 30 volumes of poetry and 8 books of prose. He wrote in Arabic, English, French and Hebrew. He was also the editor of several literary magazines in Palestine. Mahmoud Darwish died on August 9th, 2008 in Houston, Texas, in the United States three days after heart surgery.

www.en.wikipedia.org

A.Reading Comprehension:

Activity One: read the text and complete the chart below **(3 pts)**

Dates	*Events*
1948	……
1960	……
2008	……

Activity Two: read the text again and answer these questions **(3 pts)**

1. Where was Mahmoud Darwish born ?
2. Did he write in Arabic only ?
3. How many books did he write ?

Activity Three: find in the text the synonyms of these words **(1 pt)**

1. many = …… 2. came back = ……

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B. Mastery of the language:

Activity One: supply punctuation and capital letters **(2 pts)**

in 1970 Mahmoud darwish left Palestine to study in the Soviet Union

Activity Two: write the verbs between brackets in the correct form **(3 pts)**

1. Agatha Christie ***(to write)*** 66 detective novels.
2. Assia Djebar was ***(to elect)*** to the French Academy.
3. In 1985, she ***(to win)*** the Franco-Arab Friendship Prize.

Activity Three: classify the words according to ***'ed'*** pronunciation **(2 pts)**

*return**ed** – forc**ed** – appear**ed** – attend**ed***

/ t /	/ d /	/ id /

Situation of Integration: (6 pts)

Moufdi Zakaria is a prominent activist and nationalist. He is known as the Poet of the Algerian Revolution.

- Use the following ID Card and the cues below to write a short biography about this famous person.

- 1937-1938 in prison
- 1955: join the revolution
- 1956: write "Qassaman"

ID Card

Name: *Cheikh Zakaria Ben Slimane*

Birth: *12th June 1908, Ghardaia*

Nationality: *Algerian*

Education: *Zaitouna University (Tunis)*

Occupation: *poet, writer*

Poems: The Algerian national anthem

" Al iliada", " Al lahab Al moqadas

Death: *17th August 1977, Tunisia*

Good Luck

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