



## I. READING COMPREHENSION

1. A six-year-old girl suffering from a genetic degenerative eye disease has compiled a list of things she wants to see before she goes blind. Molly was born with normal eyesight, but was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa a year ago. The condition, for which there is no cure, causes progressive vision loss. Her parents Eve and Chris first noticed Molly was having trouble with her sight when she began struggling to read her homework or watch television. "I never thought Molly could have inherited the disease because we were always told that only boys could get it," Eve said. "When we got the diagnosis, it was a big shock. We don't know exactly when Molly will go blind. Now she can hardly see in low lights and falls over quite a lot."
2. The couple's two other children do not suffer from the disease but, because it is hereditary, they are tested every three to six months for signs of degenerating vision. "There is still a chance that I could have three blind children and that terrifies me," said Eve. "Our family is working together to help her take in as much as possible before her eyes get too poorly. We just want to help her create as many magical memories as we possibly can," Eve added. "Molly wants to go to London, Australia and Egypt. I know I won't be able to give her half of that but I can try."
3. The family has set up a fundraising page called Making Molly's Memories, which has so far raised over £34,000. In a post published on the page, Eve wrote: "Words cannot describe how amazed and grateful we are by all the wonderful donations and offers of help. What started off as some small local fundraising to help our baby girl has become news across the globe. Every penny helps to get our little girl closer to seeing her dreams."

The Independent. Sunday, 13 April, 2014

(Adapted)



**COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (12 marks)**

1. Tick (✓) the most appropriate alternative (1 mark)

The text is mainly about a family

- a. raising money for the treatment of their child's disease. ☐
- b. struggling against their child's incurable disease. ☐
- c. complaining about the child's incurable disease. ☐

2. Focus on paragraph 1 and complete the following table with the signs of Molly's disease. (4 marks)

Before the diagnosis	After the diagnosis
a. ....	a. ....
b. ....	b. ....

3. For each of the following statements, pick out one detail from the text showing that it is false. (2 marks)

- a. Molly has had the disease since her birth. (paragraph 1)

.....

- b. Molly's mother expected her daughter to go blind. (paragraph 1)

.....

4. Circle the alternative that best completes the following sentence. (1 mark)

Molly's dream is to ...

- a. regain her eyesight.
- b. collect more money.
- c. visit places.

5. Focus on paragraph 3 and circle the two adjectives that best describe the family's reaction to the donations. (2 marks)

disappointed – surprised – indifferent – thankful

6. What does the word underlined in the text refer to ? (1 mark)

'that' (paragraph 2) refers to .....

7. Give a personal and justified answer to the following question. (1 mark)

If you could, would you be willing to help Molly ? Why ? Why not ?

If I could, I ..... be willing to help Molly because .....

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