

## S1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE HOLIDAY WORK

### COMPREHENSION

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

#### **Halima goes to the Market**

It was the noise which came first. The banging of hammer on metal, and the shouting of many people. She was quite there when she heard someone call her name, 'Halima!'

It was her friend who was selling cola nuts and fresh milk.

'where are you going?' her friend asked. 'You look as if you are going to a wedding not a market.'

'Sheik and Abdulaye are coming today,' answered Halima. 'It's going to be fun. We are all going to meet them. Everybody will be there.'

Buyers and sellers were arguing nosily around sacks and baskets of grain and beans. There were the butchers and tables of spices. There were the women too, who sold anything from new robes to silk thread.

Behind them was the dye pits, men and boys were standing in them up to their waists. The lengths of cloth they had dyed were all around them. Onion yellow, copper green, pink, rust red and deep blue cloths were stretched out to dry.

From nearby came the sound of a hammer. This was her mother's favourite part of the market. She bought many things from here. Like a coal pot, an iron and a copper bracelet. And, of course, Father and the big boys all had knives which were made here.

Not far from them was the old cobbler. Halima's sandals and purse came fro here. As she and Khalifi passed by his stall, the old man called out in his tired voice, 'Sannu Halima!'

'Sannu,' she said and walked on. Then came the tannery! It made her want to hold her nose shut, but that would be rude. As she watched the animal hide being cleaned, she wondered how anybody could work in such awful smell. But she knew without the smell there would be no leather. She did not mind the smell of live animals. But the smell of the hides! Eee-ock!

#### **Questions**

- 1) Did Halima first hear or see the market?
- 2) What did Halima buy in the market?
- 3) Why was Halima's friend in the market?
- 4) Make a list of things for sale in the market.

5) Why is the smell of hides in the market unpleasant?

6) Find things of these colours in your home and name them; onion yellow, copper green, rust red, deep blue.

7) What do these words mean? a) Dye b) cobbler c)tannery d) hides

**writing exercise**

Write a description of your local market. in the description, include the following:

The sounds of the the market,

A description of the people in the market e.g traders and customers,

The goods sold

STAY HOME STAY SAFE