Gaurav, Gautam, Nisha, Vikas and Heena are teenagers from India. They all want to play, especially to kick the ball high above in the sky but this will never happen because they work ten hours a day and sometimes even more. Thousands of children like them are still stitching footballs for the big brands. A study revealed that, after 12 - 14 hours work, children can stitch not more than two footballs and earn at best 8 cents for each. If they make a mistake, their wage is deducted. The study highlights the major health hazards faced by the children. All the children interviewed complained of finger cuts and injuries whereas many still had fresh cuts on their fingers. Many children have been working since they were 7 years old and some had to stop working because they became blind. No safety measures or medical care is given by contractors and the absence of a public health system worsens the situation. Their families are too poor to afford sending them to school.

On every ball the children are required to stick a label which says “child free labour”. The ball is then sold for about 40 times as much as the child earned.

Adapted from http://www.laborrights.org

Questions
1. (a) Why are the children working instead of going to school?

(b) How are these children suffering while doing this work? Mention TWO examples.

2. Poverty can lessen with work. In the case of these children, they are going to remain poor in spite of the fact that they work more than they should. Why?

__________________________

__________________________ (2 marks)

__________________________ (2 marks)

__________________________ (4 marks)
3. Mention and describe **TWO** international organizations that fight for children’s rights.

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________ (4 marks)

4. (i) If these children were Maltese, would they have been in this situation? Why?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________ (2 marks)

(ii) In Malta, who defends the rights of:

(a) children? _______________________________________ (2 marks)

(b) workers? _______________________________________ (2 marks)

(iii) Why are the children sticking labels saying “child free labour” on each football? What do you think about this?

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________ (2 marks)

5. Poverty is a great problem not only in developing countries but also in those that are developed. Comment.

______________________________________________________________________________

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______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________ (5 marks)

(25 marks)
Section B: Read the following text and answer ALL the questions that follow.

Surely the collapse of the copper mine and the trapped miners in Chile kept many people glued to their television sets to see how the event was unfolding. It was a great opportunity for the media. The way the media reported the story was impressive. There were 2,000 journalists, 300 television stations, international networks such as the BBC and CNN which completely stopped their usual scheme of programmes to focus exclusively on this event. The quality of filming and reporting too were impressive. Cameras were everywhere - underground, on the ground and even in the capsule that was going up and down. This time it was not a fictitious story but a real life tragedy that had a happy ending. Then we heard all the details about the personal lives of each of the workers. We saw them rise from common workers to stars within their own country. There were advertisements on everything that they were given to use. The smile of President Pinera of Chile was not lacking, who suddenly became the hero of his people and famous throughout the world. We also saw how Chile became transformed – at one point Chile had the notorious fame of being a military dictatorship under Pinochet who used to kill randomly, then, suddenly, Chile became a country that does its best to save each and every one of its citizens. In the happiness and sense of relief of the rescue the miners’ conditions of work were put aside. One must not forget that they got trapped in a mine that was closed as a safety precaution but when the prices of copper and gold went up the owners of the mine opened it again.

Carmen Sammut – Stampa Ėara, RTK 16-10-10

Questions
1. Television is a very powerful medium. Give TWO reasons why.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
(4 marks)

2. Advertising can be direct or indirect. Why is advertising so influential on the audience?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
(4 marks)

3. As a result of globalisation, the Chilean mine story was broadcast around the world. What does globalisation of the media mean?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
(4 marks)
4. In Chile’s case, the whole event served to change public opinion regarding this country.
   (i) What is public opinion? __________________________________________________________
       (2 marks)
   (ii) Why did the extensive coverage serve the Chilean President well?
       __________________________________________________________
       __________________________________________________________
       (2 marks)

5. The media has several functions. Mention THREE of them.
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   (3 marks)

6. Mention an advantage and a disadvantage of the use of the following means of communication:
   a) Radio
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   (6 marks)
   (25 marks)

Section C: Answer all following questions in detail.
1. What is Maltese identity? How is it formed?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   (5 marks)
2. Work is important for the individual as well as for society. Comment.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

(5 marks)

3. Why is pluralism an integral part of democracy? How can the citizens benefit from it?

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

(5 marks)

4. Several health services are provided by the state, private and voluntary sector. Comment about this.

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________________________________________________________________________
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(5 marks)

5. Sometimes there is conflict in society. State how this can be positive or negative.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

(5 marks)

(25 marks)
Section D: Write between 200 and 250 words about ONE of the following:
1. Technology has changed people’s lives. How?
2. Consumerism is a characteristic of modern life. Comment.
3. In spite of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, not every person enjoys these rights. Discuss.
4. How does culture change with time? What are the factors that cause this?

(25 marks)