

**LEVEL THREE- LISTENING**

**Use the words in the box to complete the text. There are two extra words in the box.**

|               |        |        |          |
|---------------|--------|--------|----------|
| entrepreneurs | profit | skills | products |
| competition   | risks  | create |          |

The population of Oman has increased significantly in recent years. It has grown from 1 million in 1980 to about 4.7 million today. This huge increase poses many challenges to the society and the government. The number of people who look for jobs is very high. Today there is intense 1. \_\_\_\_\_ to get government jobs because there are only a few jobs available. The government has opened many technical colleges and universities to teach young people the 2. \_\_\_\_\_ needed to work in factories and businesses. It also tries to 3. \_\_\_\_\_ more jobs for local people by reserving some professions like banking, marketing and driving for Omanis only. The government has implemented a program called SANAD to help young Omani 4. \_\_\_\_\_ start their own businesses. It provides financial assistance to young people to start projects that they like. However, many young people don't like to take 5. \_\_\_\_\_ by starting businesses and they wait to get government jobs which they think are safe and relaxing.

(Biju C Thomas)