



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Duration: 0.5h



**READING COMPREHENSION :**

# friendship

**1-**I am Barbara Sloan. I am 51. I am going to talk about my experience with friendship. How many friendships do you know that have lasted for a long time without a single meeting? That's what happened to me and my French pen friend Michele. We started writing to each other as teenagers but it was 36 years before we came to face to face. She was six months older than me.

**2-**I looked for pen friends as I didn't have neither a sister nor a brother to talk to. I remembered the day when my father brought me an envelope and inside was a letter and a picture of Michele. Over the years, we swapped pictures of our families, gifts and souvenirs.

**3-**In 1972, I married Alan, a decorator. Michele sent me a golden necklace as a wedding present and when my children Lindsey, Duncan and Robert were born, presents for all the family arrived every Christmas. In Nov 1998, I was covering Michele's Christmas present when Lindsey said " why don't you go over and visit her?"

**4-**Few weeks later, I wrote to Michele suggesting that I visit her next year. I boarded a plane to France. At the airport, I waited long when a blond woman shouted " Barbara? " "Michele?" I replied. We hugged each other tightly. We spent a very happy week together. I thought of staying for another week but Alan rang to tell me that Roberto was too ill and I had to be there to take care of him.

**5-**2 years later, Michele wrote to tell us that she managed to visit Britain. As time went quickly, I and Alan went to the airport to meet her. We waited and waited. Then we came back home. As I am too worried Alan called Michele's home. But her husband told us that she died in an accident few hours before she boarded the plane. I was desperate and stopped talking two weeks. Later on, I sent a lot and lots of letters to Michele's family as if she was still alive.

## **1/ Reading Comprehension:**

**1/ Underline the best title for the text .**

- a/ the end of a friendship
- b/ an unforgettable friendship
- c/ a new friendship

**2/ Pick out details from the text to correct these false statements.**

a/ Barbara was six months older than Michele.

.....

b/ Barbara brought the first envelope from the post office.

.....

c/ Michele sent presents to Barbara only every Christmas.

.....

d/ Michele came to Britain and enjoyed the company of Barbara.

.....

**3/ Answer the following questions.**

a/ Why did Barbara start corresponding with a penfriend?

.....

b/ What did Barbara receive from Michele when she married?

.....

c/ What made Barbara decide to go back home?

.....

d/ Did the correspondence stop after Michele's death?

.....

**4/Find in the text words that mean:**

▲ Exchanged (parag 2):.....

▲ Marriage ( parag

3):.....

▲ Embraced (parag 4):.....

**5/ What do the underlined words refer to:**

We (parag 1):..... we (parag5):.....

**6/Do you think that friendship ends after the death of one of the two friends?**