Reading (7 marks):

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Can't Stop Laughing

1. Three hours and six minutes. That's the amount of time it took for Belachew Girma to set a world record. This man from Ethiopia did not set a world record for running or something athletic. He set the world record for laughing. That's right! Belachew Girma laughed for three hours and six minutes without stopping!



2. However, Belachew Girma did not always like to laugh. In fact, he used to be very sad. His business burned down and his wife died. After that, Belachew Girma thought he would never laugh again. Then, someone taught him how to laugh on cue. Belachew Girma realised that laughing felt good. It felt so good that he wanted to laugh all the time.

3. Belachew Girma practiced laughing night and day. He even practiced in front of the mirror. The only time he didn't practice laughing was when he was sleeping. Someone told Belachew Girma about a laughter competition and he decided to enter it. He continued practicing his laughing so he could win. After laughing for three hours and six minutes, Belachew Girma won the competition. He became a world record holder! He was also very happy. He did not have time to be sad or to worry because he was always laughing.

4. Belachew Girma decided to use his title to help others. Today, he finds orphans and kids who are very sick and teaches them to laugh. When kids laugh, it takes away their sadness and pain. The laughter makes them happier and healthier. It helps improve their lives.

5. Belachew Girma knows that laughter is contagious. The more he laughs, the more others laugh too. By laughing, he helps make the world a happier place.

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A. Choose the correct answer (4 marks)

1) Why was it unlikely that Belachew Girma would laugh?

a. He was too busy to laugh.
b. He was a very serious person.
c. He faced a lot of tragedy.

2) Why didn't Belachew Girma become depressed again?

a. He had too many people to take care of.
b. He worked too hard.
c. He was laughing too hard.

3) How did Belachew Girma use his title to help others?

a. He got paid to laugh.
b. He taught sick kids to laugh.
c. He set a world laughing record.

4) What is the purpose of paragraph 3?

a. To explain the process of winning the world record
b. To tell how he used his laughter for good
c. To honour Belachew Girma

B. Match the following words with their definitions. There is one extra definition. (3 marks)

Answers	Words	Definitions
	1. realise	a. to become better
	2. decide	b. to understand and believe
	3. improve	c. to do an action repeatedly
		d. to arrive at an end

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