Each essay is worth 30% of the paper mark: Arab Society

(a) “الأقربون أولى بالمأثور.” ما معنى هذا المثل العربي؟ اذكر مثالاً لأحد الأوضاع في العالم العربي يمكن استخدام هذا المثل له. ما رأيك في هذا الوضع؟ وماذا?

OR

أذكر اعتراض عربي واحدا أو نقليدا قدّمه العرب للعالم. كيف استفاد الناس من هذا وهل كانت استفادة إيجابية أو سلبية؟ أعط أسباب رأيك.

(b) ‘Charity begins at home’. Candidates could use this proverb for a number of situations. The most expected answer would be in connection with helping the poor in Arab countries. Mention could be made of the disparity between the rich and the poor, and examples given of where the rich do or do not give to those less fortunate. Candidates then have an opportunity to discuss their view of this. Any examples of situations are accepted as long as they are relevant and substantiated.

b/ Candidates can choose from an array of either inventions or traditions that the world has benefited from. Inventions and Science from the Medieval and Middle Ages – either through transfer or original inventions laid the foundations of modern science; Philosophy; Literature, e.g. Naguib Mahfouz, the Thousand and One Nights – Naguib Mahfouz threw light on society and politics; Musical instruments and flamenco-type dance – brought entertainment and a Spanish national heritage; Numbers and the ‘zero’ - which revolutionized counting and mathematics; Words adopted – which brought with them a history of the region; etc. Candidates can be expected to mention any of these and other relevant areas with relevant evidence.