Dances Around the World

Flamenco is very popular in southern Spain. It begins with guitar music and clapping and then dancers join the performance. A woman sometimes dances alone and she sometimes dances with a man. The woman usually wears a long colorful dress. She moves her arms and hands slowly but her feet move in fast, complicated steps. The man often wears black. Both dancers click their shoes on the floor when they dance around each other.

Cossack dances are from Russia and Ukraine. They are very energetic – some are more like gymnastics than dancing! Dancers have to be very fit because they jump very high and kick their legs up and down. They often jump over big swords. The movements are similar to traditional Cossack activities, for example, getting on and off horses.

Limbo dancing is originally from West Africa but today, it is an important part of celebrations in the Caribbean. Young people have to dance under a horizontal stick. The stick is often on fire and the dancer mustn’t touch it! After a successful ‘limbo’, they put the stick lower and do it again. Some dancers can dance under a stick just 20cm from the floor!

Mask dances are important for the Dogon people in Mali. Each village makes different masks. They are often huge and colorful. There are masks of people, monsters or local animals like crocodiles, hyenas and monkeys. Mask dancers are always men and they dance to the sound of drums for hours after the death of a person in the village. Nowadays, Dogon villagers also perform the dances for tourists.
A- Read the text. (8 minutes)

B- Are these sentences True or False? Justify by quoting the text. (10 minutes) 8 points

a- Flamenco dancers begin dancing after the music starts.  
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b- The Flamenco male dancer always wears colorful clothes.  
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c- Cossacks dance slowly.  
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d- The movements of Cossacks are like the ones of horseback riding.  
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e- Old people dance Limbo during the carnivals.  
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f- The stick of the Limbo has to be burning.  
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g- Dogon masks are colorful.  
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C- Answer the following questions from the text.

1- Where does each dance come from? (2 minutes) 2 points

2- What do Flamenco dancers wear? Describe in detail. (4 minutes) 3 points

D- Answer the following questions in your own words.

1- Why do Cossack dancers have to be fit? Explain. (3 minutes) 2 points

2- What is a successful 'Limbo'? (2 minutes) 1 point
3- What kind of dance are the Dogon people famous for? What do they usually do during the performance? (5 minutes) 4 points

E- Personal: Which dance from the text would you like to see? Why? Explain in not more than 60 words. (8 minutes) 5 points

F- Vocabulary: Explain, give the synonym or the opposite of the five bold words according to their meaning in the text. (3 minutes) 2.5 points

a- popular: .................................................................
b- join: .................................................................
c- fit: .................................................................
d- kick: .................................................................
e- huge: .................................................................

G- Opposites: Give the opposite of the five underlined words. (2 minutes) 2.5 points

a- slowly: .................................................................
b- complicated: ............................................................

c- big: .................................................................

d- similar: ............................................................

e- under: ............................................................

H- Put the following sentences into the negative form. (4 minutes) 4 points

a- Flamenco is very popular: ..........................................................

b- It begins with guitar music: ..........................................................

c- Dancers have to be very fit: ......................................................

d- The villagers perform the dances for tourists: ..........................

I- Give the interrogative form of the following sentences and then give the two short answers for each question. (5 minutes) 6 points

a- A woman dances alone. ..........................................................

b- They are very energetic. .........................................................

c- There are masks of people. .....................................................