Part A. Reading Comprehension.

Read the following text:

**Schools 'exclude 10 pupils a day'**

An average of 10 pupils a day were excluded from school in England last year, according to the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). More than 624 pupils were excluded for violence towards teachers or students, and 16,800 were suspended for cases of assault during the year.

However, the department stressed that these figures, which were published last week, should be treated with caution as some local education authorities had submitted incomplete data. The real figures, it said, were likely to be higher, although the government still insisted annual exclusion rates were falling.

"We believe that numbers of fixed period exclusions, as with the number of permanent exclusions, are reducing as our behaviour policies are now taking effect. The 82 schools that face the greatest challenges are receiving intensive support from the ‘behaviour improvement programme’, where there has been a decrease in fixed period exclusions of 11% from the previous year," said the DfES.

In addition, 10,000 learning mentors are now helping individual pupils overcome behavioural problems in schools, and 17,000 children who are at risk of exclusion are receiving intensive support from more than 100 specialist behavioural education support teams.

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I. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text (2 points: 1 point each)

a. What are the main reasons for expelling pupils from British schools?

b. What is a mentor’s task?

II. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact words on the answer sheet. (1.5 point: 0.5 each)

a. All the UK Education Authorities presented full data.

b. The number of both fixed period exclusions and permanent exclusions increases year after year.

c. The British Government has a special programme to help pupils with behavioural problems.

III. Find a synonym for each of the words below from these six options: (1 point: 0.25 each)

- exclude
- caution
- support
- improvement
- mentors
- intensive

a. Assistance, aid

b. Experienced people in schools who advise or counsel students

c. Thorough, exhaustive

d. Expel
IV. Choose a, b, or c, in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1.5 points: 0.5 each)

1. The number of pupils suspended for assault is…
   a) bigger than the number of pupils excluded for violence.
   b) smaller than the number of pupils excluded for violence.
   c) not taken into account.

2. The reason why exclusions are becoming lower is due to…
   a) the number of pupils and teachers.
   b) violence in schools.
   c) the behaviour improvement programme.

3. Children who are likely to be excluded receive support from…
   a) more than one hundred specialists.
   b) more than one hundred groups of behavioural education experts.
   c) ten hundred learning mentors.

Part B. Composition (130-150 words approximately). Choose one of the following topics (4 points)

1. Why do some students experience behavioural problems?
2. What would you do to solve behavioural problems in schools?