Unit 9 : Reading

(1) Bill Gates was born on October 28, 1955 in a family having rich business, political and community service background. His grandfather was vice president of National Bank and his father was a lawyer. Bill strongly believes in hard work. He also believes that if you are intelligent and know how to apply your intelligence, you can achieve anything. From childhood, Bill was intelligent, ambitious and competitive. In school, he had a good record in mathematics and science.

(2) Bill s parents noticed their son's intelligence and decided to send him to a private outstanding school, where he was first introduced to a computer. Bill and his friends were very much interested in computers and formed "Programmers Group" in late 1968. In the next year, they got their first opportunity in Information Sciences Company where they were selected as programmers. So, they started making money although they were still students. Bill and his close friend Paul Allen started a new company of their own named Traf-O-Data. They designed a small computer to measure traffic density. From this project, they earned around $20,000. In 1973, he left home for Harvard University. There, he almost forgot about the world of computers because he spent many nights studying one of the toughest mathematics courses. Bill and his friend Paul remained in close contact even though they were away from each other. They would often discuss new ideas for future projects and the possibility of starting a business one day. At the end of Bill’s first year at the university, Paul came close to him so that they could work on some of their ideas. That summer, Paul kept on pushing Bill for opening a new software company.

(3) Within a year, Bill dropped out of Harvard. Then, he formed Microsoft. Bill's vision is: "A computer on every desk and Microsoft software on every computer". Bill is a visionary person and works very hard to fulfill his vision. His belief in high intelligence and hard work has put him where he is today. His powerful beliefs have helped him increase his wealth and his monopoly in the industry.

(4) Bill is not a greedy person. In fact, he is quite a giving person when it comes to computers, Internet and any kind of funding. He visited Chicago's Einstein Elementary School and donated a total of $110,000. He offered computers, and provided internet connectivity to many schools. Also, Bill donated $38 million for the building of a computer institute at Stanford University.

**I. COMPREHENSION : *BASE YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT***

**A. ARE THESE SENTENCES TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY.**

1. Bill was good at science subjects. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..………………..

2. Bill neglected working on the computer when he was in Harvard. …………………………………………………………………………………………….

3. Bill graduated from Harvard University. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………….……………………….

**B. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS.**

1. Where did Bill first use a computer? ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

2. Who encouraged Bill to open a new software company? ………………………………………………………………………………………………..…………………….

3. How did Bill help Stanford University? ……………………………………..……………………………………….………………………………………………………………….

**C. CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER FROM THE LIST GIVEN.**

**Tick four qualities that best describe Bill Gates.**

helpful hesitant hard-working

greedy competitive wealthy

**D. PICK OUT FROM THE TEXT SENTENCES OR PHRASES WHICH SHOW THAT:**

1. Bill comes from an educated family background. ….…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

2. Microsoft was not the first company Bill and Paul set up. ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

3. Bill’s view of the future is that everybody can have a computer with a Microsoft programme. ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

**E. FIND IN THE TEXT WORDS THAT MEAN THE SAME AS:**

1. excellent (paragraph 2) ………………………………………………..

2. computer programme (paragraph 3) ……………………………………..…….

3. achieve (paragraph 4) ……………………………….……….

**F. WHAT IS THE WRITER’S PURPOSE? TICK ONE ANSWER.**

To tell the readers about Bill’s university results.

To inform the readers about Bill’s success story

To explain Bill’s relationship with his grandfather.

To give an opinion about Bill’s Microsoft Company.