**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Final Exam (2 hours; 18 points possible)**

**Text: Rubin, B. (2012). Child prodigies. *Inside Reading: The Academic Word List in Context.* 2nd Ed. New York: Oxford.**

* Students should be able to successfully **identify the stated and implied main idea and supporting details** of high-intermediate-level paragraphs and/or high-intermediate-level longer texts such as an entire article
* Students should be able to successfully employ **skimming and scanning techniques** to find details and main ideas in a high-intermediate-level text (5 points)

Which lines of the text most accurately state the main idea of the entire text? (1 point)

31-35 or 129-134

What is the main idea of paragraph 7 (lines 58-74)? (2 points)

Scientists study the **brains** of prodigies to determine if there is a **natural** reason that they are highly-skilled. Might also include “frontal lobe” or “concentration.”

Why do children generally not become prodigies in “less structured domains” (lines 45-47)? (1 point)

These areas rely on experience, understanding precedents, and putting information together in new ways.

Which paragraph is mainly about the potential impact of the environment, including parenting, on child prodigies? (1 point)

Paragraph 8, Line 75-81

In line 30, the author refers to experts and non-experts. Give an example of a non-expert mentioned in the text. (1 point)

Teacher, parent, society at large

* Students should demonstrate an **understanding and application** of high-intermediate-level fiction and non-fiction material in a **variety of authentic and non-authentic styles/formats** such as articles, reports, essays, abridged novels, and abridged & unabridged short stories (3 points)

What is the purpose of the personal stories about the three children at the beginning of the article? (1 point)

Personal stories provide context, help define child prodigy, help the reader connect to the information, etc.

What is the purpose of the information about the brain scans starting in line 57? (1 point)

It is scientific evidence of a difference between child prodigies and other children. Their brains appear to actually function differently, which is positive for their concentration and contributes to their success.

What is the purpose of Billy’s story in this article? (1 point)

Billy’s story shows an example of the downside of focusing too much on being a prodigy. By being so focused, he hadn’t had the opportunity to develop social skills and did not have a normal life. It shows the challenges of being a prodigy.

* Students should demonstrate an understanding and application of literary devices such as **figurative and idiomatic language; and metaphors (2 points)**

Explain the author’s point when she uses the phrase “prefer Batman to Beethoven” (line 125). (1 point)

Batman represents a common interest of many seven-year-olds, but Beethoven would be unusual. Prodigies have different interests and abilities from other children in the class, which are also different from the teacher’s expectations. Their interests are often in adult things, which teachers are not yet teaching about.

Why is “reading between the lines” a useful way to explain the skill of inferencing? (1 point)

Inferences are made by looking at what is in the text and what the author means—especially in light of context and culture. Readers need to look past the actual text to make an inference.

* Students should demonstrate an understanding and application of critical thinking skills including **inferences, analysis, and supporting an opinion** from a high-intermediate-level passage (4 points)

Do you consider Boris Sidis’s “experiment” on his child a success? Why or why not. Explain your answer using at least one reference to the text (indicate the line #). (2 points)

Based on what you read and your life experience, would you want to be a child prodigy? Why or why not? Explain your answer using at least one reference to the text (indicate the line #). (2 points)

* Students should demonstrate an understanding and application of vocabulary recognition strategies such as **context clues, roots, prefixes, and suffixes** to guess the meanings of new terms found in high-intermediate-level texts (3 points)

What does “norm” mean in the last line of the text? (.5 points)

Normal, average, expected

Use “norm” in a sentence of your own. (.5 points)

What does “offspring” mean (line 90)? (.5 points)

Children

Use “offspring” in a sentence of your own. (.5 points)

Change “utilize” (line 114) into a noun. (.5 points)

Utilization

Use the answer from the previous question in a sentence. (.5 points)