Reading

Matching headings, Sentence completion, Pick from a list

1 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions about the Reading test.

1 How long is the test?
2 How many sections are there?
3 How much time should you spend on each section?
4 How many questions are there in total in the test?
5 How many marks do you get for each question?
6 Where do you write your answers?
7 What should you check when you write down answers from the passage?

2 Work in pairs. You are going to read a passage about getting clean water.

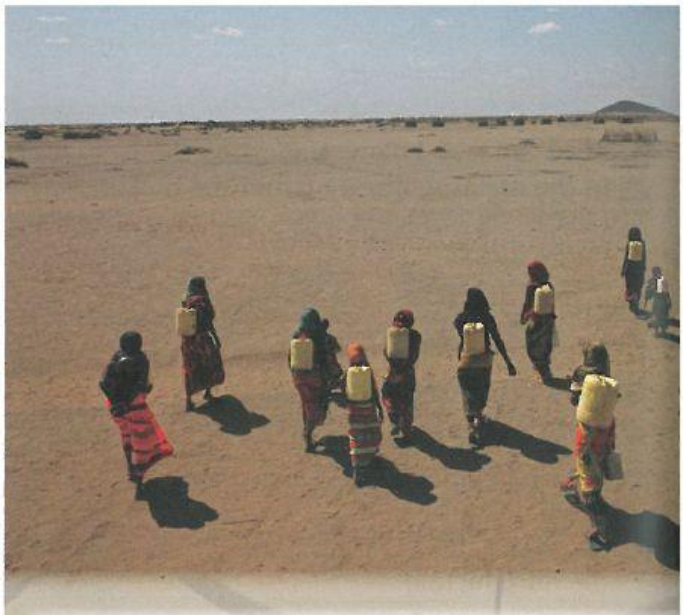
1 What problems are there if you don't have running water in your house?
2 What problems are there if you don't have access to clean water?

3 Quickly read the title and subheading of the passage on your own.

1 What do you think *burden* and *transformed* mean?
2 Which TWO of these topics do you expect to read about?
   a the causes of floods
   b the difficulties of collecting water
   c industrial uses of water
   d building water supplies

4 Find these words (1–6) in the passage and say what type of word (e.g. noun, verb, etc.) they are. Then match them with their correct definition from the *CLD* (a–f).

1 drought	a a strong wall built across a river to stop the water
2 well	b an artificial lake where water is stored before it goes to people's houses
3 dam	c a long period when there is no rain
4 pump	d a piece of equipment which forces liquid or gas to move somewhere
5 reservoir	e a long tube which liquid or gas can move through
6 pipe	f a deep hole in the ground from which you can get water, oil or gas



The burden of thirst

Millions of women carry water long distances. If they had a tap by their door, whole societies would be transformed.

by Tina Rosenberg

A Aylito Binayo's feet know the mountain. Even at four in the morning, she can run down the rocks to the river by starlight alone and climb the steep mountain back up to her village with a container of water on her back. She has made this journey three times a day since she was a small child. So has every other woman in her village of Foro, in the Konso district of south-western Ethiopia in Africa. Binayo left school when she was eight years old, in part because she had to help her mother fetch water from the Toiro River. The water is unsafe to drink; every year that the drought continues, the river carries less water, and its flow is reduced. But it is the only water Foro has ever had.

B In developed parts of the world, people turn on a tap and out pours abundant, clean water. Yet nearly 900 million people in the world have no access to clean water. Furthermore, 2.5 billion people have no safe way to get rid of human waste. Polluted water and lack of proper hygiene cause disease and kill 3.3 million people around the world annually, most of them children. In southern Ethiopia and in northern Kenya, a lack of rain over the past few years has made even dirty water hard to find. But soon, for the first time, things are going to change.

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C Bringing clean water close to villagers' homes is the key to the problem. Communities where clean water becomes accessible and plentiful are transformed. All the hours previously spent hauling water can be used to cultivate more crops, raise more animals or even start a business. Families spend less time sick or caring for family members who are unwell. Most important, not having to collect water means girls can go to school and get jobs. The need to fetch water for the family, or to take care of younger siblings while their mother goes, usually prevents them ever having this experience.

D But the challenges of bringing water to remote villages like those in Konso are overwhelming. Locating water underground and then reaching it by means of deep wells requires geological expertise and expensive, heavy machines. Abandoned wells and water projects litter the villages of Konso. In similar villages around the developing world, the biggest problem with water schemes is that about half of them break down soon after the groups that built them move on. Sometimes technology is used that can't be repaired locally, or spare parts are available only in the capital.

E Today, a UK-based international non-profit organisation called WaterAid is tackling the job of bringing water to the most remote villages of Konso. Their approach combines technologies proven to last – such as building a sand dam to capture and filter rainwater that would otherwise drain away. But the real innovation is that WaterAid believes technology is only part of the solution. Just as important is involving the local community in designing, building and maintaining new water projects. Before beginning any project, WaterAid asks the community to create a WASH (water, sanitation, hygiene) committee of seven people. The committee works with WaterAid to plan projects and involve the village in construction. Then it maintains and runs the project.

F The people of Konso, who grow their crops on terraces they have dug into the sides of mountains, are famous for hard work. In the village of Orbesho, residents even constructed a road themselves so that drilling machinery could come in. Last summer, their pump, installed by the river, was being motorised to push its water to a newly built reservoir on top of a nearby mountain. From there, gravity will carry it down in pipes to villages on the other side of the mountain. Residents of those villages have each given some money to help fund the project. They have made concrete and collected stones for the structures. Now they are digging trenches to lay pipes. If all goes well, Aylito Binayo will have a tap with safe water just a three-minute walk from her front door.

adapted from *National Geographic* magazine

5 Look at Questions 1–6. Read paragraph headings i–viii and underline the key ideas in each. Then read each paragraph carefully and match it to the correct heading.

Questions 1–6

The reading passage has six paragraphs, **A–F**.

Choose the correct heading for each paragraph from the list of headings below.

List of Headings

i	Why some plans have failed
ii	A rural and urban problem
iii	A possible success
iv	Explaining a new management style
v	Some relevant statistics
vi	A regular trip for some people
vii	Treating people for disease
viii	How water can change people's lives

1 Paragraph A ..... 4 Paragraph D .....
2 Paragraph B ..... 5 Paragraph E .....
3 Paragraph C ..... 6 Paragraph F .....

Exam advice *Matching headings*

- Read the headings very carefully, underlining the key ideas.
- Each paragraph heading will cover the main idea of the paragraph.
- Write your answer clearly or you will be marked wrong.

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