EOT 1 Practice - Part 7

A) Read the passage and choose the best answer a, b, or c.

Pearling in the Arabian Gulf

Pearling has been major industry in the Gulf since 2000 BCE. The season for diving for pearl oysters, the shellfish that contain pearls, started in early June. A huge fleet of pearling boats departed together for the oyster bank and returned at the end of September. The oyster boats either stayed near one particular bank or moved around to different banks. There were about twenty members of the crew on board the boat, one of whom led a rhythmic chant.

Pearl-diving was a difficult and exhausting job, involving long hours of work from soon after sunrise to just before sunset. The diver dived down into the water with a stone attached to his foot, gathered the oysters, then pulled on the rope as a signal for a crew member on board to bring him up to the surface. After a short rest, he went down again.

The divers opened the oyster shells the following morning, with the captain looking on. Rainwater was used to store the oysters in, since it removed the greenish colour that the oysters had. Then the oysters were wrapped in a piece of red cloth and were sorted according to size, weight and quality.

Questions:

1- Pearl-diving has been a ..... trade in the Gulf area for centuries.
   a. modern
   b. traditional
   c. recent

2- Every year, the-diving season usually started in .....
   a. morning
   b. boats
   c. summer

3- A pearl oyster is a type of .....
   a. shellfish.
   b. boat.
   c. bank.

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4- Crew members enjoyed chanting ..... while they were working.

a. prayer
b. prices
c. poetry

5- Pearl divers had to be ..... to endure their exhausting job.

a. Bedouins
b. resilient
c. tall

6- A pearl diver used a ..... to stay under water for a long time.

a. stone
b. pearl
c. chant

7- After opening the shells, ... helped keep the oysters clean.

a. the captain
b. rainwater
c. quality

8- The captain grouped the pearls according to their .....

a. oyster, shellfish and cloth
b. colour, price and taste
c. size, weight and quality

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