Unit 6. LOBAL WARMING

PART 2:. READING

I. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space.

| landslides | biodiversity | conditions | temperature | rainfall |
| economic | farmland | impacts | agencies | support |

Vietnam Likely to Face Extreme Weather Conditions by 2050

Vietnam is likely to continue facing extreme weather (1) …………………….. such as higher (2) ……………………._, lower summer rainfalls, stronger storms, and rising sea levels from now to 2050. Temperature in northern Vietnam will rise by between 0.83 degrees Celsius by 2050 and continue its uptrend during the late 21st century. Summer (3) ……………………..will decline in most areas. Meanwhile, storms may become rarer but fiercer, causing possible flash floods and (4) ……………………..in flood-prone areas of northern mountains, central and central highland provinces. The forecasts suggest sea level rise of 100mm-400mm along the entire Vietnamese coast by the end of the 21st century, affecting marine (5) ……………………..and coastal communities. The experts emphasize the unpredictability of climate change and its potential

(6) ……………………..to create a variety of dangerous extreme weather events in the future.

To raise the public awareness of climate change impacts, the Vietnamese government urges concerned (7) ……………………..to work together on devising worst-case scenario models and responses by 2020 and calls on international experts to further (8) ……………………..Vietnam in climate change adaptation. Climate change is a real threat to Viet Nam's socio-(9) ……………………..development. If sea levels rose one meter, five percent of the country's land, eleven percent of its population and percent of its (10) ……………………..would be affects.

II. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank space in the following passage.

Consequences of Global Warming on Wildlife

Increasing global temperatures are expected to (1) ____ ecosystems, pushing extinction to those species that cannot adapt. The first comprehensive assessment of the extinction risk (2) ____ global warming found that more than 1 million species could be extinctive by 2050 if the current rate continues.

A recent study of (3) ____ 2,000 species of plants and animals discovered movement toward the poles at an average rate 3.8 miles per decade.

The latest climate change report found that approximately 20 to 30 percent of plant and animal species assessed so far are likely to be at (4) ____ risk of extinction if global average temperature increases by more than 2.7 to 4.5 degree Fahrenheit.

(5) ____ polar bears are drowning because they have to swim longer distances to reach ice floes. The U.S. Geological Survey has predicted that (6) ____ of the world's polar bear populations will be extinct by the mid-century due to melting of the Arctic ice cap.

The ocean will continue to become more acidic due to carbon dioxide emissions. (7) ____ this acidification, species with hard calcium carbonate shells are vulnerable, as are coral reefs, (8) ____

are vital to ocean ecosystems. Scientists predict that a 3.6 degree Fahrenheit increase (9) ____ temperature would (10) ____ out 97 percent of the world's coral feels.

1. A. endanger   B. benefit   C. harm   D. use

2. A. to   B. from   C. off   D. on

3. A. nearly   B. near   C. relatively   D. wealthy

4. A. declined   B. born   C. presented   D. increased

5. A. Some   B. Few   C. More   D. Little

6. A. two-third   B. two-thirds   C. two-three   D. two-thirdth

7. A. As   B. Due   C. Because   D. Because of

8. A. that   B. when   C. which   D. who

9. A. away   B. in   C. at   D. of

10. A. send   B. broke   C. wipe   D. lay

III. Read the passage and choose the best answer.

The world's oceans have warmed 50 percent faster over the last 40 years than previously thought due to climate change, Australian and US climate researchers reported Wednesday. Higher ocean temperatures expand the volume of water, contributing to a rise in sea levels that is submerging small island nations and threatening to wreak havoc in low-lying, densely populated delta regions around the globe.

The study, published in the British journal Nature, adds to a growing scientific chorus of warnings about the pace and consequences rising oceans. It also serves as a corrective to a massive report issued last year by the Nobel-winning UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), according to the authors.

Rising sea levels are driven by two things: the thermal expansion of sea water, and additional water from melting sources of ice. Both processes are caused by global warming. The ice sheet that sits atop Greenland, for example, contains enough water to raise world ocean levels by seven metres (23 feet), which would bury sea-level cities from Dhaka to Shanghai.

Trying to figure out how much each of these factors contributes to rising sea levels is critically important to understanding climate change, and forecasting future temperature rises, scientists say. But up to now, there has been a perplexing gap between the projections of computer-based climate models, and the observations of scientists gathering data from the oceans.

The new study, led by Catia Domingues of the Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research, is the first to reconcile the models with observed data. Using new techniques to assess ocean temperatures to a depth of 700 metres (2,300 feet) from 1961 to 2003, it shows that thermal warming contributed to a 0.53 millimetre-per-year rise in sea levels rather than the 0.32 mm rise reported by the IPCC.

1. Ultimately, the new study should help scientists to ____.

    A. lower water levels.

    B. better predict climate change.

    C. bury sea-level cities like Dhaka and Shanghai.

2. The rise in water levels is especially dangerous for small island nations and ____.

A. low-lying urban areas.

B. all coastal cities.

C. people who live on the beach.

3. What happens when the ocean's temperature rises?

A. It causes sea levels to rise.

B. It causes sea levels to remain constant.

C. It causes sea levels to decrease.

4. What was the main finding of the study?

A. not enough is being done about global warming.

B. ocean waters have warmed faster than scientists had previously thought.

C. the warming of the world's oceans is not a threat.

5. The new study ____.

A. shows that thermal warming contributed to a 0.32 millimeter-per-year rise in sea levels.

B. did not reveal anything that scientists didn't already know.

C. used new techniques to assess ocean temperatures.