REVISION E8- READING

V. Read the passages and decide whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F)

The Palace of Westminster

The Palace of Westminster is also known as Westminster Palace in London, England where two Houses off the Parliament of the United Kingdom meet to conduct their business. It lies on the north bank of the River Thames. Most of the present structure dates from the 19th century, when the Palace was rebuilt after it was almost entirely destroyed by a fire in 1834. The architects responsible for rebuilding the Palace were Sir Charles Barry and Augustus Welby Pugin. One of the Palace's most renowned characteristics is the clock tower, a tourist attraction that houses the famous bell Big Ben. The latter name is often used, erroneously, for clock itself.

The Palace contains over 1,000 rooms, the most important of which are the Chambers of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons. There are also committee rooms, libraries, lobbies, dining-rooms, bars and gyms. It is the site of important state ceremonies, most notably the State Opening of Parliament.

T F

1. The Palace lies on the south bank of the River Thames.
2. The Palace was rebuilt after it was almost entirely destroyed by a fire in 1843.
3. There were three architects who took charge of rebuilding the Palace.
4. One of the Palace's most renowned characteristics is Big Ben.
5. There are over 1,000 rooms in the Palace.

Earthquakes in New Zealand

Telegraph has reported that a strong earthquake of 7.1 on Richter scale occurred at 4:37 a.m on 2nd September (local time). According to the US Geological Survey, the epicenter located at a depth of about 30km off the coast of New Zealand, from Gisborne, the nearest area to the epicenter about 169 km. This earthquake has the strongest intensity which has occurred in the area of New Zealand's North Island since 1995.

New Zealand's radio station said that residents in coastal areas were warned to evacuate to higher ground to ensure safety after a series of aftershocks rocked the area.

The coastal areas of the North Island and South Island of New Zealand have been put on alert status after warnings about the risk of a tsunami due to the effects of the earthquake. However, because the waves in coastal areas of New Zealand this morning only reached a maximum height of about 30cm and were classified as small tsunami which didn't cause any hazard and damage to life and property, the tsunami warning has been lifted.

Earthquakes are not rare phenomena in New Zealand, but the intensity to 7.1 on Richter scale rarely occurs. The Earthquake causing the greatest damage in New Zealand recently occurred in 2011 in the city of Christchurch that killed 185 people.

T F

1. In New Zealand, earthquakes are very rare to occur.
2. A strong earthquake of 7.1 Richter scale in New Zealand's South Island is the strongest once since 1985.
3. According to the US Geological Survey, the epicenter located at a depth of about 30km off the coast of New Zealand.
4. The strong earthquake of 7.1 Richter scale caused a lot of damage to property.
5. The Earthquake causing the greatest damage in New Zealand recently occurred in 2011 in the city of Christchurch.

Soil Pollution

Soil Pollution is also a main matter in all of the countries today. Contaminants such as heavy metals, pesticides and solvents ooze into the earth's soil and pollute the food supply. Major health risks to entire ecosystems are caused by soil pollution. It decreases the amount of soil which is suitable for agricultural production and contributes to global food shortages. The disposal of industrial waste products generates much of the world's soil pollution, though natural disasters can also add to the problem. In some powerful countries such as the US and UK, protection agencies monitor the food supply. The public is generally warned because major health

LIVEWORKSHEETS

outbreaks occur. However, developing countries do not have this luxury. Farmers in poor nations grow plants for food in polluted land both to earn a living and to avoid starvation.

T F

1. Today, soil pollution is a major matter in all the countries.
2. Major health risks to entire ecosystems are not caused by soil pollution.
3. Global food shortages is a result of soil pollution.
4. Protection agencies monitor the food supply in all countries.
5. Farmers in poor nations grow plants for food in polluted land both to earn a living.

VI: Read the passages and choose the correct answer for each question:

Over the past 600 years, English has grown from a language of few speakers to become the dominant language of international communication. English as we know it today emerged around 1350, after having incorporated many elements of French that were introduced following the Norman invasion of 1066.

Until the 1600s, English was, for the most part, spoken only in England and had not extended even as far as Wales, Scotland or Ireland. However, during the course of the next two centuries, English began to spread around the globe as a result of exploration, trade (including slave trade), colonization, and missionary work. Thus, small **enclaves** of English speakers became established and grew in various parts of the world. As these communities **proliferated**, English gradually became the primary language of international business, banking and diplomacy.

Today there are more than 700 million English users in the world, and over half of these are nonnative speakers, constituting the largest number of nonnative users than any other language in the world.

1. Question 1: What is the main topic of this passage?

A. The number of non-native users of English
B. The French influence on the English Language.
C. The expansion of English as an international language
D. The use of English for science and Technology.

2. Approximately when did English begin to be used beyond England?

A. in 1066 B. around 1350 C. before 1600 D. after 1600

3. According to the passage, all of the following contributed to the spread of English around the world except.

A. the slave trade
B. the Norman invasion
C. missionaries
D. colonization

4. The word "enclaves" in line 6 could be best replaced by which of the following?

A. communities B. organizations C. regions D. countries

5. How many non-native English speakers are there in the world?

A. more than 350 million
B. less than 350 million
C. more than 700 million
D. less than 700 million

Passage 2:

People all over the world today are beginning to hear and learn more and more about the problem of pollution. Pollution is caused either by man's release of new and often artificial substances into the environment, or by releasing increased amounts of a natural substance, such as oil from oil tankers into the sea.

Whatever its underlying reasons, there is no doubt that much of the pollution caused could be controlled if only governments, companies, and individuals would make more efforts. In the home, there is an obvious need to control litter and waste. Foods wrapped up three or four times in packages all have to be disposed of; drinks are increasingly sold in bottles or tins which cannot be reused. This not only causes a litter problem, but also is a great waste of resources, in terms of glass, metal and paper. Advertising has helped this process by persuading many of us not only to buy things we don't need, but also to throw away much of what we have bought. Pollution and waste combine to be a problem everyone can help to solve by cutting out unnecessary buying, excess use and careless **disposal of** the products we use in our daily lives.

1. The main cause of pollution mentioned in the passage is _____

A. The release of artificial or natural substances into the environment

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B. The production of new industrial goods
C. Increased amounts of a natural substance
D. Increasing population and their needs to buy more products

2. Much of the pollution could be controlled if only _____
A. People would pay more attention to their waste
B. Governments would take effective measures
C. All sides concerned would make more efforts
D. Tarmers would use less natural resources

3. Food packages, bottles and tins for drinks can cause _____ .
A. more and more air and water pollution
B. both a litter problem and a waste of resources
C. the price of the Products to rise greatly
D. the advertising industry to make more profit

4. What does the phrase "disposal of" in the last sentence probably mean?
A. using up
B. finding a solution to
C. cutting out
D. getting rid of

5. Which of the following cannot help solving the problem of pollution?
A. Cutting out unnecessary buying
B. Eating and drinking less
C. Reducing excess use
D. Controlling litter and waste

Passage 3

Earthquake is a violent shaking of the ground; it is caused by the collision of the Earth's outer layers. Earthquake is one of the most dangerous natural disasters to mankind. The casualties and damages caused by earthquake can be huge even when the earthquake lasts only a few seconds. In 2004, a 9.2 magnitude earthquake occurred in the Indian Ocean creating a series of tsunamis. It's the third largest earthquake ever recorded and lasted more than 10 minutes. Waves caused by the earthquake reachedthe height of 30 meters. This event is one of the deadliest natural disasters in history. By the time it was over, more than 250,000 people had been killed and many coastal regions in Indonesia and nearby countries had been completely destroyed. Impact of this natural disaster is still felt till this day.

1. Which of the following would be the best title of the passage?
A. Most Dangerous Natural Disasters
B. A Dangerous Natural Disaster
C. An Oceanic Disaster
D. Impacts of Natural Disasters.

2. What does the writer describe earthquake as?
A. The ground shakes extremely.
B. Earthquake is on the list of top dangerous natural disasters.
C. Slight earthquake can lead to heavy losses.
D. All are correct.

3. Which natural disaster is caused by the earthquake in the Indian Ocean in 2004?
A. A wave of 30-meter height.
B. A tsunami killing 200,000 people.
C. A number of long high sea waves coming to the land.
D. A 9.2-magnitude tsunami.

4. Which of the following is FALSE about the earthquake in the Indian Ocean in 2004?
A. All Asian countries were damaged by the earthquake.
B. There were 250,000 victims of this disaster.
C. The earthquake happened in over 10 minutes.
D. The earthquake reached 9.2 magnitudes

5. Which of the following is NOT stated in the passage?
A. The outer layers of the Earth collide to create earthquake.
B. An earthquake may occur in just a couple of seconds.
C. 50,000 victims of the earthquake in the Indian Ocean were rescued

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D. The influence of the earthquake in the Indian Ocean in 2004 has lasted until now.

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