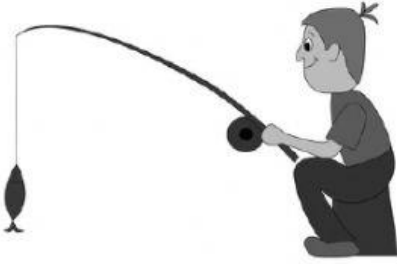


FISHING ON THE SANDBANK



On the way to Mayaro from Sangre Grande, along the main road near one of the largest bridges, there is a large natural sandbank. It has been there for years with the sea adding more sand every day. However, the sandbank is only visible when the tide is low. The mangrove and coconut trees are north of it, almost hiding it, and the noisy sea east of it. It

looks attractive enough for leisurely fishermen to fish there. When the tide comes in, king fish, carite and salmon come with the swirling, noisy water. Many strangers to the area, in sudden, anxious moments, dreaming of a large catch, rush across the low, sunken area with only a trickle of water meandering through it. They get easily to the sandbank and enjoy their fishing spell. However, the return journey always proved scary. While they are engaged in fishing, the tide creeps in noiselessly, fills the once, low-sunken area and now no one knows the path to safety.

1. What is a sandbank?

2. What do the words 'noisy and swirling' say about the sea?

3. Is the sandbank visible at high tide or low tide?

4. What attracts the fishermen to this area?

5. Pick out a word which says the men are happy on the sandbank?

6. Explain the danger the men could find themselves in after fishing?

7. If your parents choose to fish there, what advice would you give them?
