READING TEST

Time allowance: 45 minutes

TEXT 1

Natural disasters are terrible things that happen because of nature. If they happen in places where there are few people, we don't call them disasters. But if something like a flood happens in a place where many people live, then we call it a natural disaster. These disasters cause great damage. **They** can make buildings or trees fall, make people freeze, get washed away, or even get heatstroke. Some disasters cause more loss of life than others, and population density affects the death count as well.

Scientists, geologists, and people who watch storms try their best to know when awful disasters might happen. They use technology to help predict storms, cyclones and other great weather disasters. Therefore, they can give a little bit of warning, but sometimes bad things happen very quickly. And there are still some disasters that come without much warning, like earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, or volcanoes erupting. Also, areas that are not used to disasters affected by floods or sudden storms can be affected in a bad way.

(Adapted from VietNam National University Press Ha Noi)

EX1: Decide if the statement is true (T) or false (F), and choose your answer.
1. Natural disaster is a bad event that is caused by nature.
2. A flood on an island with few people is considered a disaster.
3. Crowded areas can face disasters.
4. Scientists, geologists, and storm watchers can not predict disasters like storms and cyclones.
5. Areas that are not used to disasters may be affected badly when disasters come suddenly.

EX2: Choose the correct answer A, B or C to each of the questions.

1. What is the best title for the above reading text?
A. Causes and effects of natural disasters
B. Knowledge of natural disasters
C. Preventions of natural disasters

2. What does the words "**They**" in the first paragraph refers to
A. Disasters
B. People
C. Damage

3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an effect of natural disasters in the text?
A. Make people freeze
B. Cause trees to fall
C. Wash away animals

4. How do scientists predict certain natural disasters like storms, cyclones?
A. By applying technology
B. By studying ancient texts
C. By relying on folk tales

5. What types of natural disasters are mentioned as being difficult to predict in the text?
A. Cyclones and volcano erupting
B. Earthquakes and wildfires
C. Landslides and storms

TEXT 2:

You might think that online shopping is more environmentally friendly than in-store shopping. In fact, online stores do not need electricity or the customer to travel like traditional **ones**. Items are often delivered to several homes at the same time, which could reduce carbon emissions.

However, the delivery of items to homes often fails the first time and the driver has to try again one or two more times. Customers who choose speedy delivery or buy single items from different places also contribute towards increasing the carbon footprint.

The carbon footprint also goes up if the customer chooses to return the item. Clothing, in particular, has high return rates as customers could not try items on before buying them. Companies offer free returns, but many returned items are thrown away instead of being sold again. This is because throwing them away is cheaper than paying someone to sort the damaged items from the unwanted ones.

(ADAPTED FROM MANY SOURCES)

EX3: Choose the correct answer A, B or C to each of the questions.

1. **What is the best title for the above reading text?**
A. The environmental impact of online shopping
B. The environmental impact of clothing returns.
C. The environmental impact of traditional shopping.
2. **What does the words "ones" in the first paragraph refers to**
A. shopping
B. stores
C. customer
3. **Why does clothing have high return rates in online shopping?**
A. Clothing is often more expensive online.
B. Clothing stores do not offer free returns.
C. Customers cannot try on clothing items before buying.
4. **What is <u>NOT</u> a cause of increased carbon footprint?**
A. Returning the clothes
B. Delivering many products at once
C. Choosing speedy delivery
5. **Why do companies often choose to throw away returned items instead of reselling them?**
A. Sorting damaged items from unwanted ones is cost-effective.
B. Discarding returned items is more profitable.
C. Reselling the returned products is more time-consuming

EX4: Complete the following sentences. Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the article for each answer. Change word form if needed.

a) Online shopping might appear more_____ than traditional one.

b) You might think the carbon emissions could be _____ thanks to the delivery of items to multiple houses at once.

c) Many home deliveries fail initially, requiring several attempts, which raise the _____.

d) Returning items also increases the carbon footprint, especially with _____ , which experiences high return rates.

e) Companies often choose to _____ returned items instead of reselling them