TOPIC 6

Reading

(45 minutes/25 marks)

Part 1 (12.5 marks)

Below you will find a text about Eco homes of the future. The second part of each paragraph is missing from the passage. You can find them after the text. Write the appropriate answers into the boxes after the text. You need to fill in 10 boxes.

The first (0) has been done as an example. There are three paragraph endings which you will not need.

The issue of how we keep cool and safe from flooding and storms in our homes in the future is at the forefront of fresh new thinking from academics and designers, ____0____.

"We need to look at building traditions in parts of Europe where heat, storms and floods are already an issue to see how their homes have evolved to withstand extremes of climate," says Will Anderson. He is the author of a new book, 'Homes for a Changing Climate', which is published this autumn ____1____. There, houses have evolved to encompass cool, shady courtyards, often with a pool of water, external heavy shutters, cool tiles and plants, ____2____.

With predicted summer temperatures of 42C (107F) by the middle of this century, Will says we can take features of the Spanish homes and adapt them for our own use.

"In this country we rely on interior blinds and curtains to draw against the sun when it becomes too hot. However, by the time heat hits the curtain barrier, ____3____. Similarly, southern European practices of painting exterior walls white to reflect the heat and making thick external walls with a high thermal mass can all be incorporated into British buildings, ____4____.

Andrew Symonds, who has just completed a refurbishment of his solid-walled Victorian terrace house in Hereford, says it is noticeably cooler this summer than last.
"We've even put in more south-facing windows to get maximum light and warmth into the house in the winter," says Andrew, an architectural designer.

"But the new extension has thick insulated walls and the windows are deep set which naturally shade the windows in the summer, but allow the lower light of a winter sun in ____5____.

Andrew's experience is crucial, because as environmental consultant Paul Black says, "It's not the new homes we have to worry about, ____6____".

With risks of flooding, Will Anderson envisages a future of "soft and hairy" cities with plenty of permeable surfaces such as grassy areas, increased vegetation – which also has a cooling effect – ____7____.

In addition to this, he recommends the adoption of the new Dutch method of "making room for the water" – so instead of channelling it into easily overwhelmed drainage

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ECL Environment

(45 minutes/25 marks)

TOPIC 6
Reading

systems, towns should have a linked system of swales, "submersible" squares and parks to act as emergency flood plains _____8_____.

This idea has been adopted in a proposed development in the Thames Gateway at Gravesend, east London, where "upside down homes", with fresh water and electricity generators on the roof, _____9_____. At first-floor level, raised walkways and courtyards will provide safe areas for communities to congregate when ground floor areas are submerged. An over water, over ground city – _____10_____.

A. ***as well as home owners.***
B. "people think a well-insulated house is going to be far too hot in the summer, but it's actually cooler"
C. which will be out of the reach of the highest floods
D. all of which have a tempering effect on the white hot heat of a Spanish afternoon
E. a well-insulated house will save you money
F. in the future, your house will get flooded more often
G. to reduce internal temperatures
H. it is how we're going to future-proof Britain's 20 million existing homes
I. "take the issue of boiling hot summers, such as in places like Seville in Spain," he says
J. and buildings with roof gardens
K. so flood water is neutralised rather than threatening homes and businesses
L. will people want to live 'up-side down'
M. it's too late – the heat is already inside the home
N. now there's a vision for the future

Do not make corrections in the boxes.
Any correction will be considered a mistake.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOPIC 6

Reading

(12.5 marks)

Part 2

Read the 10 short extracts on the environment below. For each text, numbered 1-10, you must match one of the summary statements A-N; which you can find after the text. Write the appropriate answers into the boxes after the text. You need to fill in 10 boxes.

The first (0) has been done as an example. There are three summary statements which you will not need.

The Environment

0. *Many things to act upon*

Effective protection of the environment requires activity on a variety of fronts - for example: acting to limit global warming, safeguarding individuals from the effects of poor air quality or toxic chemicals, improved energy efficiency of buildings, and more efficient use of resources.

1.

Private cars are important in our modern lives for two main reasons, poor public transport and business. Firstly, the car industry gives many people jobs and helps countries to develop. Secondly, many people today need cars in their work. Doctors need to visit patients, salespeople need to visit customers and computer technicians need to visit businesses.

2.

A New Zealand winemaker has found the solution to reducing the carbon footprint of wine – and the answer, which may come as no great surprise, lies in sheep. Miniature sheep, that is. Allowing the rare breed to graze on the grass between his vines dramatically reduces the energy his wine takes to make.

3.

Deforestation should be the prime concern of mankind because forests are one of our most important natural resources. The balance of oxygen-carbon and water cycles still plays a vital role for the habitats of wildlife. In a world without forests, all creatures cannot survive.

4.

Flooding is the most common of all natural disasters and resulting in widespread damage and even death. Deep snow, ice-covered rivers, and weak dams are all strong conditions for potential flooding. Knowledge of why floods happen can help us reduce the damage they cause.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(45 minutes/25 marks)

TOPIC 6

Reading

5.

Every second, one hectare of the world's rainforest is destroyed. This alarming rate of destruction has serious consequences for the environment. Scientists estimate that hundreds of species of plant, insect or animal become extinct every day due to logging.

6.

One day the world's oil and gas reserves will run out. Energy sources like wind power, solar power, burning waste and water power are alternatives. However, it is thought that these cause as much environmental damage as the oil and nuclear power sources they are intended to replace.

7.

Heat waves one minute and flooding the next, the warning over extreme weather in the coming decades is no longer easy to ignore. The issue of how we keep cool and safe from flooding and storms in our homes in the future is at the forefront of fresh new thinking.

8.

Rubbish dumps release carbon dioxide and methane, greenhouse gases that trap heat in the atmosphere, adding to global warming. At South Africa's plush Mount Nelson hotel, thousands of earthworms guzzle metric tons of scrap food left over from the tables of the rich and famous, quietly doing their bit to save the planet.

9.

Humankind can emit no more than one trillion tonnes of carbon to avoid the likelihood of a global temperature rise of two degrees Celsius, the level widely considered the minimum to avoid widespread harm. We have burnt through more than half of that amount since industrialisation began 250 years ago, and at current rates we will burn the other half within 40 years.

10.

A high-seas mission departs from San Francisco next month to map and explore a sinister and shifting 21st century continent: it is twice the size of Texas and it was created from six million tonnes of discarded plastic. This mission is the first to attempt to retrieve and recycle a monument to throwaway living in the middle of the North Pacific.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOPIC 6

Reading

(45 minutes/25 marks)

A. ***Many things to act upon.***
B. Not easy to give them up.
C. Cannot overlook extreme weather.
D. A vital natural resource.
E. Knowledge is the key to prevention.
F. Doing without cars – is it really necessary?
G. Replacement energy will cause damage to the environment.
H. Designing our homes of the Future.
I. Earthworms help the planet on landfill sites.
J. There is a limit to how much carbon can be burnt.
K. How safe is Alternative energy?
L. Reducing energy use in a natural way.
M. The environmental results of these actions.
N. Mission to break up Pacific island of rubbish.

Do not make corrections in the boxes.
Any correction will be considered a mistake.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(75 minutes/25 marks)

TOPIC 6
Writing

Part 1
(12.5 marks)

Some people feel that it is the responsibility of governments and businesses to improve the environment. Others say that individuals must also initiate changes that will have a significant effect in reducing carbon emissions. Explain both points of view and give your own opinion. Take into account the following points:

- actions governments can take or encourage
- what businesses can do in factories and manufacturing processes
- use of cars vs. public transport
- what individuals can do in their homes

Write about 200 words.

Part 2
(12.5 marks)

Do you think that it is right for countries to pollute the environment for economic growth?

Write a Letter to the Editor of your local newspaper in response to a recent article about industrial pollution in China. Take into consideration the following points:

- the effects of industrial pollution
- land uses – clearing of forests / soil pollution
- effects of globalisation
- pollution in developing countries

Write about 200 words.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ECL Environment

TOPIC 6
Writing

(75 minutes/25 marks)

Part 1 – Write your essay here (about 200 words).

These days, many people are worried about the environment and the problems of pollution.

5

(75 minutes/25 marks)

TOPIC 6
Writing

Part 2 – Write your letter here (about 200 words).

The environmental crisis has increased at an alarming rate since the industrial revolution.

5

10

15

20

25

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOPIC 6

Listening

(about 35 minutes/25 marks)

Part 1

(12.5 marks)

As you are interested in environmental issues you listen to a radio programme under the title "LIVING PLANET". While listening decide which of the three options is true. There is an example already done for you.
You can listen to the programme twice. Do as much as you can the first time and complete or correct your work the second time.
Listen carefully.

Now you have one minute to read the sentences.

Example:

0. The Kyoto protocol aims to
   - A. stop nuclear testing.
   - **B. *reduce emissions.***
   - C. have less traffic.

1. The global temperature rose by
   - A. 0.6 degrees.
   - B. 1.2 degrees.
   - C. 3.6 degrees.

2. Floods are proof of
   - A. the governments' bad conduct.
   - B. astronomical changes.
   - C. a rise in temperature.

3. 10,000 species will die out due to
   - A. hunting.
   - B. global warming.
   - C. epidemics.

4. Lower temperatures are disadvantageous for
   - A. pests and germs.
   - B. farming.
   - C. forests.

5. Insects are
   - A. adaptive
   - B. negligent
   - C. non-adaptive

   } to climate changes.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(about 35 minutes/25 marks)

TOPIC 6
Listening

6. In the case of global warming insects move
   - A. northward.
   - B. southward.
   - C. to the forests.

7. This summer in Germany
   - A. floods
   - B. droughts
   - C. rains

   } caused great damage.

8. The fish population became less because of
   - A. over-fishing.
   - B. diseases.
   - C. oxygen deficiency.

9. CO_2 emissions will increase by 100% in the next
   - A. 20 years.
   - B. 50 years.
   - C. 100 years.

10. The damage will be irreparable within
    - A. 10 years.
    - B. 100 years.
    - C. 17 years.

Do not make corrections in the boxes.
Any correction will be considered a mistake.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B										

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ECL Environment

TOPIC 6

Listening (about 35 minutes/25 marks)

Part 2 (12.5 marks)

You will hear a radio programme about a new software developed by NASA experts. As you are interested in environmental issues you want to take some notes.

You will hear the recording twice. Fill in the blank spaces with one or two words or short phrases. There is an example for you. You must have ten correct answers.

Do as much as you can the first time and correct or complete your work the second time. Listen carefully.

Now you will have one minute to study the notes.

Example:
0. In Central America __**farmers/agriculture**__ destroy(s) the rain forests.

1/ Although the environmental minister of Guatemala will be in Japan, he plans _____

2/ This programme is similar to _____

3/ The programme is better than a real flight because _____

4/ The Web portal _____ though it has not been finished.

5/ _____ can get access to the data.

6/ It has been difficult to get information of this type because _____

7/ The aim of this software is _____

8/ The politicians have to match the interests of the population and _____

9/ Once the development of the project is completed NASA still _____

10/ When the website is finished, anybody can _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(about 20 minutes)

TOPIC 6

Oral Communication

Part 1- Introduction – warming up interview – social interaction, not assessed.

Introduce yourself to your partner if you do not already know each other.

The examiner will invite each candidate to say something about themselves.

- Each candidate should say:
  - where they come from
  - the type of accommodation they live in
  - mention brief points about members of their family
- The candidates should talk about *one* or *two* of the following topics:
  - school or college where they are studying
  - office or place in which they are working
  - town or village in which they are residing
  - hobbies, sports or other regular activities
  - type of holidays they like to take
  - where they have travelled
  - reasons for learning English

Interesting conversation will be allowed to develop within the time limit.

Part 2 - Guided conversation

What alternative energy sources can be developed? Should governments promote and develop alternative energy sources?

Part 3 - Picture based topic

(Visual stimuli to stimulate a narrative, explaining and interpreting the stimuli.)

You can find the colour pictures in the appendix.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TOPIC 6

Possible Topic Questions

Part 2 - Guided conversation

1. Does the environment belong principally to the human race?
2. Do your consumption habits destroy the habitats of other species?
3. Do you think that developers should be permitted to build big hotels and tourist complexes in the most beautiful places in your country?
4. Should the private motorist be made to pay more through higher road tax, petrol prices, parking fees and motorway tolls?
5. Should cars be banned from city, town and village centres?
6. Are you for or against nuclear power?
7. Does your country need stricter laws to punish noisy neighbours or discos which play loud music late at night?
8. Are your country's rivers and lakes clean to swim in?
9. What government and private campaigns are there in your country to protect and improve the environment? Are these campaigns motivated by concern for the lives and habitats of species other than our own?
10. What is the quality of the environment in your country like?
11. How important is the natural environment to you in your daily life?
12. Are you environmentally friendly?
13. Do you think our environment is beyond repair?
14. If the environment could speak, what would it tell us?
15. What is our duty as custodians of the environment?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ECL Environment

TOPIC 6
Vocabulary File

point of no return	the moment from where there is no way back, where things cannot be turned
pollute the environment	emit harmful things (chemicals, gases, liquids or plastic) into nature
predicted temperature	the forecasted heat or cold
prolonged	something that takes too long
rainforest	a huge tropical forest
recycle	reuse; not throw away after the first use
recycling centres	establishments where you can take the collected paper, plastic and glass so that they can be recycled
reducing	decreasing the amount of
reflect the heat	send the heat back, do not let the heat go through
refurbishment	renovation
renewable energy sources	non-conventional sources of energy that cannot be exhausted, such as wind, solar, thermal
resourceful	clever, smart, creative
rubbish dump	a place where the waste is collected
scarce resources	resources that we don't have plenty of
sees no halting of the rising temperatures in view	does not forecast a stop in global warming
shift	slight change or move
soil pollution	the contamination of the ground
solar power	energy that comes from the sun
species	a class of plants or animal; animals or plants of the same kind
storm	bad weather with heavy winds, rain, thunder and lightning
submerged	being pushed under water
tempering effect	an influence that makes something less extreme
thick external walls	wide outside walls
throwaway living	lifestyle that involves throwing away a lot of waste
toxic chemicals	harmful substances that are related to chemistry
undesirable outcome	an effect that nobody wanted
water power	the energy that can be gained from flowing water
well-insulated house	a building that does not let the heat in or out
wind power	energy gained from the blowing wind
withstand	survive, get over something without suffering damages

LIVEWORKSHEETS

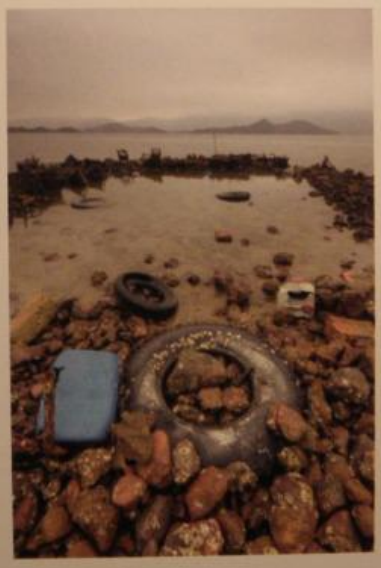
ECL Environment

TOPIC 6

Part 3 Picture based topic

(Visual stimuli to stimulate a narrative, explaining and interpreting the stimuli)







LIVEWORKSHEETS