

Question 1.

- a. Sarah: What movie should we watch tonight?
- b. Jack: How about that new action film? Everyone's talking about it.
- c. Sarah: Sounds good! Let's check the showtimes.

(Adapted from Harmonize 2)

A. c – a – b

B. b – c – a

C. c – b – a

D. a – b – c

Question 2:

- a. I also served food and drinks, answered questions about the menu, and made sure all customers enjoyed their meals.
- b. I am in my final year of secondary school. I have some experience in the hospitality industry.
- c. My responsibilities included greeting customers and taking their orders.
- d. Last summer, I waited on tables for two months at a fast-food restaurant.

(Adapted from Global Success 12)

A. a – b – c – d

B. b – a – c – d

C. d – b – a – c

D. b – d – c – a

Question 3.

- a. I wanted to tell you that I've recently accepted a new job in New York, and I'll be moving there next month. It's a big change, but I'm really excited about this new chapter in my life.
- b. Dear Emily,
- c. I'm planning to visit my family before the big move, and I'd love to see you if you're free during that time.
- d. Hope this message finds you well! I wanted to catch you up on some recent news.
- e. Take care, and I hope to see you soon!

A. b – d – a – c – e

B. d – a – b – c – e

C. b – a – d – c – e

D. a – b – d – e – c

Question 4.

- a. Finally, I would buy a motorcycle for my sister. She has had to ride her old bicycle since she was 15.
- b. Do you think winning the lottery would make you happy? If I won it, I could do something easily.
- c. To sum up, I would use the money to help my family with the satisfaction of basic needs.
- d. Secondly, I would have our old house rebuilt. My parents, my sister and I have been living in there for more than 40 years and it is downgraded.
- e. First of all, I would donate half of the money to the orphanages in my little hometown.

A. a – b – c – d – e

B. b – e – d – a – c

C. e – d – c – b – a

D. c – a – d – e – b

Question 5:

- a. The initiative was proposed in 2004 in Australia, but the idea of a worldwide movement was developed in 2006 under the name The Big Flick.
- b. Earth Hour is a movement organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The event takes place annually around the world.
- c. Later in October 2007, a similar event called 'Lights Out' was held in San Francisco.
- d. In 2007, the first Earth Hour was held on 31 March in Sydney, Australia at 7:30 p.m., local time.
- e. It encourages everyone to turn off non-essential electric lights, for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the last Saturday of March.

(Adapted from Global Success 12 – work book)

A. d – c – b – a – e

B. b – a – c – d – e

C. a – d – c – b – e

D. b – c – a – d – e

Living in the stressful modern era, most of us usually look for sources of relaxation, and it's no secret that viewing nature and being outdoors can be pleasant and **restorative**. Spending time in nature is linked to improvements in mental health, mood, emotional well-being, and cognitive benefits. However, the more surprising thing is that,

according to new research, viewing water may be a better environment for relaxation than green areas with grass and trees.

In a recent article, Harvard psychologist Adam Grant discussed a remarkable 2024 study that he **came across**, showing that people who viewed water for less than two minutes had reduced blood pressure compared to people who viewed green areas and trees.

So why are nature's blue spaces more relaxing than green ones? According to the original authors of the study, the reason might be related to the process of our evolution. For early humans who have to work hard to survive day by day, the lack of water has always been a major challenge, as it posed a direct threat to life, leading to heightened levels of stress, increases in blood pressure and cardiac stress. Therefore, successfully detecting water or simply just looking at **it** can provide a sense of great relief.

Being in nature can help you re – invigorate your body, mind, and spirit, offering moments of awe, calm, and relaxation. And now we are learning that bodies of water may bring even greater relaxation. So, whether it's a river, lake, or ocean, it might be time to go outside and find the nearest blue space to experience the effects for yourself!

(Adapted from psychologytoday.com)

Question 6: Which of the following is NOT mentioned in paragraph 1 as a benefit of spending time in nature?

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|---|----------------------------------|
| A. Improvements in mental health | B. Cognitive benefits |
| C. Increased creativity | D. Emotional well – being |

Question 7: The word "restorative" in paragraph 1 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____

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|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| A. damaging | B. energizing | C. refreshing | D. beneficial |
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Question 8: The word "came across" in paragraph 2 could be best replaced by _____

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|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| A. discovered | B. ignored | C. created | D. explained |
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Question 9: The word "it" in paragraph 3 refers to _____

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|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| A. stressor | B. blood pressure | C. cardiac stress | D. water |
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Question 10: Which of the following is TRUE, according to paragraphs 2 and 3?

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|---|
| A. Finding water was the biggest survival challenge for early humans. |
| B. Early humans suffered more stress when there is not enough water. |
| C. Only by being in nature can we heal both our body and our spirit. |
| D. The larger the area of water you look at, the more relaxed you are. |

Question 11: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

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|---|
| A. Spending time outdoors in nature can refresh both your physical and mental state, providing peaceful and uplifting experiences. |
| B. Nature is a perfect escape from modern life, allowing people to rest while boosting their physical and spiritual well – being. |
| C. Nature offers a temporary distraction from life's problems, but its benefits are limited to short – term relaxation. |
| D. Being in nature brings challenges to both the mind and body, creating feelings of stress and discomfort. |

Question 12: In which paragraph does the writer mention the possible evolutionary reasons why viewing water can be more relaxing than viewing green areas?

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| A. Paragraph 1 | B. Paragraph 2 | C. Paragraph 3 | D. Paragraph 4 |
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Question 13: In which paragraph does the writer explain why viewing water might be more relaxing than viewing green areas?

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| A. Paragraph 1 | B. Paragraph 2 | C. Paragraph 3 | D. Paragraph 4 |
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Six months after the UN officially recognized the human right to a healthy environment, a report by UN Special Rapporteur David Boyd underscores the harsh reality that this right remains inaccessible to many, particularly the most vulnerable populations worldwide. Boyd's report identifies "**sacrifice zones**," regions where pollution from industrial activities has rendered the air, water, and soil toxic, exposing local communities to severe health risks like cancer, lead poisoning, and respiratory diseases.

Globally, there are thousands of such zones. For instance, Bor, Serbia, ranks among Europe's most polluted cities due to its copper mining and smelting industries, leaving 80% of its metallurgical workers with chronic illnesses. In La Oroya, Peru, nearly all children living near a lead smelter show dangerously high blood lead levels. Similarly, in the oil-contaminated Niger Delta of Nigeria, life expectancy hovers around just 40 years. These regions reflect the dire costs of prioritizing industrial progress over environmental health.

Boyd's findings emphasize the role of corporate practices in exacerbating these crises. [I] Major polluters, including leading fossil fuel companies, continue profiting massively while contributing to pollution and climate change. [II] During the energy crisis in 2022, six such corporations amassed \$350 billion in profits. [III] Simultaneously, lobbying and greenwashing tactics hinder the enactment of strict environmental laws, enabling the persistence of these toxic zones. [IV]

Governments also bear responsibility for failing to counteract these influences. Corporate lobbying and the absence of enforceable environmental regulations perpetuate these issues, as evidenced by recent climate negotiations that yielded weak commitments. Boyd advocates for bold action, including legally binding frameworks to hold corporations accountable, criminalizing greenwashing, and reducing corporate influence in policymaking. Such measures are critical for turning the human right to a healthy environment from principle to practice, safeguarding both people and the planet

(Adapted from <https://genevasolutions.news>)

Question 14: The phrase "sacrifice zones" in paragraph 1 could best be replaced by _____

- A. vulnerable zones B. green spaces C. toxic regions D. industrial areas

Question 15: The word "its" in paragraph 2 refers to _____

- A. Peru B. Europe C. Serbia D. Bor

Question 16: According to paragraph 2, which of the following is NOT true about the identified sacrifice zones?

- A. People in Bor suffer from chronic illnesses due to industrial activity.
B. Children in La Oroya have high levels of lead in their blood.
C. Life expectancy in the Niger Delta is exceptionally high.
D. Pollution heavily affects air, water, and soil in these areas.

Question 17: The word industrial in paragraph 2 is OPPOSITE in meaning to _____

- A. materialism B. religious C. agricultural D. technological

Question 18: Where in paragraph 3 does the following sentence best fit?

"These profits often come at the expense of vulnerable communities, who bear the brunt of environmental degradation and health consequences"

- A. [I] B. [II] C. [III] D. [IV]

Question 19: Which of the following best summarises paragraph 3?

- A. Corporate profits come at the cost of environmental degradation and human health.
B. Governments have implemented strong policies to curb industrial pollution.
C. Fossil fuel companies have significantly reduced their impact on the environment.
D. Greenwashing has been effective in addressing global climate issues.

Question 20: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. Sacrifice zones are evenly distributed across all countries.
B. Life expectancy in the Niger Delta is alarmingly low.
C. Governments have successfully countered corporate lobbying.
D. Fossil fuel companies have minimized their profits during crises.

Question 21: Which of the following best paraphrases the underlined sentence in paragraph 4?

- A. Governments have collaborated effectively with corporations to reduce pollution.
B. Government actions have been insufficient in preventing corporate misconduct.
C. Governments are solely responsible for the existence of these sacrifice zones.
D. Corporations and actions have completely overridden government authority.

Question 22: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- A. Sacrifice zones are exclusively found in both developed and developing countries.
- B. Lead poisoning is not recognized as a significant concern in those sacrifice zones.
- C. Corporate lobbying and governments are working together to strengthen the policies.
- D. Industrial activities in sacrifice zones have severe health impacts on communities.

Question 23: Which of the following best summarises the passage?

- A. The report reveals how corporate practices and weak regulations harm vulnerable communities in polluted regions worldwide.
- B. The report highlights how international cooperation has eradicated sacrifice zones and restored environmental health.
- C. The report discusses the benefits of industrial development for the global economy and local communities.
- D. The report focuses on both positive and negative impact of corporate profits on addressing global climate change.