

# READING

Read the passage. Circle the best answer A, B or C to each of the questions.

I often hear or read about '*natural disasters*' - the eruption of Mount St. Helen, a volcano in the state of Washington, Hurricane Andrew in Florida, the floods in the American Midwest, terrible earthquakes all over the world, huge fires, and so on. But I'll never forget my first personal experience with the strangeness of nature - "the London Killer Fog" of 1952. It began on Thursday, December 4, when a high-pressure system of warm air covered southern England.

With the freezing-cold air below, heavy fog formed. Pollution from factories, cars and coal stoves mixed with the fog. The humidity was terribly high, there was no breeze at all. Traffic such as cars, trains, boats stopped. People couldn't see, and some walked onto the railroad tracks or into the river. It was hard to breathe, and many people got sick. Finally, on Tuesday, December 9, the wind came and the fog went away. But after that, even more people got sick. Many of them died.

1. Which "*natural disaster*" isn't mentioned in the passage?

- A. a tornado      B. a volcano      C. a flood      D. a hurricane

2. What is the writer's unforgettable personal experience?

- A. the London killer      B. the heavy fog in London in 1952  
C. a high-pressure system      D. the strangeness of nature

3. How long did the '*London Killer Fog*' last?

- A. For four days      B. For five days  
C. For six days      D. For a week

4. What didn't happen during the time of the '*London Killer Fog*'?

- A. Pollution      B. Heavy rain      C. Humidity      D. Heavy fog

5. Why did the traffic stop?

- A. Because of the rain      B. Because of the windy weather  
C. Because of the humid weather      D. Because of the heavy fog.

EXERCISE 4 Read the passage and circle the best answer

The country is more beautiful than a town and more pleasant to live in. Many people think so, and go to the country for the summer *holidays* though they cannot live there all the year round. Some have a cottage built in a village so that they can go there whenever they can find the time.

English villages are not all alike, but in some ways they are not very different from one another. Almost every village has a church, the round or square tower of which can be seen from many miles around. Surrounding the church is the church yard, where people are buried.

The village green is a wide stretch of grass, and houses or cottages are built round *it*. Country life is now fairly comfortable and many villages have running water brought through pipes into each house. Most villages are so close to some small towns that people can go there to buy what they can't find in the village shops.

1. When do city people often go to the country?

- A. At the weekends.      B. All the year round.  
C. At Christmas.      D. The summer holidays.

2. What is NOT mentioned in the life of English villages?

- A. The Internet B. The church C. Running water D. Shops
3. What does the word "it" in paragraph 3 refer to?  
A. The village green B. Grass C. Houses D. Cottages
4. What is the best title for the passage?  
A. Advantages of the countryside. B. The English countryside.  
C. Things in an English village. D. Summer holidays in England.
5. The word *holidays* in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. vacations B. festivals C. conferences D. hospital

## **LISTENING**

Listen to a talk about flood. Fill each of the gaps with the information you hear. You will listen twice.

Flood is one of the most dangerous natural disasters. It happens when excessive (1) \_\_\_\_\_ is collected in one area. It usually happens due to heavy rainfall.

People living in Central (2) \_\_\_\_\_ have to suffer from a lot of difficulties. The supply of food and goods also gets limited during floods. Recently, the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Central Vietnam floods caused mass destruction. In (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and early November 2020, Central Vietnam got struck by (5) \_\_\_\_\_ floods, four storms and a series of landslides.