

## Part I - READING COMPREHENSION (A)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions in English

*Separating Big and Small Fliers*

I

A year ago two birds made Capt. Chesley B. Sullenberger III land a US Airways airplane in the Hudson River. The birds flew into one of the jetliner's engines causing it to stop working. This forced the jetliner to make an emergency landing. "The threat from birds is a threat all airports face," says Ms. Francoeur, chief wildlife biologist for New York City's airports.

5 However, there are many ways to deal with the problem.

II

One example of how to overcome this problem is pyrotechnics. These look like fat guns but do not fire bullets. Instead of bullets they make different loud noises depending on the kind of bird they are trying to frighten away. When the birds fly into the airport, special vehicles with loud-speakers send out a recording of the same sounds they make. The birds are curious, fly  
10 closer and then are frightened away by the pyrotechnics.

III

The second solution is traps: these mostly catch small birds that fly into the trap, become confused and can't find the exit. A third method is the use of hunting birds: one is a plastic bird which is sent up into the air and falcons are sent to "hunt" them. Other birds see this, are scared and stay away from the airport. Fourth is the "helikite"- part balloon, part kite, this  
15 little device floats in the air and looks like a hunting bird so when smaller birds see it they run away. The fifth way, is the airport hand-held laser device. This shines a thin, green beam. "Birds think the bright green beam is a long and big stick coming in their direction. They want to stay away from it so that it can't hit them."

IV

Finally there are shotguns. Francoeur's team killed 1,093 birds in 2009. Shooters are trained  
20 to know which birds they can or can't shoot. "No one really wants to kill the birds," says Ms. Francoeur, but every bird we keep away saves lives."

Adapted NY Times

## QUESTIONS

1. Answer the following questions in *English* (40 points)

A. Who and what landed in the Hudson River? (paragraph I)

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B. What are the two birds an example of? (paragraph I)

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C. Fill in the blank spaces: (paragraph II)

Pyrotechnics look like \_\_\_\_\_ but don't \_\_\_\_\_

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D. What makes the birds curious? (paragraph II)

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E. Why do birds stay away from the airport when the falcon is in the air (paragraph III)

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F. What is the helikite? (paragraph III)

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G. (1) Mark the following sentence True or False: (paragraph IV)

**No one cares if the birds are killed.** True / False

(2) Write a sentence from the text to support your answer:

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H. Translate the following words and expressions into **Hebrew** or **Arabic** according to their meaning in the context. These words and expressions appear in bold type in the text.

(i) **wildlife biologist** (line 4) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) **to deal with the problem** (line 5) \_\_\_\_\_

(iii) **become confused** ( line 11-12) \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) **stay away from** (line 18) \_\_\_\_\_

(v) **are trained to know** ( line 20) \_\_\_\_\_