

CODE 8
READING PAPER
Time permitted: 60 minutes
Number of questions: 40

Directions: In this section you will read *FOUR* different passages. Each one is followed by 10 questions about it. For questions 1-40, you are to choose the best answer A, B, C or D, to each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen. Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

You have 60 minutes to answer all the questions, including the time to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

PASSAGE 1 – Questions 1-10

STREET VENDORS STRUGGLE AMIDST GLOBAL INTEGRATION

HA NOI (VNS) — As the country is integrating deeper into the world market, a number of street vendors who come to pursue their dream in cities might lose **their** jobs, experts have warned. With the ASEAN Economic Community formed at the end of this year and the conclusion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, goods from other countries will flood Viet Nam's market, forming a wide range of products for supermarkets and store chains. As a result, street vendors in urban areas will have fewer customers and finally disappear, said Nguyen Thi Lan Huong, director of the Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs. **A**

Nguyen Thi Lan, a street vendor from Thai Binh province, said that her business met many difficulties due to the increased number of stores and supermarkets. "We used to make between VND6 million (nearly US\$270) and VND7 million (nearly \$315) monthly but now our income has been unstable as we have fewer customers." **B**

Nguyen Anh Tuan, 30, who lives in the Old Quarter said that he usually buys fruits and small items like scissors and cotton swabs from street vendors. "It is really convenient and quick. I can just stand at the front door and call for the food while going to stores or especially to the supermarket takes me a lot of time. Moreover, I can bargain with the street vendors — one thing which you cannot do in the supermarkets." **C**

Nguyen Thi Thanh Na, 28, a migrant worker in Ha Noi wants to buy fruits and other items from street vendors for another reason. "I come from rural areas so I sympathise with people who have to leave their hometowns and **make ends meet** in the city. They have to walk around the 20 streets all day to find customers and sometimes, they are chased and their goods are **confiscated** by local police." **D**

Lessons from developed countries show that informal workers like street vendors will be negatively affected or even disappear in the integration process; therefore, authorised agencies need to provide **them** with vocational training to help them adapt to the new situation, Vu Huu Kien, a 25 senior lecturer of international labour organisation said.

Sharing his opinion, Nguyen Thi Lan Huong, director of the Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs said that street vendors should be trained to find jobs in industrial parks and in financial and personal service sectors.

1. The word "**their**" in paragraph 1 refers to
 - A. street vendors'
 - B. jobs'
 - C. experts'
 - D. cities'
2. What is NOT mentioned as a result of the formed ASEAN community?
 - A. products from neighboring countries will overflow domestic market.
 - B. goods in supermarkets and store chains will be abundant.
 - C. street sellers may lose their jobs.
 - D. street vendors can better their lives in big cities.

3. Why does Mr. Nguyen Anh Tuan frequently buy products from street vendors?
- A. because of their high quality goods
 - B. because he spends a lot of time finding the supermarket
 - C. because he can buy them more easily and probably with a cheaper price
 - D. because of his living in the Old Quarter
4. The phrase "make ends meet" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to:
- A. work
 - B. earn money
 - C. live
 - D. walk
5. The word "confiscated" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to:
- A. given
 - B. taken
 - C. offered
 - D. bought
6. Who might be involved in the training of labour workforce?
- A. Nguyen Thi Lan Huong
 - B. Vu Huu Kien
 - C. Nguyen Thi Thanh Na
 - D. Nguyen Thi Lan
7. The word "them" in paragraph 5 refers to
- A. informal workers
 - B. authorised agencies
 - C. customers
 - D. goods
8. What could be a solution for street vendors in the integration process?
- A. authorised agencies provide them with new jobs
 - B. vocational training should be adjusted to suit these informal workers
 - C. more jobs in industrial parks should be available to untrained informal workers
 - D. training should be given to street vendors to help them find new jobs.
9. In which space (marked A, B, C and D in the passage) will the following sentence fit?
"Poor and low-income people cannot compete and are likely to lose jobs in the service sectors" She added.
- A. A
 - B. B
 - C. C
 - D. D
10. In which paragraph does the author mention about the difficulties the street vendors meet in their daily business?
- A. paragraph 2
 - B. paragraph 3
 - C. paragraph 4
 - D. paragraph 5

MY FIRST LOVE

During the baking hot months of the summer holidays, my mother and I used to escape to one of the scattered lakes north of Prince Albert. In its magic surroundings, we used to spend the long summer days in the open air, swimming and canoeing or just lying dreaming in the sun. In the evening, the lake was always a bright, luminous grey after the unbelievable sunset colours had **faded**.

The last summer before we returned to England was particularly enchanted. For one thing, I was in love for the first time. No one will ever convince me that one cannot be in love at fifteen. I loved then as never since, with all my heart and without doubts or reservations or pretence.

My boyfriend Don worked in Saskatoon, but the lake was "his place" — the strange and beautiful wilderness drew him with an obsessive urgency, so I suspected it was not to see me that he got on his motorcycle as many Fridays as he possibly could, and drove three hundred-odd miles along the pitted prairie roads to spend the weekends at our place.

Sometimes he couldn't come, and the joy would go out of everything until Monday, when I could start looking forward to Friday again. He could never let us know in advance, as we were too far from civilization to have a phone or even a telegraph service. Besides, Don was hard up, and sometimes worked overtime at weekends.

One Friday night a storm broke out. I lay in bed and listened to the thunder and the rain beating on the roof. I tried not to expect Don that night hoping he would have enough sense to wait until the storm ended. Yet in my frightened thoughts, I couldn't help imagining Don fighting the storm. His motorbike seemed, in my thoughts, frail enough to be blown onto its side by the first gust that struck it. I thought of Don pinned under it, skidding, his face pressed into the mud.

I crawled back into bed, trying to close my throat against the tears. But when my mother, prompted by the deep sympathy and understanding between us, came in to me, she kissed my cheek and found it wet. "Don't get upset, Jane," she said softly. "He may still come."

When she had tucked me in and gone, I lay thinking about Don, about the danger of the roads — you couldn't ride or walk along them safely after heavy rain; your feet would slip from under you. The roads in Northern Canada are not like the friendly well-populated English ones, where there are always farmhouses within walking distance and cars driving along them day and night.

It was hours later that I suddenly realized the sound of the roaring engine was real. The storm was dying. I lay absolutely still, **relief and pain fighting for ascendancy within me**, each in itself overwhelming enough to freeze the breath in my lungs as I heard Don's heavy tired footsteps on the wooden stairs.

11. Every summer, Jane used to spend:
 - A. in the camp
 - B. by the sea side
 - C. near the lake
 - D. in the village
12. The word "**faded**" in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to:
 - A. clear
 - B. brightened
 - C. darken
 - D. disappeared
13. The last summer was particularly fascinating for Jane because she
 - A. spent it in the magic surroundings.
 - B. had a lot of fun in the open air.
 - C. enjoyed unbelievable sunset by the lake.
 - D. first loved someone.
14. Jane believes love at fifteen is
 - A. a sincere deep feeling.
 - B. associated with doubts.
 - C. full of reservations.
 - D. connected with pretence.

15. Don travelled three hundred-odd miles every weekend because he was
- A. desperate to see the author before she left.
 - B. fond of riding his motorcycle.
 - C. attracted by the beauty of the lake.
 - D. fond of spending weekends with his friends.
16. Sometimes Don didn't come to see Jane and her mother because he
- A. thought that they were too far from civilization
 - B. worked to make some extra money.
 - C. had given up hope of seeing the author.
 - D. hated travelling in exhausting conditions.
17. The word "it" in paragraph 5 refers to
- A. the motorbike
 - B. the first gust
 - C. the storm
 - D. the mud
18. Mother came into Jane's room during the storm because she
- A. felt Jane was afraid of the thunder.
 - B. felt Jane was worried about Don.
 - C. heard Jane walking in the room.
 - D. heard Jane crying in her bed.
19. According to the author the roads in Northern Canada were
- A. slippery.
 - B. muddy.
 - C. lonely.
 - D. busy.
20. "...relief and pain fighting for ascendancy within me" in the last paragraph means that the author felt
- A. overwhelming pain.
 - B. relief and pain alternately.
 - C. relief as a prevailing emotion.
 - D. neither relief nor pain