

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

Social Networks

Do the names MySpace, Facebook, Orkut, etc. ring a bell? They probably do because they are some of the most popular sites on the internet today. These sites are all called 'social networking' sites because they help people meet and discuss things online.

Each of these social networking sites has its own strengths: MySpace is especially popular among teenagers, Facebook is popular with college age people, Orkut is especially loved in Brazil, and CyWorld is the site to visit in South Korea. The common thread between all of these social networks is that they provide a place for people to interact, rather than a place to go to read or listen to 'content'. **Web 2.0**

Social networks are considered to be web 2.0. What does this mean? To understand this, it's important to understand what the original web did (often called web 1.0). Back in the nineties, the internet - or web - was a place to go to read articles, listen to music, get information, etc.

Most people didn't contribute to the sites. **They** just 'browsed' the sites and took advantage of the information or resources provided. Of course, some people did create their own sites. However, creating a site was difficult. You needed to know basic HTML coding (the original language the internet uses to 'code' pages). It certainly wasn't something most people wanted to do as it could take hours to get a basic page just right.

Things began to get easier when blogs (from web log) were introduced. With blogs, many more people began writing 'posts', as well as commenting on other people's blogs.

MySpace Surprises Everybody

In 2003 a site named MySpace took the internet by storm. It was trying to **mimic** the most popular features of Friendster, the first social networking site. It quickly became popular among young users and the rest was history. Soon everyone was trying to develop a social networking site. The sites didn't provide 'content' for people to enjoy, they helped people create, communicate and share what they loved including music, images and videos. **Key to Success**

Relying on users to create content is the key to the success of web 2.0 companies. Besides the social networking sites discussed here, other huge success stories include: Wikipedia, Digg.com and the latest success - Twitter. All of these companies rely on the desire of users to communicate with each other, thereby creating the 'content' that others want to consume.

1. Which social networking site was NOT mentioned in the reading?

- A. MySpace
- B. LinkedIn
- C. Facebook
- D. Friendster

2. Where is Orkut especially popular?

- A. In Japan
- B. In South Korea
- C. In the United States
- D. In Brazil

3. Why does the writer mention **CyWorld** in paragraph 2?

- A. to give an example of a strong point of a social networking site
- B. to emphasize the importance social networking sites
- C. to demonstrate the popularity of social networking sites
- D. to express the common feature of social networking sites

4. Which phrase best describes what people do at social networking sites?
 - A. They comment other people's blog.
 - B. They code pages in HTML.
 - C. They browse articles and other content.
 - D. They interact with other people.
5. What was the original web mainly used for?
 - A. Interacting with other people
 - B. Browsing content
 - C. Creating pages in HTML
 - D. Writing on blogs
6. What does the word **they** in paragraph 2 refer to?
 - A. resources
 - B. the sites
 - C. most people
 - D. social networks
7. The word **mimic** in paragraph 6 could be best replaced by:
 - A. imitate
 - B. imagine
 - C. eliminate
 - D. utilize
8. What does the writer imply about MySpace?
 - A. It was the first social networking site.
 - B. It was successful.
 - C. People could enjoy the content it provided.
 - D. It destroyed the internet like a storm.
9. What is most important for web 2.0 companies to be successful?
 - A. Users' desire to communicate with each other
 - B. Users' desire to read interesting content written by professionals
 - C. Users' desire to learn coding
 - D. Users' intelligence
10. What is the writer's purpose?
 - A. to advertise for web 2.0 companies
 - B. to persuade people to develop social networking sites
 - C. to give information about social networking sites
 - D. to criticize social networking sites

PASSAGE 2 – Questions 11-20

Floods are second only to fire as the most common of all natural disasters. **They** occur almost everywhere in the world, resulting in widespread damage and even death. Consequently, scientists have long tried to perfect their ability to predict floods. So far, the best that scientists can do is to recognize the potential for flooding in certain conditions. There are at least a number of conditions, from deep snow on the ground to human error, that cause flooding.

The first cause of flooding is deep snow on the ground. When deep snow melts, it creates a large amount of water. Although deep snow alone rarely causes floods, when it occurs together with heavy rain and sudden warmer weather, it can lead to serious flooding. If there is a fast snow melt on top of frozen or very wet ground, flooding is more likely to occur than when the ground is not frozen. Frozen ground or ground that is very wet and already saturated with water cannot absorb the additional water created by the melting snow. Melting snow also contributes to high water levels in rivers and streams. Whenever rivers are already at their full capacity of water, heavy rains will result in the rivers overflowing and flooding the surrounding land.

Secondly, rivers that are covered in ice can also lead to flooding. When ice begins to melt, the surface of the ice cracks and breaks into large pieces. These pieces of ice move and float down the river. They can form a dam in the river, causing the water behind the dam to rise and flood the land upstream. If the dam breaks suddenly, then the large amount of water held behind the dam can flood the areas downstream too.



Broken ice dams are not the only dam problems that can cause flooding. Those carelessly constructed by humans can also result in floods. When a large human-made dam breaks or fails to hold the water collected behind it, the results can be **devastating**. Dams contain such huge amounts of water behind them that when sudden breaks occur, the destructive force of the water is like a great **tidal wave**. Unleashed dam waters can travel tens of kilometres, cover the ground in metres of mud and debris, and drown and crush every thing and creature in their path.

Although scientists cannot always predict exactly when floods will occur, they do know a great deal about when floods are likely, or probably, going to occur. Deep snow, ice-covered rivers, and weak dams are all strong conditions for potential flooding. Hopefully, this knowledge of why floods happen can help us reduce the damage they cause.

11. What is the most common natural disaster?

- A. flood
- B. fire
- C. tidal wave
- D. rain

12. What does the word **they** in paragraph 2 refer to?

- A. floods
- B. disasters
- C. scientists
- D. conditions

13. Which of the following best describes how deep snow causes flooding?

- A. melting snow that creates a large amount of water causes flooding.
- B. freezing water causes flooding.
- C. melting snow combining with considerable amount of rain and sudden increase in temperature leads to flooding.
- D. snow that melts in wet weather causes flooding.

14. Why does saturated ground contribute to flooding problems?

- A. the ground cannot absorb more water
- B. the ground is too hard, so the water runs off
- C. the ground forms a kind of dam
- D. it remains frozen

15. How can a frozen river cause a flood?

- A. The ice in the river melts too quickly and causes a flood.
- B. The ice in the river cracks causing the water to overflow.
- C. The ice in the river cracks into pieces that eventually create a dam causing the water to overflow.
- D. The water behind the ice dam collects and when the dam breaks, it causes flooding upstream.

16. Why does the writer mention **tidal wave** in paragraph 4?

- A. to compare the force of a broken human-made dam
- B. to introduce another natural disaster
- C. to emphasize the effects of natural disasters
- D. to criticize dam designers

17. How far can dam water travel when it is unleashed from a broken dam?

- A. less than 10 kilometres
- B. tens of kilometres
- C. thousands of kilometres
- D. tens of thousands of kilometres downstream

18. The word **devastating** in paragraph 4 has the closest meaning to

- A. fabulous
- B. uncountable
- C. priceless
- D. disastrous

19. Which of the following is not mentioned as a cause for flood in the reading passages?

- A. melting snow
- B. ice-covered rivers
- C. broken dams
- D. poorly built roads

20. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- A. Scientists know very little about floods.
- B. Potential flooding cannot be predicted.
- C. Consequences of flooding can be reduced if its causes are identified.
- D. There are only three conditions for potential flooding.

PASSAGE 3 Questions 21-30

 **LIVEWORKSHEETS**