

Name: _____

E.L.A – Reading Comprehension

Test: 1

Term: 2

Total: 20 marks

Read the passage. Using complete sentences, answer the following questions.

The Caribs were taller than the Arawaks, but still only medium height. They were described as being stronger than the Arawaks due to the emphasis placed on training for fighting. They were probably fitter and leaner than the Arawaks because of their diets and way of life.

The women painted their bodies with **roucou** and made fantastic decorations in many colours. The men painted their bodies too, and sometimes wore feathered head-dresses and jewellery through their lips and noses. The **caracoli** was a necklace of small bones and teeth of victims, from which a crescent-shaped ornament was suspended. It showed the wearer's courage. The women wore **rassada** round their arms and legs.

The Caribs had short heads and, like the Arawaks, they flattened the foreheads of babies. This may have been because Caribs frequently carried off Arawaks women in raids and they continued this practice. Caribs had long, straight, black hair which they combed and dressed with oil. They had a complete absence of body hair.

Questions: The Caribs

1. Why were the Caribs considered to be stronger than the Arawaks? (2mks)

2. What was 'roucou' used for? (2mks)

3. How did a Carib warrior show his courage? (2mks)

4. 'The Caribs continued this practice'. What practice is referred to here, in this passage? (2mks)

5. State the possible reasons why the Caribs appeared to be fitter and leaner than the Arawaks. (2mks)

6. Write the sentence from the passage which explains why Caribs males had no beards. (2mks)

7. Give the Caribs words from the passage which mean the following. (2mks)

i. necklace _____

ii. bracelets _____

8. Write the words from the passage which mean the following: (2mks)

i. wonderful _____

ii. hung _____

9. According to the passage, what practice did the Carib men carry out now and then. (2mks)

10. In ONE sentence, state what the extract is about. (2mks)
