

READING COMPREHENSION EXERCISE

Exercise 1: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

The difference between the nuclear family and the extended family is that a nuclear family refers to a single basic family unit of parents and their children, whereas the extended family refers to their relatives such as grandparents, in-laws, aunts and uncles, etc. In many cultures, and particularly indigenous societies, **the latter** is the most common basic form of social organization.

A nuclear family is limited, according to Kristy Jackson of Colorado State University, to one or two parents (e.g. a father and mother) and their own child, or children, living together in a single house or other dwellings. In anthropology, they only must be related in this fashion; there is no upper or lower limit on the number of children in a nuclear family.

The extended family is a much more **nebulous** term, but in essence refers to kin or relations not covered by the above definition. In historical Europe and Asia as well as in Middle Eastern, African, and South American Aboriginal cultures, extended family groups were typically the most basic unit of social organization. The term can differ in specific cultural settings, but generally includes people related in age or by lineage.

Anthropologically, the term "extended family" refers to such a group living together in a household, often with three generations living together (grandparents, parents, and children) and headed in **patriarchal** societies by the eldest man or by some other chosen leadership figure. However, in common parlance, the term "extended family" is often used by people simply to refer to their cousins, aunts, uncles, and so on, even though they are not living together in a single group.

Question 1: What is the passage mainly about?

- A. The dominance of nuclear families over extended ones
- B. The dominance of extended families over nuclear ones
- C. A distinction between nuclear families and extended ones
- D. The changes of family types over times

Question 2: The word "**the latter**" in paragraph 1 refers to _____.

- A. family unit
- B. relatives
- C. the nuclear family
- D. the extended family

Question 3: The word "**nebulous**" in passage 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. ambiguous
- B. featured
- C. difficult
- D. incomprehensive

Question 4: Historically, extended families were the most basic unit of social organization in all of the following places EXCEPT _____.

- A. The Middle East
- B. Asia
- C. North America
- D. Europe

Question 5: The word "**patriarchal**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. ruled or controlled by men
- B. equal for both men and women
- C. simple with no rules and laws
- D. modern with advanced facilities

Question 6: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. Since the 20th century, more and more American couples have lived in extended families because of the financial burdens.
- B. Nuclear families are the most basic form of social organization all over the world.
- C. The popularity of nuclear families in western countries helps to stabilize family arrangement
- D. Traditional nuclear families have changed a lot over times.

Question 7: What can be inferred from the reading passage?

- A. Indigenous communities have been completely eradicated all over the world.
- B. In the future, all extended families will be replaced by nuclear ones.
- C. Anthropology is a science concerning human race and its development.
- D. Couples with no children can't be defined as families.

Exercise 2: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

People have been donating blood since the early twentieth century to help accident victims and patients undergoing surgical procedures. Usually a pint of whole blood is donated, and it is then divided into platelets, white blood cells, and red blood cells. People can donate blood (for red blood cells) about once every two months. Transfusing the blood from the donor to the recipient is straightforward. It involves taking the blood from a donor's arm vein by means of a hypodermic syringe. The blood flows through a plastic tube to a collection bag or bottle that contains sodium citrate, which prevents the blood from clotting. When the blood is given to a patient, a plastic tube and hypodermic needle are connected to the recipient's arm. The blood flows down from the container by gravity. This is a slow process and may last as long as 2 hours to complete the infusion of blood into the recipient. The patient is protected from being infected during the transfusion. Only sterile containers, tubing, and needles are used, and this helps ensure that transfused or stored blood is not exposed to disease causing bacteria. Negative reactions to transfusions are not unusual. The recipient may suffer an allergic reaction or be sensitive to donor leukocytes. Some may suffer from an **undetected** red cell incompatibility. Unexplained reactions are also fairly common, Although they are rare, other causes of such negative reactions include contaminated blood, air bubbles in the blood, overloading of the circulatory system through administration of excess blood, or sensitivity to donor plasma or platelets. Today, hospitals and blood banks **go to great lengths** to screen all blood donors and their blood. All donated blood is routinely and rigorously tested for diseases, such as HIV, hepatitis B, and syphilis. When the recipient is a newborn or an infant, the blood is usually irradiated to eliminate harmful elements. Donated blood is washed, and the white blood cells and platelets removed. Storing the blood sometimes requires a freezing process.

To freeze the red blood cells, a glycerol solution is added. To unfreeze, the glycerol is removed. The ability to store blood for long periods has been a boon to human health.

Question 1: The word "it" refers to _____.

- A. surgical procedures
- B. accident victims
- C. a pint of whole blood
- D. surgery patients

Question 2: According to the passage, how often can people donate blood for red blood cells?

- A. Every four months
- B. Every three months
- C. Every two months
- D. Every month

Question 3: All of the following are mentioned as potential negative reactions to transfusion

EXCEPT _____.

- A. Sensitivity to donor leukocytes
- B. Air bubbles in the blood
- C. Allergies
- D. Red-cell incompatibility

Question 4: What answer choice is closest in meaning to the word "undetected"?

- A. not illustrated
- B. not captured
- C. not found
- D. not wanted

Question 5: What can the phrase "go to great length" best be replaced by?

- A. irradiate
- B. test rigorously
- C. monitor routinely
- D. removed

Question 6: Based on the information in the passage, what can be inferred about blood transfused to infants and newborns?

- A. It is treated with radiant energy.
- B. It is not treated differently from adults.
- C. It is not dangerous for children.
- D. It is rigorously tested as blood for adults.

Question 7: What does the author imply in the passage?

- A. Donating blood benefits mankind.
- B. Clotting cannot be prevented.
- C. Freezing blood destroys platelets.
- D. Transfusing blood is a dangerous process.

Exercise 3: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Successful students often do the followings while studying. First, they have an overview before reading. Next, they look for important information and pay greater attention to it [which often needs jumping forward or backward to process information). They also relate important points to one another. Also, they activate and use their **prior** knowledge. When they realize that their understanding is not good, they do not wait to change strategies. Last, they can monitor understanding and take action to correct or "fix up" mistakes in comprehension.

Conversely, students with low academic achievement often demonstrate ineffective study skills.

They tend to assume a passive role, in learning and rely on others (e.g., teachers, parents) to monitor their studying, for example, low-achieving students often do not monitor their understanding of content; they may not be aware of the purpose of studying; and they show little evidence of looking back, or employing "fix-up" strategies to fix understanding problems. Students who struggle with learning new information seem to be unaware that they must exert effort beyond simply reading the content to understand and remember it. Children with learning disabilities do not plan and judge the quality of their studying. Their studying may be disorganized. Students with learning problems face challenges with personal organization as well. They often have difficulty keeping track of materials and assignments, following directions, and completing work on time. Unlike good students who employ a variety of study skills in a flexible yet purposeful manner, low-achieving students use a restricted range of study skills. **They** cannot explain why good study strategies are important for learning; and they tend to use the same, often ineffective study approach for all learning tasks, ignoring task content, structure or difficulty.

(Source: *Adapted from Study Skills: Managing Your Learning — NUI Galway*)

Question 1. *What is the topic of the passage?*

- A. Successful and low-academic achieving students
- B. Successful learners and their learning strategies
- C. Study skills for high school students
- D. Effective and ineffective ways of learning

Question 2. The word "**prior**" in the first paragraph is closest meaning to _____?

- A. important
- B. earlier
- C. forward
- D. good

Question 3. Which of the following could best replace the word "**Conversely**" in paragraph 2?

- A. On the contrary
- B. In contrast
- C. On the other hand
- D. all are correct

Question 4: According to the passage, what can be learnt about passive students?

- A. They depend on other people to organize their learning
- B. They are slow in their studying
- C. They monitor their understanding
- D. They know the purpose of studying

Question 5: Which of the followings is **NOT** an evidence of monitoring studying?

- A. Being aware of the purpose of studying
- B. Monitoring their understanding of content
- C. Fixing up mistakes in understanding
- D. Looking at their backs

Question 6: According to the passage, to learn new information, low-achieving students do **NOT**

-
- A. just understand it
 - B. relate it to what they have known
 - C. simply remember it
 - D. read it

Question 7: In compared with low-achieving students, successful students use_____.

A. aimless study techniques

B. various study skills

C. restricted strategies

D. inflexible study ways

Question 8: The underlined pronoun "**They**" in the last sentence refers to _____.

A. study strategies

B. study skills

C. low-achieving students

D. good studiers

Exercise 4: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Facebook users spend an average of more than 15 hours a month on the social networking site. While there are plenty who caution against such intensive use — and there are a number of studies detailing the harm Facebook could potentially cause — there also are lots of reports extolling the site's virtues. As the social media giant prepares for its upcoming initial public offering, here are some ways Facebook just might be good for you.

Spending time on Facebook can help people relax, slow down their heart rate and decrease stress levels, according to researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Milan. In a study published earlier this year, researchers studied 30 students and found that a natural high was **sparked** when they were on the social media network that led to the relaxed heart rates and lower levels of stress and tension. In the study, the students were monitored in three situations: looking at panoramic landscapes, performing complicated mathematical equations and using Facebook. While the first situation was the most relaxing to students and the math problems were the most stressful, the time on Facebook uncovered high levels of attractiveness and arousal. The findings support the researchers' hypothesis that Facebook's success, as well as that of other social media networks, correlates to the specific positive mental and physical state users experience.

While many may argue that social media networks only distract employees, research shows the opposite may be true. Research from Keas.com found that a 10-minute Facebook break makes employees happier, healthier and more productive. The study examined workers in three groups:

one that was allowed no breaks, one that was allowed to do anything but use the Internet and **one** that was allowed 10 minutes to use the Internet and Facebook. The Facebook group was found to be 16 percent more productive than the group that was not allowed to use the Internet and nearly 40 percent more productive than the group that was allowed no breaks. "Short and unobtrusive breaks, such as a quick surf on the Internet, enables the mind to rest itself, leading to a higher net total concentration for a day's work, and as a result, increased productivity," said Brent Coker of the department of management and marketing at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

Facebook is also in the business of matchmaking. Research shows that nearly 60 percent of singles will friend someone new on Facebook after meeting them in person. If they like what they see, 25 percent are likely to contact their new love interest via Facebook. Once the **courting** is over,

nearly 40 percent of those social networking adults will update their relationship status on Facebook, with just 24 percent telling their friends first. Facebook use between couples will continue through the dating process, the research shows. Throughout the day, 79 percent of couples said they send partners Facebook messages or chat on the social network. In addition, more than 60 percent would post romantic messages on their significant other's Facebook wall. When the relationship ends, more than half of those surveyed immediately update their status to single, which automatically sends out a notification to their friend list to start the dating cycle over again.

(Source: <https://www.businessnewsdaily.com/>)

Question 1: Which of the following could be the main idea of the passage?

- A. The benefits that Facebook might bring you.
- B. The disadvantages that Facebook causes in the modern life.
- C. The classes are most influenced by Facebook.
- D. The functions that are used most on Facebook.

Question 2: The word "sparked" in the second paragraph probably means _____.

- A. produced
- B. reduced
- C. prevented
- D. controlled

Question 3: According to paragraph 2, what do the scientists discover in their study?

- A. Spending too much time on Facebook may increase levels of pressure and heart disease,
- B. Students often suffer from stress when they are working with something related to mathematics.
- C. Facebook can make its users more optimistic and aroused.
- D. The success of Facebook may motivate the development of other social networks.

Question 4: The word "**one**" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

- A. the study
- B. a group
- C. the Internet
- D. a research

Question 5: Why does Facebook motivate the productivity of employees?

- A. Because the Internet distracts users to take breaks out of work.
- B. Because it helps people refresh their mind and then enhance the concentration on work.
- C. Because employees are happy with what they read on the Face book.
- D. Because they are allowed to relax after a hard work.

Question 6: The word "**courting**" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. dating
- B. marriage
- C. divorce
- D. making

acquaintance **Question 7:** Which of the following is **NOT** correct about the impact of Facebook on users' relationship?

- A. More than half of single people tend to make new friends on Facebook after a face-to-face contact
- B. Married people often use Facebook to keep in touch with their spouse.
- C. Not many people change the relationship status to single after their breakdown.
- D. Adults are more likely to update their relationship status on Facebook than to tell their friends about that.

Question 8: Which of the following could best describe the tone of the passage?

- A. Informative B. Argumentative C. Sarcastic D. Ironic

Exercise 5: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Environmental pollution is one of the impacts of human activities on the Earth. Pollution occurs when pollutants contaminate the natural surroundings; which brings about changes that affect our normal lifestyles adversely. Pollution disturbs our ecosystem and the balance in the environment. Pollution occurs in different forms; air, water, soil, radioactive, noise, heat/ thermal and light Let us discuss the causes and effects of air pollution on mankind and the environment as a whole.

Air pollution is the most prominent and dangerous form of pollution. It occurs due to many reasons. Excessive burning of fuel which is a necessity of our daily lives for cooking, driving and other industrial activities; releases a huge amount of chemical substances in the air every day; **these** pollute the air. Smoke from chimneys, factories, vehicles or burning of wood basically occurs due to coal burning; this releases sulphur dioxide into the air making it toxic.

The effects of air pollution are evident too. The increase in the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere leads to smog which can restrict sunlight from reaching the earth. Thus, preventing plants in the process of photosynthesis. Gases like sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxide (NO) can cause acid rain.

The decrease in quality of air leads to several **respiratory** problems including asthma or lung cancer. Chest pain, congestion, throat inflammation, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease are some of diseases that can be caused by air pollution.

The emission of greenhouse gases particularly CO₂ is leading to global warming. Every other day new industries are being set up, new vehicles come on roads and trees are cut to make way for new homes. All of them, in direct or indirect way lead to increase in CO₂ in the environment. The increase in CO₂ leads to melting of polar ice caps which increases the sea level and pose danger for the people living near coastal areas.

Ozone layer is the thin shield high up in the sky that stops ultra violet rays from reaching the earth. As a result of human activities, chemicals, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), were released into the atmosphere which contributed to the depletion of ozone layer.

(Source: <https://goo.gl/RpdPw3>)

Question 1: What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. How pollutants contaminate the natural surroundings
B. The causes and effects of air pollution.
C. Our ecosystem and the balance in the environment
D. Some solutions to air pollution.

Question 2: The word "**these**" in paragraph 2 refers to

A. chemical substances

B. industrial activities

C. our daily lives

D. excessive burning of fuel for cooking, driving

Question 3: How many diseases are mentioned in the passage?

A. 5

B. 6

C. 7

D. 8

Question 4: The word "respiratory" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to

A. connected with the digestion of food

B. connected with breathing

C. connected with the skeleton of a person

D. connected with the body's brain

Question 5: According to paragraph 5, air pollution contributes to the greenhouse effect which can lead to

A. global warming

B. polar ice melting

C. increase in CO₂ in the environment

D. global warming, polar ice melting, rise of sea levels and danger for people.

Question 6: According to the passage, which of the following sentences is NOT true?

A. Ozone layer can't stop ultra violet rays from reaching the earth anymore.

B. The toxic air is caused by sulphur dioxide which is released from coal burning.

C. When the amount of CO₂ in the air increases, it prevents plants in the process of photosynthesis.

D. There are other different types of pollution besides air pollution.

Question 7: Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

A. The more modern our lives become, the more serious the pollution is.

B. People can control air pollution soon in the future.

C. Only air pollution is dangerous and has a negative impact on humans and the environment.

D. CO₂ is the cause of the depletion of ozone layer.

Exercise 6: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

EDUCATION IN THE FUTURE

Education is another area of social life in which information technology is changing the way we communicate. Today's college students may not simply sit in a lecture or a library to learn about their field. Through their computers and the wonders of virtual reality they can participate in lifelike simulated experiences. Consider the following scenario of the future of education made possible through developments in information technology.

For children over the age of 10, daily attendance at schools is not compulsory. Some of the older children attend school only once or twice weekly to get tutorial support or instruction from a teacher. For the most part, pupils are encouraged to work online from home. Students must complete a minimum

number of study hours per year; however, **they** may make up these hours by studying at home at times that suit their family schedule. They can log on early or late in the day and even join live classes in other countries. In order to ensure that each student is learning adequately, computer software will automatically monitor the number of hours a week each student studies online as well as that students' learning materials and assessment activities. Reports will be available for parents and teachers. The software can then identify the best learning activities and condition for each individual student and generate similar activities. It can also identify areas of weak achievement and produce special programs adjusted to the students' needs.

(Source: <http://www.edudernic.com/technology-pros-cons/>)

Question 1. What is the topic of the passage?

- A. The effect of information technology on education.
- B. Students don't have to go to school any more.
- C. Computer software will make sure students learn at home.
- D. Students can know about their weak aspects to focus.

Question 2. How many times are children who are older than 10 required to go to school weekly?

- A. No time
- B. Once or twice
- C. Three
- D. Four

Question 3. Which of the following could best replace the word "**encouraged**"?

- A. discouraged
- B. emboldened
- C. allowed
- D. banned

Question 4. The word "**they**" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- A. students
- B. study hours
- C. children
- D. Older children

Question 5. Who/What counts the number of hours per week that students spend learning?

- A. Virtual reality
- B. Teacher
- C. Parents
- D. Computer software

Question 6. What **CAN'T** the software do?

- A. Monitor the time the students learn.
- B. Design materials for the students.
- C. Find out the best activities for the students.
- D. Identify weaknesses of the students.

Question 7. What is **NOT** mentioned as a benefit of information technology to the students?

- A. Students can stay at home to learn.
- B. Students can learn at times that suit their schedule.
- C. Students' learning time won't be monitored.
- D. Students' weak achievement can be identified.

Exercise 7: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

The Rise of Robots

As kids, our grandparents frequently scared us by talking about how difficult life was when they were growing up. They mentioned walking miles to school in the snow, or doing hours of manual labour for little pay. Life has changed greatly since then, and it seems to get easier year by year. In fact, with the help of robots we soon might have to do much at all. But is this a good thing?

By 2030, it's estimated that robotics will be a \$10 billion business worldwide. Companies are already starting to integrate them into the workforce. The electronics manufacturer Foxconn is drawing up plans to launch a factory within the next 10 years that's completely staffed by robot workers. Meanwhile, an American company Briggo has invented a robot that serves gourmet-quality coffee to customers. With the push of a button it will crush coffee beans, measure exact quantities of water, and even wave a steam wand to ensure customers get the perfect cream on top. Unlike human baristas, it can serve multiple drinks at once and work all day and night without a break.

Robots are also invading our homes. The Rooma is a mini-robot that vacuums rooms automatically according to a schedule. The Robomow is a device that will cut the grass for you while you sit in the shade. Then there's the Nanda clocky, an alarm clock that makes sure that even the deepest sleepers get up on time. The clock is attached to a pair of wheels, and it will randomly move around the room. Once you finally catch it, you're probably too awake to hit the snooze button. Although these early home robots are somewhat basic, they will likely become more capable as times goes on.

Although robots certainly help us to eliminate **tedious** tasks, many people are concerned about a future filled with robots. Some fear that humanity will start to decline if machines do everything for us. Others have even warned about the robot rebellion, in which robots become so smart that they may decide to turn on their masters. These ideas may seem a bit far-fetched, but there are certainly lots of questions that need to be answered before everyone opens up to the idea of a robotic future.

(Source: <https://goagi/ZAhTBI>)

Question 1. How is Briggo's invention superior to human workers?

- A. It is more knowledgeable about coffee-making.
- B. It is better at conversation.
- C. It never has to stop.
- D. It can operate machinery.

Question 2. What would happen if you pressed the snooze button?

- A. You would have to wake up immediately
- B. The alarm clock would turn off forever
- C. The alarm would stop, but go off again soon
- D. Nothing would happen at all

Question 3. Which of the following is NOT true about the concerns over robots?

- A. It takes some time for people to accept robots.
- B. Robots may do some harm to humans.
- C. The idea of robotics may seem far-fetched.
- D. Robots may be dominant at the workplace.

Question 4. The word "**tedious**" in the last paragraph mostly means _____.

A. boring

B. difficult

C. intelligent

D. expensive

Question 5. What is the last paragraph mainly about?

A. Some reasons why people don't accept robots yet.

B. A very amusing science-fiction story about robots.

C. How people in local communities are supporting robots.

D. A few of the latest robots on the market today.

Question 6. According to the first paragraph, how is the life changed since our parents time?

A. The education system has got much worse

B. Things aren't as hard as they once were

C. Children have to walk longer distance to school

D. It hasn't changed much at all

Question 7. All of the following are true about robots EXCEPT that _____.

A. they can work all day and night without break

B. they have greater capabilities

C. they can draw up plans to launch a story

D. they can do boring tasks for human

Question 8. We can infer from the passage that _____.

A. present domestic robots can work without any programs

B. the communication will decline with the use of robots

C. a robot rebellion can happen daily

D. robotics will have been a major business by 2030

Exercise 8: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Scientists have uncovered a new threat to the world's endangered coral reefs. They have found that most are incapable of growing quickly enough to **compensate** for rising sea levels triggered by global warming. The study suggests that reefs - which are already suffering serious degradation because the world's seas are warming and becoming more acidic - could also become overwhelmed by rising oceans.

The research - led by scientists at Exeter University and published in *Nature* this week - involved studying growth rates for more than 200 tropical western Atlantic and Indian Ocean reefs. It was found only 9% of these reefs had the ability to keep up with even the most optimistic rates of sea-level rises forecast by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. "For many reefs across the Caribbean and Indian Ocean regions, where the study focused, rates of growth are slowing due to coral reef degradation," said Professor Chris Perry, of Exeter University. "Meanwhile, rates of sea-level rise are increasing - and our results suggest reefs will be unable to

keep up. As a result, water depths above most reefs will increase rapidly through this century.”

Sea levels rose by several inches over the past century and measurements indicate the speed of this increase is now rising significantly. Two key factors are involved: climate change is making ocean water warmer and so it expands. And as ice sheets and glaciers melt, they increase amounts of water in the oceans.

At the same time, reefs are being weakened by ocean warming and also by ocean acidification, triggered as the seas absorb more and more carbon dioxide. **These effects** lead to bleaching events that kill off vast stretches of coral and limits their ability to grow.

“Our predictions, even under the best case scenarios, suggest that by 2100, the **inundation** of reefs will expose coastal communities to significant threats of shoreline change,” said co-author Prof Peter Mumby of Queensland University. This point was backed by US marine scientist Ilsa

Ruffner writing in a separate comment piece for *Nature*. “The implications of the study are dire. Many island nations and territories are set to quickly lose crucial natural resources.”

(Source: <https://www.theguardian.com>)

Question 1: Which of the following does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. Sea levels will become the main factor of bleaching.
- B. Coral reefs will be overwhelmed by rising oceans.
- C. Coral reefs may escape from extinction because of the increase in sea levels.
- D. Global warming will cause the rise of sea levels.

Question 2: What does the word "**compensate**" in the first paragraph probably mean?

- A. recompense
- B. keep up with
- C. develop
- D. benefit

Question 3: What did scientists at Exeter University find in their research?

- A. Tropical coral reefs are increasing more quickly than others in Pacific Ocean.
- B. The majority of tropical coral reefs cannot keep pace with the increasing rate of sea levels.
- C. Many coral reefs are developing in spite of their degradation.
- D. The rapid rise in sea levels does not affect the density of coral reefs.

Question 4: According to the passage, the two factors causing the rise of sea levels are _____.

- A. global warming and freeze
- B. severe weather and climate change
- C. climate change and ice expansion
- D. climate change and ice melt

Question 5: What does the phrase "**these effects**" in paragraph 4 refer to?

- A. ocean warming and ocean acidification
- B. reef weakening and ocean warming
- C. reef weakening and ocean acidification
- D. ocean warming and CO2 absorb

Question 6: The word "**inundation**" is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. drought
- B. extinction
- C. flood
- D. tsunami

Question 7: The author implies in the last paragraph that _____.

- A. even in the most optimistic prediction, coral reefs will experience their extinction.
- B. the results of the study are more serious than what scientists have predicted.
- C. human activities will not only affect marine life but also put themselves at risk.
- D. people often exploit natural resources in island nations and territories.

Exercise 9: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Plastic bags are used by everybody. From a vegetable vendor to a designer store, everyone seems to use them. Even though they are one of the modern conveniences that we seem to be unable to do without, they are responsible for causing pollution, killing wildlife, and using up the precious resources of the Earth. But, most of us are blissfully unaware of the **repercussions** that are occurring and will take place in the future because of the plastic bags.

Every once in a while, the government passes out an order banning store owners from providing plastic bags to customers for carrying their purchases, with little lasting effect. Plastic bags are very popular with both retailers as well as consumers because they are cheap, strong, lightweight, functional, as well as a hygienic means of carrying food as well as other goods. About a hundred billion plastic bags are used every year in the U.S. alone. And then, when one considers the huge economies and populations of India, China, Europe, and other parts of the world, the numbers can be staggering. The problem is further exacerbated by the developed countries shipping off their plastic waste to developing countries like India.

Once they are used, most bags go into landfills. Each year, more and more bags are ending up littering the environment. Once they become litter, plastic bags find their way into our waterways, parks, beaches, and streets. And, if they are burned, they infuse the air with toxic fumes. About 100,000 animals, such as dolphins, turtles, whales, penguins are killed every year due to these bags. Many animals ingest plastic bags, mistaking them for food, and therefore, die. And worse, the ingested plastic bag remains **intact** even after the death and decomposition of the animal. Thus, it lies around in the landscape where another victim may ingest it. One of the worst environmental effects is that they are non-biodegradable. The decomposition takes about 400 years. No one will live so long to witness the decomposition of plastic! Thus, save the environment for the future generations as well as animals.

Petroleum products are diminishing and getting more expensive by the day, since we have used this non-renewable resource increasingly. And to make plastic, about 60-100 million barrels of oil are needed every year around the world. Surely, this precious resource should not be wasted on producing plastic bags, should it? Petroleum is vital for our modern way of life. It is necessary for our energy requirements - for our factories, transportation, heating, lighting, and so on. Without viable alternative sources of energy yet on the horizon, if the supply of petroleum were to be turned off, it would lead to practically the entire world grinding to a halt.

So, what can be done? A tote bag can make a good substitute for carrying groceries and the shopping. You can keep the bag with the cashier, and then put your purchases into **it** instead of the usual plastic bag. Recycling the bags you already have is another good idea. These can come into use for various purposes, like holding your garbage, instead of purchasing new ones. While governments may be working out ways to lessen the impact of plastic bags on the environment; however, each of us should shoulder some of the responsibility for this problem, which ultimately harms us. Plastics are not only non- biodegradable, but are one of the major pollutants of the sea. For a clean and green environment, try to use alternatives to plastic whenever and wherever possible. Cut down your use of plastic, and do your bit to save our planet.

(Source:
<https://helpsa.venature.com/>)

Question 1: Which of the following could be the best title of the passage?

- A. Plastic pollution - Problems and solutions.
- B. Harmful effects of plastic bags on the environment.
- C. Plastic pollution - What should we do?
- D. Plastic bags - New threat for the environment,

Question 2: What is the synonym of the word "**repercussions**" in the first paragraph?

- A. situation
- B. interference
- C. contamination
- D. consequence

Question 3: According to the second paragraph, what is NOT true about the reality of plastic bags?

- A. The more population a country has, the more complicated the plastic pollution is.
- B. Plastic bags are often used because of their convenience.
- C. Importing plastic waste from developed countries makes the problem more sophisticated.
- D. The governments do not prohibit the use of plastic bags at the stores.

Question 4: The following are the negative effects of plastic bags on the environment,

EXCEPT _____.

- A. They make water, soil and air polluted.
- B. Marine animals may die because of eating plastic bags.
- C. It takes plastic bags a very long time to be biodegraded.
- D. People do not live long enough to check whether plastic bags are decomposed or not.

Question 5: The word "**intact**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. undamaged
- B. broken
- C. harmful
- D. dangerous

Question 6: According to the passage, petroleum is described as a resource that _____ .

- A. increases the cost of products.
- B. is wasted on many energy demands of life.
- C. is indispensable in almost all activities of the modern world.
- D. is replaced by other alternatives in producing plastic bags.

Question 7: What does the word "**it**" in the last paragraph refer to?

A. the cashier

B. the bag

C. the shopping

D. a good substitute

Question 8: What does the author suggest in the last paragraph?

- A. Plastic bags should be limited as much as possible to save the Earth from their harmful impacts.
- B. Each individual should reuse their plastic bags to save money for other purchases.
- C. The governments should cooperate with every citizen in cleaning the plastic bags in the polluted oceans.
- D. It is easier to keep the environment clean at first than to save it after it is polluted.

Exercise 10: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Deforestation is the clearing, destroying, or otherwise removal of trees through deliberate, natural or accidental means. It can occur in any area densely populated by trees and other plant life, but the majority of it is currently happening in the Amazon rainforest. The loss of trees and other vegetation can cause climate change, desertification, soil erosion, fewer crops, flooding, increased greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and a host of problems for **indigenous** people.

Deforestation occurs for a number of reasons, including: farming, mostly cattle due to its quick turn around; and logging for materials and development. It has been happening for thousands of years, arguably since man began converting from hunter/gatherer to agricultural based societies, and required larger, unobstructed tracks of land to accommodate cattle, crops, and housing. It was only after the onset of the modern era that it became an epidemic.

One of the most dangerous and unsettling effects of deforestation is the loss of animal and plant species due to their loss of habitat; not only do we lose those known to us, but also those unknown, potentially an even greater loss. Seventy percent of Earth's land animals and plants live in forests, and many cannot survive the deforestation that destroys their homes. The trees of the rainforest that provide shelter for some species also provide the canopy that regulates the temperature, a necessity for many **others**. Its removal through deforestation would allow a more drastic temperature variation from day to night, much like a desert, which could prove fatal for current inhabitants.

In addition to the loss of habitat, the lack of trees also allows a greater amount of greenhouse gases to be released into the atmosphere. Presently, the tropical rainforests of South America are responsible for 20% of Earth's oxygen and they are disappearing at a rate of 4 hectares a decade. If these rates are not stopped and reversed, the consequences will become even more severe.

The trees also help control the level of water in the atmosphere by helping to regulate the water cycle. With fewer trees left, due to deforestation, there is less water in the air to be returned to the soil. In turn, this causes dryer soil and the inability to grow crops, an ironic twist when considered against the fact that 80% of deforestation comes from small-scale agriculture and cattle ranching.

Further effects of deforestation include soil erosion and coastal flooding, In addition to their

previously mentioned roles, trees also function to retain water and topsoil, which provides the rich nutrients to sustain additional forest life. Without them, the soil erodes and washes away, causing farmers to move on and **perpetuate** the cycle. The barren land which is left behind in the wake of these unsustainable agricultural practices is then more susceptible to flooding, specifically in coastal regions. Coastal vegetation lessens the impact of waves and winds associated with a storm surge. Without this vegetation, coastal villages are susceptible to damaging floods.

(Source: [haps://www.pacharnarna.org/](http://www.pacharnarna.org/))

Question 1: What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. The definition of deforestation.
- B. The negative impacts of deforestation.
- C. The reasons why deforestation occurs frequently.
- D. The effective solutions to solve the deforestation all over the world.

Question 2: The word "**indigenous**" in the first paragraph probably means_____.

- A. foreign
- B. agrarian
- C. native
- D. mountainous

Question 3: Which of the following is **NOT** stated as the reason of deforestation in paragraph 2?

- A. cutting trees for wood
- B. ranching cattle
- C. cultivating
- D. hunting for food.

Question 4: What does the word "**others**" in the third paragraph refer?

- A. canopy
- B. species
- C. rainforest
- D. trees

Question 5: The following are negative effects of deforestation, **EXCEPT**_____.

- A. Myriad flora and fauna species have been eradicated before we discover them.
- B. The alteration of temperature in a complete day is becoming more radical due to the loss of trees.
- C. The soil is infertile to grow crops because of the shortage of rain and erosion.
- D. More and more animals have to find a place of refuge under the canopy of leaves.

Question 6: The word "**perpetuate**" in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to_____.

- A. maintain
- B. stop
- C. prevent
- D. start

Question 7: Coastal regions are mentioned in the last paragraph as an example of regions that_____.

- A. are easy to be vulnerable in a storm surge.
- B. are left behind because of the reduction of forests.
- C. are not much influenced by flood.
- D. often experience droughts or erosion.

Question 8: The paragraph following the last paragraph in the passage may probably discuss_____.

- A. a number of disadvantages that deforestation puts local people at.
- B. some drastic measures that should be taken to deal with deforestation.
- C. the reality of deforestation in some specific countries.
- D. some scientists' perspectives about deforestation

