



SLIAET

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION
(Established in the Ministry of Higher Education, vide in Act No. 29 of 1995)

Higher National Diploma in English

First Year, 2nd Semester Examination – 2017

EN-1211 Intermediate Reading Skills & Vocabulary Development

Full time & Part time

Instructions for Candidates:

Answer any five (05) questions only.

No of pages : 08

All questions carry equal marks.

No of questions : 06

Time : Three (03) hours

01) Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below.

The coral reefs of Agatti island

A) Agatti is one of the Lakshadweep Islands off the southwest coast of India. These islands are surrounded by lagoons and coral reefs which are in turn surrounded by the open ocean. Coral reefs, which are formed from the skeletons of minute sea creatures, give shelter to a variety of plants and animals, and therefore have the potential to provide a stream of diverse benefits to the inhabitants of Agatti Island.

B) In the first place, the reefs provide food and other products for consumption by the islanders themselves. Foods include different types of fish, octopus and molluscs, and in the case of poorer families these constitute as much as 90% of the protein they consume. Reef resources are also used for medicinal purposes. For example, the money cowrie, a shell known locally as Vallakavadi, is commonly made into a paste and used as a home remedy to treat cysts in the eye.

C) In addition, the reef contributes to income generation. According to a recent survey, 20% of the households on Agatti report lagoon fishing, or shingle, mollusc, octopus and cowrie collection as their main occupation (Hoon et al, 2002). For poor households, the direct contribution of the reef to their financial resources is significant: 12% of poor households are completely dependent on the reef for their household income, while 59% of poor households rely on the reef for 70% of their household income, and the remaining 29% for 50% of their household income.

D) Bartering of reef resources also commonly takes place, both between islanders and between islands. For example, Agatti Island is known for its abundance of octopus, and this is often

often used to obtain products from nearby Androth Island. Locally, reef products may be given by islanders in return for favours, such as help in constructing a house or net mending, or for other products such as rice, coconuts or fish.

E) The investment required to exploit the reefs is minimal. It involves simple, locally available tools and equipment, some of which can be used without a boat, such as the fishing practice known as Kat moodsal. This is carried out in the shallow eastern lagoon of Agatti by children and adults, close to shore at low tide, throughout the year. A small cast net, a leaf bag, and plastic slippers are all that are required, and the activity can yield 10–12 small fish (approximately 1 kg) for household consumption. Cast nets are not expensive, and all the households in Agatti own at least one. Even the boats, which operate in the lagoon and near-shore reef, are constructed locally and have low running costs. They are either small, non-mechanised, traditional wooden rowing boats, known as Thonis, or rafts, known as Tharappam.

F) During more than 400 years of occupation and survival, the Agatti islanders have developed an intimate knowledge of the reefs. They have knowledge of numerous different types of fish and where they can be found according to the tide or lunar cycle. They have also developed a local naming system or folk taxonomy, naming fish according to their shape. Sometimes the same species is given different names depending on its size and age. For example, a full grown Emperor fish is called Metti and a juvenile is called Killokam. The abundance of each species at different fishing grounds is also well known. Along with this knowledge of reef resources, the islanders have developed a wide range of skills and techniques for exploiting them. A multitude of different fishing techniques are still used by the islanders, each targeting different areas of the reef and particular species.

G) The reef plays an important role in the social lives of the islanders too, being an integral part of traditions and rituals. Most of the island's folklore revolves around the reef and sea. There is hardly any tale or song which does not mention the traditional sailing crafts, known as Odams, the journeys of enterprising 'heroes', the adventures of sea fishing and encounters with sea creatures. Songs that women sing recollect women looking for returning Odams, and requesting the waves to be gentler and the breeze just right for the sails. There are stories of the benevolent sea ghost baluvam, whose coming to shore is considered a harbinger of prosperity for that year, bringing more coconuts, more fish and general well-being.

H) The reef is regarded by the islanders as common property, and all the islanders are entitled to use the lagoon and reef resources. In the past, fishing groups would obtain permission from the Amin (island head person) and go fishing in the grounds allotted by him. On their return, the Amin would be given a share of the catch, normally one of the best or biggest fish. This practice no longer exists, but there is still a code of conduct or etiquette for exploiting the reef, and common respect for this is an effective way of avoiding conflict or disputes.

I) Exploitation of such vast and diverse resources as the reefs and lagoon surrounding the island has encouraged collaborative efforts, mainly for purposes of safety, but also as a necessity in the operation of many fishing techniques. For example, an indigenous gear and operation known as Bala fadal involves 25–30 men. Reef gleaning for cowrie collection by

groups of 6–10 women is also a common activity, and even today, although its economic significance is marginal, it continues as a recreational activity.

1) Select the correct heading for each paragraph from the list of headings below and write the number in front of the Letter (A, B etc)

List of Headings

1. Island legends
2. Resources for exchange
3. Competition for fishing rights
4. The low cost of equipment
5. Agatti's favourable location
6. Rising income levels
7. The social nature of reef occupations
8. Resources for islanders' own use
9. High levels of expertise
10. Alternative sources of employment
11. Resources for earning money
12. Social rights and obligations

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(1x9 = 9 marks)

2) Choose the most suitable answer for the following questions.

1. What proportion of poor households get all their income from reef products?

- A 12%
- B 20%
- C 29%
- D 59%

2. Kat moodsal fishing

- A is a seasonal activity.
- B is a commercial activity.
- C requires little investment.
- D requires use of a rowing boat.

3. Which characteristic of present-day islanders do the writers describe?

- A physical strength
- B fishing expertise
- C courage
- D imagination

4. What do the writers say about the system for using the reef on Agatti?

- A Fish catches are shared equally.
- B The reef owner issues permits.
- C There are frequent disputes.
- D There is open access.

(2x 4= 8 marks)

3) Give the meaning for the following words.

- 1. Benevolent
- 2. Abundance
- 3. Indigenous

(3 marks)

02)

1. What are compound adjectives? (3 marks)

2. Explain at least five different types of compound adjectives with suitable examples.

(5 marks)

3. Fill in the blanks of the following sentences with the most suitable compound adjective.

- a) People who don't easily see with the ideas of the others are people.
- b) A baby who is seven months old is baby.
- c) My dog has got short legs. It is a dog.
- d) A lamp whose shade is red is Lamp.
- e) Someone who is tolerant and placid is an Person.
- f) Someone who is much conscious of his image is person.
- g) They planned the attack in a very clever way. It was a attack.
- h) That man always looks rather angry. He is a rather man.
- i) His degree course took five years to complete. It was a degree course.
- j) It takes ten minutes to drive from my house to work. It is a drive from my house to work.
- k) The child behaves well. He is a child.
- l) Only members who carry their cards are allowed inside. Only members are allowed inside.

(12 marks)

03)

1. What are homographs? Explain by giving examples. (3 marks)
2. Explain homophones with suitable examples. (3 marks)
3. "British English words ending in -our, -re and -ise, usually end in -or, -er and -ize in American English." Explain this by giving suitable examples. (5 marks)
4. Fill in the blanks of the following table. (9 marks)

British English	American English
managing director	a)
barrister, solicitor	b)
c)	cookie
d)	garbage can/trash can
e)	parking lot
f) pavement
g) Loo
h)	period
i)	argument

04) Answer the questions based on the following passage. Write answers in your own words.

"Alone one is never lonely," says the poet and author Mary Sarton in praise of living along. Most people, however, are **terrified** of living alone. They are used to living with others -- children with parents, roommates with roommates, friends with friends, and husbands with wives. When the statistics catch up with them, therefore, they are rarely prepared. Chances are high that most adult men and women will need to know how to live along, briefly or longer, at some time in their lives.

In the United States, circumstances often force people to live alone. For example, many high school and college graduates move away from their hometowns and continue their educations or take jobs. Most schools assign roommates, but employers usually expect people to take care of their own living arrangements. Also, married people might feel they will always be together, but currently one out of two marriages ends in divorce. An even sadder statistic concerns the death of a spouse. Estimates are that in the next twenty years eight out of ten married women will become widows, usually late in life. These facts show that most people have to live by themselves at least once in their lives whether they want to or not.

One good way to prepare for living alone is to learn how to take care of practical matters. For example, some students and newly single people might not know how to do something as simple as opening a checking account. When making arrangements alone, they might be too tense to find out that they can compare banks as well as the benefits of various types of accounts. Similarly, making major purchases is something people living alone might have to handle. When divorced or widowed people were married, perhaps the other spouse did the choosing or the couple make the decisions together. But how long can a person manage with a refrigerator that cannot be repaired or a car that will not run? After shopping around and making price comparisons, most people find that these decisions are much less **complicated** than they seem at first.

The confidence that single people get from learning to deal with practical matters can boost their chances for establishing new friendships. When singles feel **self-reliant**, they can have an easier time getting out and meeting new people. For instance, some students are in the habit of always going to classes with a friend. When they break this **dependency**, they can be pleasantly surprised to find that they can concentrate better on the course and also have a chance to make some new friends. Likewise, the idea of going alone to the beach or to parties can paralyze some singles. Once they make the attempt, however, people alone usually find that almost everyone welcomes a new, friendly face.

Probably the most difficult problem for people living alone is dealing with feelings of loneliness. First, they have to understand the feeling. Some people confuse being alone with feeling lonely. They need to remember that unhappily married people can feel very lonely with spouses, and anyone can suffer from loneliness in a room crowded with friends. Second, people living alone have to fight any tendencies to get depressed. Depression can lead to much unhappiness, including **convulsive behavior** like overeating or spending too much money. Depression can also drive people to fill the feeling of emptiness by getting into relationships or jobs that they do not truly want. Third, people living alone need to get involved in useful and pleasurable activities, such as volunteering their services to help others.

People need to ask themselves, "If I had to live alone starting tomorrow morning, would I know how?" If the answer is "No," they need to become conscious of what living alone calls for. People who face up to life usually do not have to hide from it later on.

From Handbook for Writers by Lynn Quitman Troyka, Simon and Schuster, pp 64-66.

1. What circumstances force people in USA to live alone? (3marks)
2. How can one take care of his/ her practical matters? (2 marks)
3. How can a person find new friends? (2 marks)
4. How does being alone differ from feeling lonely? (3 marks)
5. Give some examples for the things a depressed person would do. (3 marks)
6. What can a single person do to get away from their loneliness? (2 marks)

7. Write the meaning of the following words.

- a.) Terrified
- b.) Complicated
- c.) self-reliant
- d.) Dependency
- e.) convulsive behavior

(1 X 1 = 5 MARKS)

(20 marks)

05) Write two grammatical and meaningful sentences with different meanings to each of the following words.

1. content	6. evening
2. fine	7. object
3. row	8. subject
4. present	9. compound
5. light	10. wound

(2 x 10 = 20 marks)

1) Complete the summary below using words from the box.

When Singapore became an independent, self-sufficient state it decided to build up its 1., and government organizations were created to support this policy. However, this initial plan met with limited success due to a shortage of 2 and land. It was therefore decided to develop the 3. sector of the economy instead.

Singapore is now a leading city, but planners are working to ensure that its economy continues to grow. In contrast to previous policies, there is emphasis on decentralization. In addition, land will be recovered to extend the financial district, and provide 4. as well as housing. The government also plans to improve the quality of Singapore's environment, but due to the shortage of natural landscape it will concentrate instead on what calls 5.

Decentralization	fuel	industry	transport
Hospitals	loans	deregulation	service
Trade	transport	entertainment	recycling
Labour	tourism	hygiene	beautification
Agriculture			

(2x 5 = 10 marks)

2) Write meaningful sentences for the following homophones.

1. Weak / week
2. Mail / male
3. Rose / rows
4. Forward / forward
5. Principle / principal

(10 marks)