

PROVA DE INGLÊS

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the texts carefully and then choose the alternative which correctly completes the following statements.

TEXT 1 - Questions **46** to **50**

Dispatches from the Vanishing World

50 acres of tropical rainforest are said to be disappearing every minute. Millions of species of animals and plants around the world are going extinct at an ever-accelerating rate, many of them before they can even be identified or their existence is even known. (This particularly unfortunate type of extinction is known as Sentinelan extinction.) 2000 of the world's 6000 remaining languages have less than 12 speakers and will be lost within this generation. The world's cultural and biological diversity is under assault as never before in recorded history. What is the cause of the greatest extinction event in the last ten thousand years? Not a meteor strike or a volcanic eruption, or the advance or retraction of an ice sheet, but our very success as a species. Human population growth and the spread of modern culture are doing in the planet. Rapidly multiplying local people need land and its resources – wood for fuel, water, wild animals to eat, gold and diamonds and other minerals for income.

Dispatches from the Vanishing World is a forum for documenting and raising consciousness about the world's fast-disappearing biological and cultural diversity. It provides first-hand, in-depth reporting from the last relatively pristine places on earth, identifies who and what is destroying them, and who is engaged in the heroic and often life-threatening struggle to save them. It provides foundations involved in environmental or cultural preservation with two services: 1) a full, independent assessment of their program or cause, and 2) publicity by adapting the assessment for publication in one of the top American magazines or as a book.



Txucurramai Indians of Brazilian Amazon with anaconda they have just shot. Photographed by Jesco von Puttkamer, 1976.

- 30 This is a reader's website. The Dispatches will be long and thorough, because often these places where species and/or cultures are down to the wire are remote and hard to get to and dangerous to move around in, and this may be the only detailed treatment they get.

<http://www.dispatchesfromthevanishingworld.com/index.html>

QUESTION 46

According to the text, one of the current causes of the extinction of cultures and species is

- A) meteor strike.
- B) ice sheet retraction.
- C) volcanic eruption.
- D) population growth.

QUESTION 47

The text states that

- A) history has never recorded cases of massive extinction.
- B) every day a new species of animals and plants is identified.
- C) tropical rainforests have been increasingly reduced to fifty acres.
- D) there are two thousand languages with less than a dozen speakers.

QUESTION 48

The **main** objective of the site *Dispatches from the Vanishing World* is to

- A) discover ways to preserve disappearing species and cultures.
- B) advise those who are involved with saving species and cultures.
- C) support top American magazines or books dealing with ecology.
- D) offer documentation about endangered species and cultures.

QUESTION 49

"Dispatches from the Vanishing World helps preservation foundations by ..."

According to the text, the only option which does NOT complete the statement above is

- A) developing full independent projects.
- B) adapting its assessments for publication.
- C) examining their programs or causes.
- D) evaluating the effectiveness of their work.

QUESTION 50

The expression **doing in** (line 12) means

- A) destroying.
- B) banishing.
- C) saving.
- D) multiplying.

Why is the South Pole colder than the North Pole?

Robert Bindshadler, a senior fellow and glaciologist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, explains.

Both polar regions of the earth are cold, primarily because they receive far less solar radiation than the tropics and mid-latitudes do. At either pole the sun never rises more than 23.5 degrees above the horizon and both locations experience six months of continuous darkness. Moreover, most of the sunlight that does shine on the polar regions is reflected by the bright white surface.

What makes the South Pole so much colder than the North Pole is that it sits on top of a very thick ice sheet, which itself sits on a continent. The surface of the ice sheet at the South Pole is more than 9,000 feet in elevation – more than a mile and a half above sea level. Antarctica is by far the highest continent on the earth. In comparison, the North Pole rests in the middle of the Arctic Ocean, where the surface of floating ice rides only a foot or so above the surrounding sea. The Arctic Ocean also acts as an effective heat reservoir, warming the cold atmosphere in the winter and drawing heat from the atmosphere in the summer.



Image: NASA

THE U.S. STATION at the South Pole has been occupied since 1957. The coldest temperature on record for the South Pole is -80.6 degrees Celsius.

<http://www.sciam.com>

QUESTION 51

The South Pole is colder than the North Pole because the first

- A) gets less heat from the sun.
- B) experiences no summer and winter.
- C) is located on a high continent.
- D) has less contact with floating ice.

QUESTION 52

The text states that

- A) radiation is higher in one of the two poles.
- B) brightness creates a white surface in both regions.
- C) temperatures reach 23.5 degrees in the two regions.
- D) sunlight is absent for half a year in both poles.

QUESTION 53

One can infer from the text that Robert Bindschadler is

- A) a scientist.
- B) a flight attendant.
- C) an astronaut.
- D) a student.

QUESTION 54

The word **itself** (line 17) refers to

- A) a thick ice sheet.
- B) a continent.
- C) the South Pole.
- D) the North Pole.

QUESTION 55

All the following verbs are used with similar meanings in the text, **EXCEPT**

- A) ... rests... (line 20).
- B) ... acts... (line 22).
- C) ... sits... (line 17).
- D) ... rides... (line 21).

TEXT 3 - Questions 56 to 60

THE BEST WAY TO BOOST SELF-ESTEEM

- Working hard to accomplish great things is a healthy way to pump your ego? Not necessarily, according to researchers at the University of Michigan. In their survey of 642 college freshmen, those who measured their self-worth against objective standards, such as getting good grades,
- 5 were actually more stressed – and received no higher marks – than those who based how they felt themselves on their relationships with others. That’s not to say that you shouldn’t work hard; just don’t make it all about *you*. “Instead of focusing on whether you’re succeeding, ask yourself, ‘What am I contributing to society? How will people benefit from what I’m doing?’ ”
- 10 suggests lead researcher Jennifer Crocker, Ph.D. “This takes the pressure off you and guarantees that your work will always feel meaningful.”

Redbook, Mar. 2003. p. 52.



QUESTION 56

According to research, working hard to succeed in a task

- A) contributes to the relationship with others.
- B) can make most freshmen more relaxed.
- C) usually results in good grades.
- D) does not always improve self-esteem.

QUESTION 57

The research indicates that students are more stressed when they

- A) base their value on the success they achieve in their studies.
- B) aim at offering a contribution to society as a whole.
- C) measure their self-esteem against the relationships they keep.
- D) make sure the work they do is really meaningful.

QUESTION 58

Dr. Crocker defends that, to avoid stress, people should

- A) focus on their role in society.
- B) concentrate on their career.
- C) work to get higher marks.
- D) reach objective standards.

QUESTION 59

“ ... to say that **you** shouldn’t work hard...” (line 7)

The word **you** refers to

- A) college freshmen.
- B) anyone.
- C) the writer.
- D) Crocker.

QUESTION 60

The words **boost** (title) and **pump** (line 1) are used in the text with similar meaning to

- A) identify.
- B) evaluate.
- C) measure.
- D) increase.

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