



وزارة التربية والتعليم
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



Term 1 - 2025/2026
Reading Assessment Task 2
Grade 8 - Advanced
English

Student Number	
Student Name	
School	Neima School – 1704
Class	
Stream	Advanced
Subject	English

Question Number	Mark
Part One - Vocabulary	/ 10
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Part Four - Reading	/ 20
Total	/60

Part One – Vocabulary

Instructions:

Complete each sentence using the correct word from the box below. Each word can only be used once.

Word Bank:

Ocean: prey, glow, creature, deep, shine, lure, poisonous, adaptation, communicate, escape, endangered

Space: station, artificial, outer space, experiments, gravity, float, oxygen

1. Some fish in the _____ ocean produce light to help them see or attract prey.
 2. The jellyfish uses its bright colors to _____ smaller sea animals.
 3. The pufferfish has developed an _____ that helps it survive by inflating when threatened.
 4. Many ocean species are _____ due to pollution and overfishing.
 5. The octopus releases ink to help it _____ from predators.
 6. Astronauts live and work on a space _____ for months at a time.
 7. When there is no _____, objects and people begin to _____ around.
 8. Scientists carry out _____ in space to study how humans react to microgravity.
 9. _____ is essential for astronauts to breathe while in space.
 10. The planets and stars we see are part of _____, far beyond Earth's atmosphere.
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Part Two – Grammar

Instructions: Choose the correct answer (A, B, or C) to complete each sentence.

1. I bought a new _____ to help me take photos during my trip.
A) photo maker
B) camera lens
C) picture machine
2. If I _____ more time, I would learn how to play the piano.
A) have
B) will have
C) had

3. You _____ talk during the test. It's not allowed.
A) mustn't
B) don't have to
C) might
4. The company opened a new _____ to store all its products.
A) store room
B) warehouse
C) shop house
5. If we _____ closer to school, we wouldn't need to wake up so early.
A) live
B) lived
C) will live
6. You _____ eat so much fast food; it's bad for your health.
A) shouldn't
B) have to
C) might
7. My dad always reads the _____ before he drives somewhere new.
A) map paper
B) road guide
C) travel map
8. If I _____ the answer, I would tell you immediately.
A) know
B) knew
C) will know
9. Students _____ bring their books tomorrow; the teacher said it's optional.
A) must
B) needn't
C) can't
10. I'm making a birthday _____ for my best friend.
A) cake box
B) gift card
C) present wrap

Part Three – Reading

Read the text and answer the questions.

For each question (1-10), choose the correct answer A, B or C.

The UAE Space Programme

The UAE has had a close connection with space exploration since the country was founded. During the 1970s, Sheikh Zayed met with astronauts from the Apollo missions to the moon in order to learn about their experiences. Sheikh Zayed's vision has been the foundation for the achievements of the past few years and is also the inspiration for the UAE's plans for future space exploration.

The first significant event of the space programme was the launching of a satellite, called DubaiSat-1, in July 2009. This is an earth observation satellite and it sends images to a ground station where the information is used to study the environment. The data from the satellite is used to monitor climate change and can help to make life on earth more sustainable. In addition, images from the satellite are also used to assist with urban planning. Since 2009, the UAE has launched two other satellites, DubaiSat-2 in 2013 and KhalifaSat in 2018.

After the launch of the first satellite the space sector started to develop very quickly. The UAE Space Agency was established in 2014 and one of the aims was to send the first Emirati astronaut into space. In 2017, the agency started the selection process from a group of four thousand people, both men and women, who were aged from seventeen to sixty-seven. Finally, after many different kinds of tests, Hazza Al Mansouri was chosen. On September 25 2019, Hazza Al Mansouri was launched into space on his journey to the International Space Station. This was a moment of national pride for the whole of the UAE.

The next project for the space agency is called the Emirates Mars Mission. This will send a spacecraft to the planet Mars. First, in 2020, the agency will launch a space probe, which is a small spacecraft that contains a camera and other equipment, to collect information. The information will be analysed and shared with more than two hundred organisations and universities all over the world. The UAE plans to develop a human settlement on Mars within the next hundred years. The first step will be establishing a laboratory on the planet. This ambitious plan shows the UAE's passion for both science and advancing human knowledge.

1. What was the first satellite launched by the UAE?

- a) MarsSat
- b) DubaiSat-1
- c) KhalifaSat

2. What was the purpose of Sheikh Zayed meeting with Apollo astronauts?

- a) To discuss future space missions
- b) To learn about their experiences
- c) To negotiate satellite launches

3. Which agency was established in 2014 to oversee the UAE's space program?

- a) NASA
- b) UAE Space Agency
- c) European Space Agency

4. Who was the first Emirati astronaut launched into space?

- a) Hazza Al Mansouri
- b) Sheikh Zayed
- c) DubaiSat-1

5. What is the next major project for the UAE's space agency?

- a) Sending a probe to Mars
- b) Establishing a lunar colony
- c) Launching a satellite to Jupiter

6. What was the aim of the Emirates Mars Mission?
- a) To establish a human settlement on Mars
 - b) To collect information about Mars
 - c) To send tourists to Mars
7. How many satellites has the UAE launched since 2009?
- a) One
 - b) Two
 - c) Three
8. What type of data does DubaiSat-1 collect?
- a) Weather data
 - b) Earth observation data
 - c) Radio signals
9. What does the UAE plan to do within the next hundred years?
- a) Colonize the Moon
 - b) Send a probe to Venus
 - c) Establish a laboratory on Mars
10. What inspired the UAE's plans for future space exploration?
- a) DubaiSat-1's success
 - b) Hazza Al Mansouri's journey
 - c) Sheikh Zayed's vision

Part Four – Reading

Read the text and answer the following questions:

The Greenhouse Effect: Earth's Vital Blanket

Introduction: Why Does Earth Stay Warm?

Earth's climate is influenced by a remarkable and natural process known as the greenhouse effect. Much like a blanket keeps a person warm by trapping their body heat, the greenhouse effect retains some of the Sun's warmth to ensure a habitable temperature. This process not only makes life possible but also sets a foundation for understanding climate change, its causes, and its solutions. By exploring the intricate nature of the greenhouse effect, insights into how human activities may impact our planet's climate can be gained.

Understanding the Greenhouse Effect

The greenhouse effect is a natural atmospheric phenomenon that involves the trapping of the Sun's energy. When sunlight reaches Earth, it is absorbed by the planet's surface and then radiated back as heat, or infrared energy. Not all this heat escapes into space; certain gases in the atmosphere absorb some of it, keeping Earth warm enough to support diverse life forms.

These gases, known as greenhouse gases, include carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, nitrous oxide, and ozone. They act like the glass walls of a greenhouse, which let sunlight in and reduce the loss of heat. Without the greenhouse effect, Earth's average temperature would drop significantly, making it inhospitable for most living organisms.

Key Greenhouse Gases

- 1. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂):** Carbon dioxide is essential for life on Earth, being part of the natural carbon cycle. However, the burning of fossil fuels for energy and transportation significantly increases CO₂ levels in the atmosphere.
- 2. Methane (CH₄):** Methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, though it is present in smaller quantities. It is released during the production and transport of coal, oil, and natural gas, as well as from livestock and other agricultural practices.
- 3. Water Vapor (H₂O):** Water vapor is the most abundant greenhouse gas and is a natural part of the atmosphere. While it amplifies the warming effect, it is mainly controlled by the global temperature and not directly by human activities.
- 4. Nitrous Oxide (N₂O):** This gas comes from agricultural and industrial activities, as well as combustion of fossil fuels and solid waste. Its impact is significant despite its lower concentration.
- 5. Ozone (O₃):** While ozone is beneficial in the stratosphere for blocking harmful UV radiation, at ground level, it acts as a greenhouse gas and an air pollutant.

Human Influence on the Greenhouse Effect

Human activities have significantly altered the natural balance of the greenhouse effect by increasing the concentration of greenhouse gases. The burning of coal, oil, and natural gas for electricity, heat, and transportation is the primary source of this increase. Industrial processes, agricultural practices, and land-use changes, such as deforestation, also contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.

Deforestation further exacerbates the greenhouse effect by reducing the number of trees that can absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. As forests diminish, the Earth's capacity to mitigate CO₂ levels is compromised, leading to more heat trapped in the atmosphere.

Impacts of an Enhanced Greenhouse Effect

An enhanced greenhouse effect due to higher levels of greenhouse gases leads to global warming. This results in a range of environmental challenges, including:

Rising Temperatures: Higher temperatures can disrupt weather patterns, resulting in extreme weather events such as heatwaves, storms, and floods.

Glacier and Ice Cap Melting: Melting ice contributes to rising sea levels, which can lead to loss of habitat for wildlife and pose risks to coastal communities.

Ocean Acidification: Increased CO₂ levels are absorbed by oceans, leading to acidification, which harms marine life, especially organisms with calcium carbonate shells or skeletons.

Disruption of Ecosystems: Changing climates force species to adapt, migrate, or face potential extinction, disrupting ecosystems and biodiversity.

Human Health and Agriculture: Changes in climate can affect food production, availability of freshwater, and spread diseases, impacting human health and livelihoods.

Addressing Climate Change

Addressing the impacts of the enhanced greenhouse effect involves collective efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect natural environments. Key strategies include:

Shifting to Renewable Energy: Adoption of wind, solar, and hydroelectric power reduces dependence on fossil fuels.

Enhancing Energy Efficiency: Improving energy efficiency in homes, industries, and transportation can significantly lower emissions.

Reforestation and Afforestation: Planting trees and restoring forests increase the absorption of CO₂, benefiting the atmosphere and biodiversity.

Developing Green Technology: Innovation in technologies that capture and store carbon emissions promotes sustainable industrial practices.

International Cooperation: Global agreements like the Paris Agreement aim to unite nations in combatting climate change through shared commitments.

Conclusion: A Shared Responsibility

Understanding the greenhouse effect and its implications highlights the shared responsibility of individuals, communities, and governments to protect Earth's climate. By recognizing and mitigating the factors that enhance the greenhouse effect, a sustainable balance between human activities and the planet's ecosystems can be achieved. This knowledge fosters informed actions that contribute to preserving Earth for future generations, ensuring that the blanket of warmth continues to support life on our planet.

Vocabulary Term

Acidification: The process by which a chemical substance becomes more acidic, often used to describe the decrease in pH levels in oceans due to increased carbon dioxide absorption.

1. Which greenhouse gas is the most abundant in Earth's atmosphere?

- A) Nitrous oxide
- B) Carbon dioxide
- C) Water vapor

2. What human activity is the primary source of carbon dioxide emissions?

- A) Deforestation
- B) Fossil fuel burning
- C) Plastic production

3. Methane is released significantly from which human activity?

- A) Urban development
- B) Livestock and agriculture
- C) Solar panel production

4. Which process contributes to ocean acidification?

- A) Rising temperatures
- B) Ice cap melting
- C) Carbon dioxide absorption

5. What is the impact of melting glaciers on the environment?

- A) Improved agricultural yield
- B) Decreased sea level
- C) Rising sea levels

6. How does an enhanced greenhouse effect affect global weather patterns?

- A) Stabilizes weather patterns
 - B) Increases predictability
 - C) Leads to more extreme weather events
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7. Which strategy reduces carbon emissions by capturing and storing them?

- A) Solar electricity generation
- B) Carbon sequestration technology
- C) Wind power installations

8. What role do international agreements play in combating climate change?

- A) Encourage competition
- B) Promote development without restrictions
- C) Foster cooperation for reducing emissions globally

9. Which greenhouse gas is most affected by agricultural practices?

- A) Nitrous oxide
- B) Carbon dioxide
- C) Water vapor

10. By what mechanism does reforestation help combat climate change?

- A) Increases oxygen levels significantly
 - B) Converts methane into cleaner compounds
 - C) Absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere
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