



ENGLISH COMMON TEST

Read the text and do all the activities that follow it. It is a test of 4 pages.

PART ONE: READING (15 points)

Water under threat

How do you get water? Do you just turn on a **faucet** and it pours? Or as is common in some lands, do you have to walk a long distance, wait in line, and then carry heavy bucket of the precious liquid back to your home? Does it take you several hours each day just to get enough water for washing and cooking? In many lands, water is that **scarce** and that difficult to obtain! In her book *Water Wars, Drought* — (...) Diana Raines Wards notes that 40 per cent of the world population use water from wells, rivers, **ponds, or puddles** outside of their homes. In some countries, women may spend up to six hours fetching water for their families, **lugging** it home in **containers** that, when full, weigh more than 20 kilograms.

The fact is that over a third of the world's population is seriously affected by a water and **sanitation** crisis. The problem is particularly severe in Africa where 6 out of 10 people do not even have a proper toilet – a factor that according to the World Health Organization report, contributes to the transfer of **bacteria, viruses and parasites** found in human **excreta** which ... contaminate water resources, soil and food. Such contamination is a major cause of diarrhoea, the second biggest killer of children in developing countries and leads to other major diseases such as Cholera, Schistosomiasis and Trachoma.

Water has been called liquid gold, the oil of the 21st century. Yet, nations are **squandering** the precious **commodity** to such degree that their principal rivers have hardly anything left to **pour** into the sea.

January 2009 Michael Parfit, writer for National Geographic

A/ VOCABULARY CHECK (5 points)

Match the words from the text with their synonym or meaning. Do like the example.

Example: 1-g

Words from the text

- 1-a faucet
- 2-scarce
- 3- ponds or puddles
- 4-lugging
- 5- containers
- 6- sanitation
- 7- bacteria
- 8- excreta
- 9- squandering
- 10- commodity
- 11-pour

meaning or synonym

- a-flow
- b-tanks
- c-losing, spending
- d- good, product
- e-rare
- f-waste
- g-a tap
- h-stagnant waters
- I-pulling, dragging
- j-public health
- k-microbes

B/ COMPREHENSION CHECK (10 points)

Choose the appropriate answer to the statements about the text. Do like the example.

Example: 1-b

1- The writer identifies in the text

- a –two types of water
- b – two ways of getting water.
- c- two kinds of water.

2-the difficulty in obtaining water lies in to get it.

- a- the distance and time
- b- the place
- c- the three of them (distance, time and place)

3-According to the writer it is usual for many people to walk long distance

- a- to get water
- b- to get oil
- c- to get gold

4-Fetching enough water for domestic use is a hard task

- a- in almost all the lands of the world
- b- half of the world 's lands
- c- Several lands in the world

5- The problem of water is particularly severe in Africa because

- a- 60 per cent of people are concerned
- b- 40 per cent of people are concerned
- c- A third of African people are concerned

6-The lack of sanitary causes

- a- Water crisis
- b- Public health crisis
- c- World's population crisis

7-The text mentions some examples of

- a- Body disorders
- b- Mind disorders
- c- Social disorders

8- The microbes responsible for the diseases come from

- a- Animal bowels
- b- Human waste
- c- Industrial waste

9- The second biggest killer of children is

- a- Contamination
- b- Diarrhoea
- c- Malaria

10- The writer concludes saying that people

- a- Take great care of water
- b- waste water
- c- Clean pollute water

11- Thus the sea doesn't receive enough water from

- a- Lakes
- b- Rains
- c- Rivers

PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE (10points)

A/ Use the appropriate preposition from the bank below to fill in the gaps. Write your answer like in the example.. (5points)

After; against; by; for; in; into; of; on; over; to; with

Example: 1-against

I must protect my corn 1- insect attack. Insects are to blame 2- many of my losses 3- recent years, and combined 4- the damage done 5- birds, I think, sometimes lose 6- half of my crop. When my corn is ready to harvest, I employ a boy to look 7- it. He spends a lot of time in my field and I rely 8- him to do a good job. But it gives him other work, if for example I send him 9- town to buy something for me, I know the crop suffers. In fact I am sure that the size 10- my crop will be in proportion 11- the amount of time my boy spends looking after it.

B/ In the following sentences put the verbs in brackets into the correct form. Number one is done for you as example. (5points)

.Example : 1 – to drive

- 1- How old were you when you learnt to drive? (drive)
- 2- I don't mind home, but I'd rather a taxi. (walk, get)

- 3- I can't make a decision. I keep my mind.
(change)
- 4- Why did you change your decision? What made you..... your mind? (change)
- 5- It was a really good holiday. I really enjoyed by the sea again. (be)
- 6- 'Remember Tom tomorrow.' 'OK. I won't forget.
'(call).
- 7- The water here is not very good. I'd avoid it if I were you.
(drink)
- 8- I pretended interested in the conversation, but really It was very boring. (be)
- 9- I got up and looked out of the window..... what the weather was like. (see)
- 10-A: How do you make this machine? (work)

PART THREE: WRITING (15 points)

The celebration of the Environment Day remains an opportunity for School English Clubs to point out some current important environmental topics. This year the extremely long rainy seasons due to the change in climate motivates the Coordination of School English Clubs to organize a competition of clubs. The main theme is **the importance of water**. Indeed if today the precious liquid is more accessible to many household in our country, its cleanness remains a challenge to hold.

Students in LCA have to write an article on the issue.

Write down your article that will be selected for publication in all the English Club Magazines. Maximum 20 lines