

UNIT TEST 2

SECTION A: GRAMMAR

1 Complete the text with *a/an, the* or *–* (zero article).

If you are asked to describe your idea of ¹ _____ desert island paradise, your description would probably match the Polynesian island of ² _____ Tahiti. Located in ³ _____ Southern Pacific Ocean, Tahiti is the largest island in ⁴ _____ French Polynesia. This idyllic, isolated island was amongst some of ⁵ _____ last unpopulated places in the world and is still one of the most beautiful. Tahiti was formed about three million years ago as a result of ⁶ _____ volcanic eruptions. There are four peaks on ⁷ _____ island, the tallest being nearly 2,500 metres high. From lush volcanic crags to magnificent corals and lava tunnels underwater, everything is stunning. The island is covered by dense rainforest, home to ⁸ _____ enormous number of magnificent trees, ferns and flowering plants interspersed with waterfalls, rivers and deep valleys.

___/8

2 Choose the correct options to complete the text.

Tourism v Environment

Today, when we go on holiday, we ¹ *could / should / ought* consider the impact our trip will have on the local environment. We ² *have to / should / might* be forgiven for thinking that it has nothing to with us and that we can ignore it, but that's really not good enough today. Many people ³ *can't / mustn't / shouldn't* believe that their holiday trip might be damaging the planet. It's true, we ⁴ *don't have to / mustn't / mightn't* care, it's not illegal to ignore the situation, but we ⁵ *ought / have to / need* do something if we want to save the planet and all its flora and fauna for future generations. As more companies offering eco-tourism emerge, at the other end of the scale other companies are more concerned about cutting costs for the traveller and thus are less ecologically concerned. And even though we ⁶ *may / must / could* want to do something and know that we ⁷ *can't / mustn't / shouldn't* be contributing to the destruction of the environment, financial considerations tend to lead the way in our decision-making.

___/7

SECTION B: VOCABULARY

3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Use one word from each box for each gap. You do not need all the words.

clear get (x2) go hair live lounge rip soak
around away back down in of off (x2) up

- 1 She likes to let her _____ sometimes because she has such a stressful job.
- 2 His idea of the perfect holiday is to _____ a pool all day with his friends.
- 3 I always do my research before I book a trip as I hate it when companies _____ you _____.
- 4 It can be very disappointing when a holiday doesn't _____ to the blurb in the brochure.
- 5 At the weekends they usually _____ from it all by taking their motor home into the mountains.
- 6 After months working in the city, Jim and Penny can't wait to _____ to nature so they go camping in the bush for a few weeks.
- 7 I'd steer _____ the main tourist attractions if I were you. Go inland and explore on your own. There are some fascinating places to discover.
- 8 We always _____ the beaten track when we have a holiday. We've found some amazing places.

___/8

4 Complete the travel words in the sentences.

- 1 We managed to find a great b _____ hotel in the centre of town. It's small but very smart.
- 2 The kids are b _____ round the world for six months. They'll be camping and staying in very cheap hostels most of the way.
- 3 She wasn't tempted by the local d _____ of sheep's eyes and brains. These were not things she ever wanted to eat.
- 4 We can find a flight with a b _____ airline. They don't offer any luxuries, but that's not important on short flights.
- 5 If you only have a very short time in a place, I suggest you go on an organised e _____ . This will take you to see the most important or interesting places.
- 6 We got a great last-minute d _____ to a five-star hotel in Egypt.
- 7 If you've only got three days, I'd recommend a city b _____ to Venice.

___/7

SECTION C: INTEGRATED SKILLS

5 Read the text and complete the summary with the words in the box. You do not need all the words.

cause dangerous delicate destruction
discussion economic endless exhausted expire
foundation loss originated pessimists run out
untouched

There is a lot of ¹ _____ currently about conservation. ² _____ say that the planet is dying and that the last ten years have seen the ³ _____ of more species than ever before. According to them, the ⁴ _____ is solely human activity. The ⁵ _____ of life is biodiversity, which is a finely tuned balance of all flora and fauna. Contrary to some people's belief, there is not a(n) ⁶ _____ supply of natural resources, yet demand for them constantly grows. The mass ⁷ _____ of land probably started in the 15th and 16th centuries, when colonists discovered ⁸ _____ areas and promptly upset the ⁹ _____ natural balance. Since then we have consumed everything without considering what happens when they ¹⁰ _____.

___/10

Total: ___/40

The importance of conservation

Conservation can be defined as the preservation, protection or restoration of the natural environment and wildlife. It is a commonly debated topic today. But why has it become so important? The cynics inform us the planet doesn't have long to live if populations continue to increase at the rate they are and if the natural resources continue to be depleted as rapidly as they are. Human activities have destroyed more species over the last decade faster than during the last ten millennia through over-consumption, eradication of natural habitats and growing demands on the natural environment.

Biodiversity is the cornerstone of our whole existence, providing the right conditions for all species to live and evolve but, until recently, it has been largely ignored as people thought there was an infinite supply of everything. For instance, sea-faring explorers and colonists hundreds of years ago arrived on pristine lands and found species unafraid of man, who were then eaten and hunted into extinction. If these people had settled in a land, then forests would have been chopped down and vital habitats destroyed as houses were built and land cleared for agriculture.

The natural world also contributes massively to every economy in the world – in fact, our lifestyles depend on it. Our food, medicines, fabrics and energy, to name but a few, derive from natural resources and as these are swiftly dwindling without being replaced, there is a very real threat to our existence. Trillions and trillions are made by exploiting these resources without a thought for what happens when they have been exhausted.

Every creature and plant has an invaluable place in what is known as 'the balance of nature'. This balance is fragile and precarious and humans have upended the scales and trodden heavily on them. Biodiversity is what provides the conditions for our existence. If our relentless attack on it continues unrestricted, the results don't bear thinking about. Conservation is vital to our survival and speed is of the essence.