

Reading Part (12 pts.)

Read through the following article. Then answer the questions that follow.

The 2005 Kashmir Earthquake

1. The **2005 Kashmir Earthquake**, which occurred at 08:52:37 A.M. on 8th October, was a major earthquake centered near the city of Muzaffarabad in Kashmir, Pakistan. It registered a moment magnitude of 7.6, making it similar in size to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the 2009 Sumatra earthquake. As of 8th November, the Pakistani official death toll was 74,698. The earthquake also affected countries in the surrounding region where tremors were felt in Tajikistan and Western China. Besides, news reports also said that nearly 1,400 people died in India and four people in Afghanistan. The severity of the damage caused by the earthquake is attributed to the unexpected occurrence of the event, coupled with poor construction.

2. As Saturday is a normal school day in the region, most students were in their classes when the earthquake struck, so they got buried under the collapsed school buildings. Many people were also trapped in their homes. What made things worse was that most people were taking a nap after their pre-dawn meal in that month of Ramadan, and they did not have time to escape during the earthquake. Reports indicated that entire towns and villages were completely wiped out in Northern Pakistan, and hospitals and rescue services including police departments and armed forces were paralyzed.

3. The United Nations quickly held a meeting to discuss Pakistan's disaster. "...a second, massive wave of death will happen if we do not step up our efforts now," Kofi Annan, the secretary-general of the United Nations, said with reference to the thousand remote villages in which people were in need of medical attention, food, clean water and shelter and the 120,000 survivors that had not yet been reached.

4. The national and international humanitarian response to the crisis was huge. In the initial phases of response, the Government of Pakistan organized a donors' conference to raise money for reconstruction and development of the area. A total of \$6.2 billion was pledged, and a large amount of the money was delivered in terms of services provided by international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). Practical reconstructions and rehabilitations were done by foreign governments including Turkey, Japan, Saudi Arabia and UAE. U.S.A. and UK came under criticism for focusing on training and seminars costing millions of dollars instead of taking practical measures. The basic infrastructure—including health, education, road networks, water supply, waste management and other basic needs—is still underdeveloped and has not reached the pre-earthquake status in the region.

From Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia

A. The following figures are mentioned in the article. Complete the chart below with what each figure refers to. (1 pt.)

08:52:37 A.M.	
7.6	
74.698	
\$ 6.2 Billion	

B. In which paragraph(s) can you find information about the following? (0.75 pt.)

Headings	Number of Paragraph (s)
Description of the Earthquake	
Reactions to the Earthquake	

C. On the basis of the information supplied by the article, the statements below are false. Rewrite them in their correct sense. (1 pt.)

1. The 2005 Kashmir earthquake has been the only one of its kind.
2. The Pakistani authorities have already rebuilt what the 2005 earthquake destroyed in Kashmir.

D. Answer the following questions about the article in complete sentences. (3 pts.)

1. What were the causes that made the destruction in Kashmir very big?
2. Explain what is meant by the following statement as quoted from the article, "...a second, massive wave of death will happen if we do not step up our efforts now."
3. What do you think the writer's attitude(s) towards the countries which helped Pakistan is/ are? Explain.

E. Give the contextual meaning of the four underlined words in the article. (2 pts.)

1. tremor (paragraph 1)
2. collapsed (paragraph 2)
3. paralyzed (paragraph 2)
4. initial (paragraph 4)

F. Find in paragraphs 1 and 2 a sentence that conveys a figure of speech. Identify the figurative language device and justify your answer. (1.25 pts.)

G. Correct the ONE grammatical error in each sentence below. (1 pt.)

1. While Pakistan was still removing the damage, many people elsewhere collected money for the homeless there.
2. There is no doubt that Pakistan started to reconstruct the damaged buildings, but nobody know when such a process will be finished.
3. Pakistan was supposed to provide the people of Kashmir with help right after the earthquake was coming to an end.
4. By the time Pakistan finishes reconstructing the destroyed buildings in 2020, many elders had died.

H. Rewrite the following sentences, starting as indicated, without changing their meanings. (2 pts.)

1. "...a second, massive wave of death will happen if we do not step up our efforts now," Kofi Annan said.
Kofi Annan said that
2. A large amount of the money has been delivered in terms of services of international NGOs.
International NGOs

Writing Part (8 pts.)

"Natural Disasters are basically dangers arising from both geological and weather-related occurrences, and they may happen every now and then."

In a well-organized essay of 150-200 words, relate the story of a natural phenomenon (a volcanic eruption, an earthquake, a tornado, a hurricane...) you or someone you know witnessed, watched on TV, or heard of.

First, outline your ideas. Then develop those ideas into an essay, provided with a suitable title.

Score: 2 pts. for the outline

2 pts. for content

2 pts. for organization

1 pt. for word choice

1 pt. for mechanics (spelling, capitalization, and punctuation)

Best Wishes

In the Name of God

Subject: Answer Key of the Second Common English Exam

School Year: 2010-2011

Grade: 9

Answer Key

A.

08:52:37 A.M.	The Time the Earthquake Hit at
7.6	The Earthquake Magnitude
74.698	Number of People Killed in Pakistan/ Pakistani Official Death Toll
\$ 6.2 Billion	The Money Raised for Reconstruction and Development at the Donors' Conference

Score: 0.25 pt. for each correct item

B.

Headings	Number of Paragraph(s)
Description of the Earthquake	1
Reactions to the Earthquake	3 and 4

Score: 0.25 pt. for each correct item

C.

1. The 2005 Kashmir earthquake is not unique at all, for it is similar in size to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the 2009 Sumatra earthquake.
2. The region that was struck by the earthquake is still underdeveloped and has not reached the pre-earthquake status.

Score: 0.5 pt. for correcting each statement

D.

1. What made the destruction in Kashmir very big were the unexpected occurrence of the earthquake and the poor construction of the region.

Score: 0.5 pt. for the two reasons

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

2. Kofi Annan was trying to urge the international community to offer Pakistan more help because if it did not do that, the number of deaths would greatly increase.

Score: 0.75 pt. for the explanation

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

3. The writer feels critical of U.S.A. and UK which were impractical and spent much money on training and seminars rather than relieving people's pain quickly. On the other hand, he seems admiring those countries which did practical reconstructions and rehabilitations and made sure the people of Kashmir got the proper help as soon as possible.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying each attitude and explaining it

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

E.

1. tremor: shaking of the ground; small earthquake
2. collapsed: destroyed
3. paralyzed: unable to move, act, or function properly
4. initial: happening at the beginning

Score: 0.5 pt. for explaining each word

F. "...hospitals and rescue services including police departments and armed forces were paralyzed," says the author in the second paragraph. This is a metaphor because the author is directly comparing hospitals and rescue services to a paralyzed person who usually feels unable to move; those organizations were also unable to function and act properly.

Score: 0.5 pt. for identifying the figure of speech

0.5 pt. for proper explanation

0.25 pt. for the sentence structure

Note: Students get nothing if they pick the statement and don't identify the figure of speech and justify their answers.

G.

1. Collected: were collecting
2. Know: knows
3. Was coming: came; had come
4. Had died: will have died

Score: 0.25 pt. for correcting each error

H.

1. Kofi Annan said that a second, massive wave of death would happen if they did not step up their efforts then.

Score: 0.25 pt. for each underlined item

2. International NGOs have delivered a large amount of the money in terms of services.

Score: 0.5 pt. for the verb form

0.25 pt. for the word order