

English Language Exam

Part One: Reading

(Score: 11/20)

Read the following article from ATHENSPLUS magazine issued in 2008 in which the writer focuses on how Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) can take initiatives to help the poor and save the environment. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

An Organic Market Where No Food Is Wasted

At Voula, abandoned children get free food and unsold produce is given to the homeless

By Leonidas Dilsizian

1. “No food wasted” is the slogan at the organic food market in the coastal suburb of Voula where, as one fruit seller explained, the concept of garbage doesn’t exist.
2. Every Saturday morning, a van from the SOS Village for orphaned and abandoned youngsters arrives at Voula’s organic market where house “mothers” and drivers make the rounds of some 60 fruit and vegetables stalls. An agreement between the organic food producers and the heads of the village in nearby Vari provides each mother with a kilo of produce free of charge from every stall. Getting there early means they get the best of the crop.
3. “We can meet nearly all our vegetables need for the week,” said Constantina Pouri, an SOS “mother” of five children age 5-10.
4. The program provides the village with 60 kilos of food every week and is soon to be followed by another between the World Ark NGO for abandoned children and another organic market.
5. Alexandra Valopetropoulo, vice president of the Association of Organic Farmer’s at Attica’s Street Markets, used to be in advertising but to organic farming some years ago. She now has a stall at the Voula market.
6. “Intentions are not enough, nor is the result. What are important are the idea and the way you carry it out. The simpler and easier the idea, the more effective it is. This is a simple functional concept that does the producers no harm and works like clockwork,” she told Kathimerini’s Eco Magazine.
7. “On the one hand, we had support of the consumers and, on the other, the support of the municipality” who provides the site rent-free,” said Valopetropoulo.
8. The concept doesn’t stop there. Once the market closes, vans bearing volunteers from the Friendship Bridge association arrive to pick up any food that has not been sold but can’t wait until the next market. They leave bearing cartons full of all kinds of produce.
9. “We collect food and give it to the organizations such as the Mother Theresa Association, Caritas and World Ark,” said volunteer Giorgos Kyratzis of the Friendship Bridge NGO, which promotes volunteerism. “Since the food has been produced, why should it be thrown out? Last week we took away 130 Kilo; that’s a lot.”
10. One wonders why the same doesn’t happen at regular street market. “Because there isn’t the same organization, trust or, above all, awareness that there is in the organic food chain,” he said.
11. Huge quantities of food are collected for people in need.
12. “It is inconceivable that each street market’s leftovers end up at the Ano Liosia landfill instead of helping people. What we do is just common sense, nothing more. It isn’t philanthropy,” explained Valopetropoulo.
13. A food chain -an organic one at that- is being guaranteed in perpetuity, as the fruit of the earth is distributed among a broad spectrum of society, and what is left over returned to the earth in form of compost, and without the involvement of any middle men.

A. Answer the following set of questions using your own words.

Answer Key

- A.** 1) The focus of this organic market is improving environment with no leftovers of vegetable products and feeding them the needy people such as SOS village orphaned and abandoned youngsters.
 2) Each mother goes there early to get one kilo of produce free of charge from the best of the cop and feed children aged 5-11 meeting their vegetable needs for a week.
 3) a- used to be in advertising
 b- turned to organic farming some years ago
 c- Now has a stall at the Voula market and vice president of the Association of Organic Farmers at Attica's Street Markets
 4) This organic market was made successful because of the intentions, simple effective idea and support of consumers and municipality.

- B.** 1) Three types of audience who might be interested in reading this article:
 a- Humanitarian organizations: to initiate ideas to help needy people
 b- Farmers: set plans to help the poor and protect environment
 c- Municipality: to find areas for such markets to be held
 2) The three different methods the writer uses to achieve credibility in her article are:
 a- places: Voula
 b- Names= SOS
 c- Quotation p3
 d- Expert's testimony p6

- C.** 1) Thesis statement: p11. Big amounts of food are packed to feed people in poverty.
 2) a- P4: chronological
 b- P7: contrast
 c- P9/ sent. 1: exemplification
 d- P10/ sent. 2: cause+ listing

D.

P	Person	Position/ Career
3	Constantina Pouri	SOS mother
5	Alexandra Valopetrapoulou	Vice president of The Association of Organic Farmers At Attica's Street Markets
9	Giorgos Kyiratzis	Volunteer of the Friendship Bridge NGO

E. Valopetropoulou in P7 of Dilizian's article entitled "An Organic Market Where No Food Is Wasted" clarifies the source of support gained by both consumers and municipality.

- F.** a) Chain (P13)
 b) Helping (P12)
 c) Need (P11)
 d) Trust (P10)

- G.** a) Friendship Bridge NGO
 b) Volunteers
 c) Municipality
 d) Idea