

English language Exam

Part one: Reading

Read the article below which appeared in Outlook Newspaper, issued in March 2010 in which the writer presents the issue of global warming through students' campaign. When you are through with the reading, answer the questions that follow.

BSS Rallys for a Safer Climate

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1. Last week, the biology student society (BSS) picked up its climate change awareness campaign where it last left off. As promised, the BSS held a movie screening of *The Day After Tomorrow* on Monday March 18, at the Charles Hostler Student Center (CHSC) Auditorium between the late hours of 6 and 8 pm. Just preceding the movie showing was a short presentation portraying the contemporary issue of global warming, its mechanism, major threats, and finally some down to earth, practical solutions for the common citizen. A short five or so minute video was then relayed highlighting the main ideas discussed with particular emphasis on the considerable role of mankind concerning the onset of global climatic disorder and thus the near-total annihilation of human and animal wildlife.
2. The Hollywood blockbuster starring Dennis Quaid as Jack Hall playing a certified climatologist who predicts the coming of a new ice age is shunned by representatives of the American legislative body, mainly the Vice President of the United States of America, who seems to be more preoccupied with the country's sensitive economy. Soon enough, Jack's predictions begin to manifest in full bloom, only much earlier than expected.
3. Beginning with the dissociation of massive polar glaciers from the North Pole and leading up to events that devastate Los Angeles and the better part of the Northern America with unforeseen ice baths, rapid drops in temperature, and menacing winds of blistering cold, thereby throwing the world some two hundred centuries (20,000 years) back into a period of glacial maximum with little hope to survive.
4. One could recognize the film primarily as an eye opener to the devastating effects of fatal and wholly destructive weather, that is to say, *The Day After Tomorrow* serves as visible testimony to the impossible made possible, dauntingly illustrating the consequences of unbeatable world climate facts in combination with a modest rush of science fiction, and a tint of imagination, leaving its viewers to ponder the future of a rapidly advancing world – or is it?
5. The movie night concluded with a colorful reception constituting a generous display of juices amidst a diverse assortment of chocolate cookies and butter biscuits where the spectators, hopefully, emerged with a more empathetic sentiment towards the climatic fate of mankind's one and only home – planet Earth.

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

- 1- What was the main concern of the Vice President, and did Jack's expectations come true? Show how. (1 pt)
 - 2- The writer raises a question in paragraph 4. What is the kind of question and what is its purpose? (0.75 pt)
 - 3- What was the content of the presentation before showing the film? (1 pt)
 - 4- What features of ice age are presented in the text? (1.25 pt)
- B)
- 1- Provide another conclusion of your own for the article. (1 pt)
 - 2- Arrange the following ideas in the chronological order as they appeared in the text. (1.25 pt)
 - a- The viewers received a great hospitality.
 - b- The film aimed to leave an impact on the viewers.
 - c- Features of ice age.
 - d- Theme of the film.
 - e- What can people do.
 - 3- What function(s) does the introductory paragraph of the article serve? (0.75pt)
- C)
- 1- Support paragraph 4 with a subtitle. (0.5 pt)
 - 2- Pick up two statements that show opinion. (0.5 pt)
- D) Based on the information presented in the article, fill in the chart below. Copy the chart on your booklet. (1.25 pts)

Date	
Place	
Duration	
Actor	
Dessert	

- E) Find words in the text which carry the antonyms of the following. (1 pt)
- a- Passivity
 - b- Conceal
 - c- Pass away
 - d- Partially
- F) What do the following pronouns refer to? (0.75pt)
- a- Its/ paragraph 1
 - b- Who seems/ paragraph 2
 - c- Its/ paragraph 4

Part two: writing

score: 9/20

The writer mentioned that part of the presentation was related to "some down to earth, practical solutions for the common citizens" with respect to global warming. As a common citizen, suggest three practical, down to earth solutions to solve the problems of global warming. Discuss your ideas in a 250-300 word essay of three body paragraphs. See that u put the reader in general atmosphere of your topic by writing a clear thesis statement which must be backed up with relevant details in the body paragraphs, and end with a conclusion. Draft, revise and proofread your essay before you hand it in. Your writing will be assessed as follows:

5 pts for content and organization;

3 pts for language and style, and 1 pt for tidiness and legibility.

Good Work

Answer Key

A) 1- The main concern of the Vice President was the country's sensitive economy. Yes, Jack's expectations came true because they were manifested in the "full bloom only much earlier than expected.

2- The writer in paragraph 4 asks a rhetoric question whose answer is known. The writer raises it and does not expect an answer on the part of the reader. The question is about the effect of the film on the viewers which the writer doubts since the viewers will watch and then leave without being willing to foresee how the future swiftly advances.

3- The content of the presentation was about global warming, its mechanism, threats, and solutions.

4- Features of ice age presented in the text are:

- a- Dissociation of massive polar glaciers
- b- Unforeseen ice baths
- c- Rapid drops in temperature
- d- Menacing winds
- e- Blistering cold

B)

1- Answers vary

2- e-d-c-b-a

3- The introductory paragraph serves two functions:

- a- It arouses the reader's interest on the issue of global warming held by a movie screening of "The Day After Tomorrow"
- b- Gives background information on the issue of global warming and the role of mankind.

C)

1- Testimony, Consequence, Imagination

2- Paragraph 2/ ...seems to be more preoccupied
Paragraph 5/ ...where the spectators hopefully emerged...

D)

Date	March 18
Place	CHSC
Duration	6 to 8 p.m
Actor	Dennis Quaid
Dessert	Juice, cookies, biscuits

E)

- a- awareness/ paragraph 1
- b- manifest/ paragraph 2
- c- survive/ paragraph 3

d- wholly/ paragraph 4

F)

a- society

b- Vice President

c- The Day After Tomorrow