

READING UNSEEN PASSAGE

Class 11 - English Core

Section A

Question No. 1 to 10 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

1. Ghost nets aren't supernatural, but they are legitimately scary. A ghost net is a fishing net that's been lost or abandoned in the ocean. They are one particularly appalling part of the global ghost fishing problem, which includes fishing gear abandoned in the water. Any net or line left in the ocean can pose a threat to marine life. Just because a net is no longer used by fishers doesn't mean it stops working. These nets continue to trap everything in their path, presenting a major problem for the health of our oceans and marine life.
2. Ghost nets entangle sea turtles, dolphins and porpoises, birds, sharks, seals and more, apart from catching fish. The nets keep animals from moving freely, cause injuries and keep mammals and birds from rising to the surface for air. Since hundreds of animals can be caught in a single net, this threat is monumental. The ghost nets harm coral reefs too—breaking corals, exposing them to disease and even blocking the reefs from needed sunlight.
3. Ghost nets are also a major contributor to the ocean plastics' crisis. Most modern nets are made of nylon or other plastic compounds that can last for centuries. According to a 2018 study in Scientific Reports, ghost nets make up at least 46 percent of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Those abandoned fishing lines and nets that do breakdown never go away; they just become smaller pieces of plastic. Marine animals mistake this microplastic for food and eat it, which can harm internal organs, keep them from eating and expose them to toxic chemicals.
4. Exorcising ghost nets from our oceans will require commitment, cooperation and innovation. Many groups are working to remove ghost nets from the sea and are collaborating with local fishers and governments around the world to identify target areas and remove as many nets as possible. In 2015, a single World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF)-led mission in the Baltic Sea hauled up 268 tons of nets, ropes and other material.
5. To stop these nets from becoming ghosts in the first place, conservation organisations advocate for fishing gear that can be traced to its owner so anyone dumping nets can be fined and refundable deposits on nets to encourage returning or recycling rather than littering. Tools like sonar reflectors that can make ghost nets easier to find and working with small-scale fisheries to develop more sustainable fishing gear and practices are other suggestions. It is only by attacking this problem from all sides, together with conservation partners, fishers and supporters, can we banish ghost nets and protect our oceans.

(437 words)

1. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.

Ghost nets have been named so because they _____.

- A. cause much harm to the marine life
 - B. are functional though not in use by fishers
 - C. are not owned by anyone
 - D. act as a snare for all animals in oceans
2. Comment on the writer's reference to the ghost nets in paragraph one, as a health problem for the oceans.

3. List the two ways being entangled in a ghost net is likely to impact a walrus.
(Clue: Think about the type of animal a walrus is)
4. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'negligible', from words used in paragraph two.
 - A. unimpressive
 - B. monumental
 - C. exposing
 - D. threat
5. The writer would agree with the given statements based on paragraph three, EXCEPT:
 - A. Most ghost nets take a few years to completely disintegrate.
 - B. Ghost nets contribute to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.
 - C. Most ghost nets provide nutrition to marine animals, upon disintegration.
 - D. Ghost nets can curtail freedom of marine animals.
6. Some records share that fishing nets used to be made of common rope using natural fibres, prior to the 1960s. Based on your understanding of paragraph three, list one major advantage that these had over the fishing nets being used in present times.
7. Why is it fair to say that commitment and innovation have to go hand-in-hand to rid the oceans of ghost nets?
8. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
The writer quotes the example of the WWF-led mission in the Baltic Sea (Paragraph 4), in order to.....
9. How can the solutions, suggested in paragraph five, best be described?
 - A. practical
 - B. presentable
 - C. popular
 - D. prejudiced
10. Select the most suitable title for the above passage.
 - A. The Scary Side of Ghost Nets
 - B. Ghost Nets - A Result of Human Dominance
 - C. Ghost Nets - A Menace to Marine Life
 - D. D. Ways to Tackle the Problem of Ghost Nets

Question No. 11 to 20 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

Read the passage given below:

1. The art of conversation, like any art, is a skill of elegance, nuance and creative execution. I happen to believe that there is an art to everything we do, and why not? Without flair and panache most things become a drudgery. Why settle for drudgery when you can have art?
2. When it comes to the art of conversation, we've all met people who seem to have the knack for it. They can talk to anybody about anything and they seem to do it with complete ease. And while it's true that there are those who are born with the gift of the gab, luckily for the rest of us, conversation skills can be developed and mastered.
3. Conversation is a form of communication; however, it is usually more spontaneous and less formal. We enter into conversations for purposes of pleasant engagement in order to meet new people, to find out information and to enjoy social interactions. As far as types of conversation, they vary anywhere from intellectual conversations and information exchanges to friendly debates and witty banter.

4. While there is more to having good conversation skills than being a comedian, a dramatic actor, or a great story teller, it is not necessary to become more gregarious, animated, or outgoing.
5. Instead, you can develop the ability to listen attentively, ask fitting questions, and pay attention to the answers - all qualities essential to the art of conversation. With diligent practice and several good pointers, anyone can improve his or her conversation skills.
6. People who are genuinely interested in others are usually interesting themselves. Why? Because they are more open to learning about and understanding new things. Showing interest also encourages the other person to be relaxed and share information more freely. Display attentiveness by keeping good eye contact and listening actively.
7. If you happen to be shy and need time to warm up before you share your own views, you can ask open-ended questions or encourage the other person to elaborate on their insights. This kick-starts the conversation and before you know it you are engaged in a good conversational flow.
8. To start a conversation, go up to someone and introduce yourself. It is both polite and necessary to start off things smoothly.
9. When the occasion calls for it, you can offer a handshake and then smile and make eye contact. Being friendly puts the other person at ease and opens the door for him or her to introduce themselves.
10. The art of conversation, like any skill, takes practice. Period. Do not expect to be adept after your first few attempts. It will take practice as well as exposure to many different social situations.
11. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option:

The art of conversation is a skill of _____.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a) friendliness and consensus | b) sophistication and creativity |
| c) uniformity and compatibility | d) assertion and ease |
12. Comment on the writer's reference to conversation skills as something you are **born** with.
 13. List two reasons why people enter into conversation.
 14. Select the option that conveys the opposite of **witty**, as used in paragraph 3.

a) boring	b) ignorant
c) creative	d) educated
 15. The writer would **not** agree with the given statements based on paragraphs 3 to 5, except

a) It is important to be outgoing to be a good conversationist.	b) Conversations are meant only for purposes of research.
c) Conversational skills can be improved with regular practice.	d) Attentive listening is important only while debating.
 16. According to the author, showing interest in others leads to interesting conversation.
Based on your understanding of paragraphs 5 and 6, list one way how a good listener can make the other person speak more freely.
 17. How can one warm up before one shares one's views?
 18. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
The writer gives an example of going up to someone and introducing oneself in order to _____.
 19. How can the ways to start a conversation, as suggested in the passage, be best described?

a) practical	b) humbling
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c) challenging

d) exhausting

20. Select the most suitable title for the above passage.

a) Conversation vs Communication

b) Mastering the Art of Conversation

c) Conversation - A Challenging Pursuit

d) Effective Listening

Question No. 21 to 30 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

It is hard to think of an Indian snack that is not fried. However, we need to be aware of what happens to oil when it is heated. When oil begins to smoke, it is a good indicator that it has been heated too much. At this temperature, chemical changes begin to take place, which has many health risks. Of course, this is tricky. If the oil is not hot enough, then more of it is absorbed, and the resultant product is quite soggy and unfit to eat.

Further, prolonged heating of oil at high temperature, i.e. at its smoking point, leads to its degradation. A substance called acrolein is formed which can irritate the stomach lining. The oil that has decomposed to acrolein is dark and viscous. Normally this does not happen when food is fried at home. But as oil is expensive we are not willing to put it down the drain after having used it only once. The common tendency is to set aside any oil that is left over to use another time. And repeated use of the same oil guarantees the formation of acrolein with all its undesirable effects. In fact, some experts suggest that oil should not be held at its smoking temperature for more than 15 minutes at a time. This time span, as everyone knows, is hardly sufficient to prepare food for even a small family of four. Sadly, olive and corn oils are not widely available in our markets. Both these oils can be heated to higher temperatures before they start smoking.

Even heart-friendly oils, like those made from sunflower, are also not spared from these effects. Another problem arises when oil is stored under less than satisfactory conditions. If the oil is not stored in an airtight container which, additionally, allows light to pass through, then it will deteriorate further because of the effect of oxygen and light on the oil.

By and large, these undesirable effects result when food is deep-fried. So, eat deep-fried food occasionally. This does not mean we can no longer enjoy the flavour and palatability of fried foods. Some food like tikkis lend themselves to both deep and shallow frying. Since every batch of frying requires fresh oil, there is no problem with leftover oil. The practice of heating small amounts of mustard, black grams chillies and the like in a little oil, before they are added to vegetables and curries, is called tempering. Tempering is not meant solely for flavour but has a nutritional benefit as well.

21. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.

_____ is a substance that irritates the stomach lining.

i. Acrolein

ii. Sunflower oil

iii. Acetic acid

iv. Corn oil

22. Comment on the degradation of oil due to prolonged heating as referred to in paragraph two.

23. List any two ways one can opt to delish the flavours of deep-fried foods.

(Clue: Think about the alternatives to curb its harmful effects)

24. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'undesirable', from words used in paragraph five.

i. flavour

ii. tempering

iii. palatability

- iv. occasional
25. What is the other consequence of improper storage of oil?
- Oxidisation of Oil when left in open/improperly stored
 - Not storing it in air-tight container reduces freshness
 - Oil used for Deep-frying is super unhealthy
 - Light passes through it as Oil is transparent
26. Based on your understanding of paragraph six, list one major reason as to why tempering is done.
27. Why do we have a tendency of reusing the oil once used?
28. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
According to the writer, a few healthy oils that can be heated to higher temperatures before they start smoking are not widely available in our markets. These oils are _____.
29. What happens to oil when it is heated?
- It begins to smoke
 - Chemical Changes start taking place
 - If not heated enough, more of it is absorbed
 - Over-heating leads to its degradation
30. Select the most suitable title for the above passage.
- Fried Food and its effects
 - Effect of Oil in Indian Snacks
 - Indian snack - A Story Fried Food
 - Oil in Junk Food

Question No. 31 to 40 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

- The role friends play in our lives has become significantly greater now than at any other time in our history. Today many of us live and work great distances from where we were born or have grown up & are separated from our original families. The pain we feel when we are away from our families can be significant.
- The happiness of the individual relies on friendships that form a necessary human connection. It is perfectly normal to need and want friends and depression is more prevalent among those who lack friends. They lack the intimacy and richness friends can bring into our lives. Frequently friends reflect similar values to us. Yet these values are often different from the ones we grew up with; they are the values we created for ourselves in our adult lives.
- Communication skills are fundamental in all friendships. The more friends and acquaintances one has, the greater are one's communication skills. Some call these, people skills.
- Like watering a plant, we grow our friendships (and all our relationships) by nurturing them. Friendships need the same attention as other relationships if they are to continue. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgmental, supportive, understanding, and fun-filled.
- Sometimes a friendship can bring out the positive side that you never show in any other relationship. This may be because the pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner, or child) is removed. With a friend, you are to be yourself and free to change. Of course, you are free to do this in all other relationships as well but in friendships, you get to have lots of rehearsals and discussions about changes as you experience them. It is an unconditional experience where you receive as much as you give. You can explain yourself to a friend openly without the fear of hurting a family member. How do friendships grow? The answer is simple. By revealing yourself; being attentive;

remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them about it; put yourself in their position; showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend, you will understand the value of friendship. All this means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your own or perhaps someone from a completely different cultural background. This is why we have learned tolerance. In turn, we gain tolerance and acceptance for our own differences.

6. Friendships are made by being considerate which means all the communication skills come into play: active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills and editing yourself.
 7. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider society that would be beyond your family.
31. Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.
Friends play a more significant role today than ever before because _____.
- i. In the modern world, people need someone to talk to
 - ii. People are distanced from families
 - iii. Pain caused by separation from families can be cured by friends
 - iv. Having friends is the only way to go ahead in life
32. Comment on the writer's reference to friendship as essential human need in paragraph two.
33. List the two ways how friendship is different from other relationship.
(**Clue:** Think about the limitations of friendship)
34. Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'distance', from words used in paragraph five.
- i. Empathy
 - ii. Background
 - iii. Tolerance
 - iv. Rehearsal
35. Which communication skills help in building friendships?
- i. Active listening skills
 - ii. Negotiation skills
 - iii. Reflecting emotion
 - iv. All of these
36. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself. Based on your understanding of paragraph seven, state how friends help in reflecting yourself.
37. How does friendship brings out a positive side of you?
38. Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:
We gain tolerance in our lives by _____.
39. How do friendships grow as suggested in paragraph five?
- i. By revealing yourself
 - ii. By being attentive
 - iii. By showing empathy
 - iv. All of these

40. Select the most suitable title for the above passage.

- i. Friendship - A unique relationship
- ii. Family and Friends
- iii. Significance of Friends
- iv. Role of Friendship

Question No. 41 to 50 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[10]

Read the passage given below.

1. Very often, we do not take the first step towards a good cause because we say to ourselves, "The task is so big. What can I do alone?" So nothing gets done. There is much talk about environmental protection, air pollution and saving our forests. Do we really care? If we do, here are a few things we can do to make our surroundings more pleasant.
 2. It is good to adopt a two-uses-attitude! By putting an article to a second use, we are giving it a longer lease of life and using up less raw material from nature. One of the worst things we do is the abuse of paper. The clean sides of envelopes can be used to write small notes, lists and reminders around the house. The more paper we use, the more trees will have to be cut down. For the same reason, we should avoid the use of paper napkins or paper plates. Cloth napkins are just as good, for they can be washed and used over and over again.
 3. The one area which needs the most urgent attention is effective garbage disposal. People who are conscious about it follow rules and laws strictly. As a result, their neighbourhoods are clean and beautiful. A lot of people don't care about the environment because they don't understand the adverse effect that society has on it. It is important to convince people to care about the environment. The first step would be to convince people to change by providing simple alternative solutions and ways of doing things. The Internet is a powerful tool and a group of like-minded people can be formed on social media. People can share environmental stories and issues as well as pool in solutions and alternatives to educate one another. With the current state that our planet is in, it is imperative that people actively care about the environment and most importantly, act now.
 4. Similarly, each one of us can contribute to a cleaner environment. All kitchen waste should be collected separately. Those who have green fingers can turn this into valuable manure. Dig a pit and put the kitchen waste into it. When the pit is a little over half full, cover it up with mud. Let nature do the rest. Within three or six months, we will have a good garden manure. It can also be done as a community project by digging a large pit in the colony. Do take help of all the members, for nothing succeeds like co-operation.
41. Why don't we take the first step towards a good cause?
 42. What is a two-uses-attitude?
 43. What can we do to avoid the abuse of paper? (Any two points)
 44. What is the result of an effective way of garbage disposal?
 45. How can the Internet be a powerful tool in spreading environmental awareness?
 46. How can the making of garden manure be done as a community project?
 47. How long does it take to make good garden manure?
 48. Select a suitable word from the passage which means - something in a bad and undesirable way. (Para 2)
 49. Pick out the word from the passage which means completely necessary. (Para 3)
 50. Select a suitable word from the passage which means - being concerned or interested.

Section B

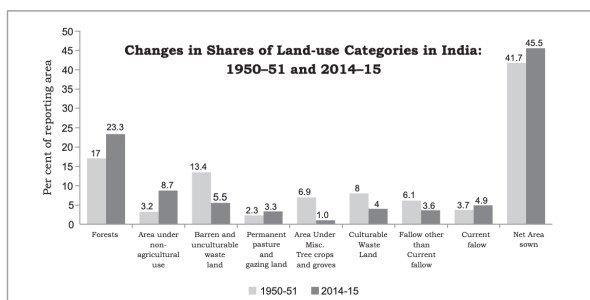
Question No. 51 to 60 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[11]

Land-use Changes in India

Land-use in a region, to a large extent, is influenced by the nature of economic activities carried out in that region. However, while economic activities change over time, land, like many other natural resources, is fixed in terms of its area. At this stage, one needs to appreciate three types of changes that an economy undergoes, which affect land-use.

- i. The size of the economy (measured in terms of value for all the goods and services produced in the economy) grows over time as a result of increasing population, change in income levels, available technology and associated factors. As a result, the pressure on land will increase with time and marginal lands would come underuse.
- ii. Secondly, the composition of the economy would undergo a change over time. In other words, the secondary and the tertiary sectors usually grow much faster than the primary sector, specifically the agricultural sector. This type of change is common in developing countries, like India. This process would result in a gradual shift of land from agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses. You would observe that such changes are sharp around large urban areas. The agricultural land is being used for building purposes.
- iii. Thirdly, though the contribution of the agricultural activities reduces over time, the pressure on land for agricultural activities does not decline. The reasons for continued pressure on agricultural land are:
 - a. In developing countries, the share of population dependent on agriculture usually declines much more slowly compared to the decline in the sector's share in GDP.
 - b. The number of people that the agricultural sector has to feed is increasing day by day.



India has undergone major changes within the economy over the past four or five decades, and this has influenced the land-use changes in the country. There are two points that you need to remember before you derive some meaning from this figure. Firstly, the percentages shown in the figure have been derived with respect to the reporting area. Secondly, since even the reporting area has been relatively constant over the years, a decline in one category usually leads to an increase in some other category. Four categories have undergone increases, while four have registered declines. Share of the area under forest, the area under non-agricultural uses, current fallow lands and net area is sown have shown an increase. The following observations can be made about these increases:

- i. The rate of increase is the highest in the case of areas under non-agricultural use. This is due to the changing structure of the Indian economy, which is increasingly dependent on the contribution from industrial and services sectors and the expansion of related infrastructural facilities. Also, an expansion of area under both urban and rural settlements has added to the increase. Thus, the area under non-agricultural uses is increasing at the expense of wastelands and agricultural land.
- ii. The increase in the share under forest, as explained before, can be accounted for by the increase in the demarcated area under forest rather than an actual increase in the forest cover in the country.
- iii. The increase in the current fallow cannot be explained from information pertaining to only two points. The trend of current fallow fluctuates a great deal over years, depending on the variability of rainfall and cropping cycles.
- iv. The increase in net area sown is a recent phenomenon due to the use of culturable wasteland for agricultural purposes. Before which it was registering a slow decrease. There are indications that most of the decline had occurred due to the increases in area under nonagricultural use.

51. What happens to the size of the economy over a period of time usually?

- a) It decreases
- b) It vanishes
- c) It remains constant
- d) It increases

52. What factors lead to an increase in the size of the economy?

- a) All of these
- b) Increasing population
- c) Available technology
- d) Change in income levels

53. How does the composition of the economy in developing nations undergo a change?

- a) The secondary and tertiary sectors usually grow much faster than the primary sector
- b) The secondary and tertiary sectors grow slower than the primary sector
- c) The secondary, tertiary, and primary sectors grow at a similar pace
- d) All of these

54. On what factor does the land-use in a region depend upon to a large extent?

- a) On the topography of that region
- b) Nature of economic activities carried out in that region
- c) Nature of the working population in that region
- d) On the size of the population of that region

55. Land _____ in terms of its area over a period of time.

- a) becomes invisible
- b) diminishes
- c) increases
- d) is fixed

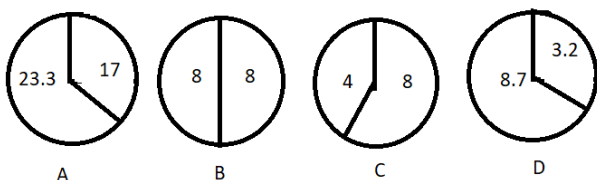
56. On what factor does the land use depend upon?

- a) The pressure on land for agricultural activities
- b) The composition of the economy
- c) The size of the economy
- d) All of these

57. What is the economic status of India?

- a) Underdeveloped
- b) Developed
- c) Developing
- d) Superpower

58. What is the proportion of land occupied by forests in the year 1950-51 and 2014-15?



- a) Option (D)
- b) Option (C)
- c) Option (B)
- d) Option (A)

59. Since the past how many years, India has undergone major changes within the economy?

- a) Past 100 years
- b) Past 10-20 years
- c) Past 40-50 years
- d) Past 75 years

60. What happens to the number of people when the agricultural sector has to feed on economic views?

- a) It decreases day by day
- b) It increases and then decreases
- c) It remains constant
- d) It increases day by day

Question No. 61 to 70 are based on the given text. Read the text carefully and answer the questions:

[11]

- i. My father has always been a passionate man. He has always been passionate about the people of the Everest region - so much so that in 1960 he began the first of the many projects aimed at improving their lives. In 1975 he had begun building his second hospital in the Himalayas when tragedy struck our family. My mother and my youngest sister Belinda were flying into the mountains to join him when their small aeroplane crashed soon after take-off from Kathmandu.
- ii. I was in Assam when I first heard of the accident. I flew straight to Kathmandu and met my father and oldest sister Sarah on a narrow lane on the outskirts of the city. Any hope I had clung to, that my mother and sister were still alive, was extinguished the moment I saw father – bowed and broken. I knew then that Mum and Belinda would never return.
- iii. It was years before Dad fully came out of this period of darkness. Only by plunging himself into more adventure and ever more projects in Nepal, could he get through it. He has built 42 schools and hospitals there.
- iv. As I grew up, some of Dad’s restlessness rubbed off on me. I know many people think there must be some compulsion for the son of Sir Edmund Hillary to climb mountains.
They assume that there was some imperative etched in stone that says, “Thou shalt climb mountains” – and in particular Everest, whether you like it or not. But for me, it’s simpler than that. I think families are like factories: the Hillary family is a limited production mountaineering establishment.
- v. Today, at the age of 48, I am an inveterate mountain man. I have been on more than 30 mountaineering expeditions, from the Himalayas to the Antarctic. And yes, I have climbed Everest – twice.
- vi. I treasure the same things that drew my father to climbing –the tremendous camaraderie involved, the intensity and adrenaline buzz especially in dangerous places where your life depends upon making the right call. I guess that I am luckier than most because I am able to fall back on all that my father has taught me.

61. Why did the author take up climbing like his father?

- a) It was his childhood desire
- b) His mother wanted him to
- c) He was born in a family of mountaineers
- d) His father forced him to

62. How did the author prove to be the true son of his father?

- a) All of these
- b) He proved to be an excellent mountaineer
- c) He scaled the Everest twice
- d) He involved himself in social service

63. Why does the author consider himself lucky?

- a) He could learn from his father’s experiences
- b) He managed to continue the legacy
- c) He was able to fulfil his family’s desire
- d) His father supported him in the mountains

64. What happened to the author’s mother and sister?

- a) They left family and settled in another country
- b) They jumped off a plane
- c) They succumbed to their injuries after a plane crash
- d) They survived the plane crash

65. A word similar in meaning to **order/command**" in paragraph (iv) is

- a) establishment
- b) production
- c) imperative
- d) restlessness

66. A word opposite in meaning to **lethargy** in paragraph (vi) is

- a) treasure
- b) adrenaline
- c) camaraderie
- d) intensity

67. The phrase **Thou shalt climb mountains** means:

- a) You shall climb mountains
- b) You shall never climb mountains
- c) You should plan about climbing mountains
- d) You have no option but to climb mountains

68. A word similar in meaning to **section** in paragraph (ii) is

- a) narrow
- b) broken
- c) outskirts
- d) extinguished

69. The author's father was passionate about the people of the Everest region; so he _____.

- a) Worked on the improvement of their lives
- b) Climbed mountains
- c) Invited all the family to stay there
- d) Built schools and hospitals everywhere

70. The plane crash in 1975 led to the _____.

- a) Death of the author's family
- b) Turning Point in the author and his father's life
- c) The author's father becoming depressed
- d) Creation of many schools and hospitals