

PART ONE: Reading

A. Comprehension

When I wake up each morning and read the newspaper, I ask myself, everyday, the same question: “what is wrong with the world?” The world today is richer than it has ever been before. With the help of science, we are now able to use the wealth of our world to our maximum benefit. We are more educated than our ancestors ever dreamed of. We have access to more knowledge. I ask myself everyday what, then, is wrong with our world? I can answer that question with three words: it is sick.

It is sick with fear, instability and insecurity. Sick with tension and terrorism. Sick with power, greed and even with its own richness. And because there is so much sickness in the world today..

Just look at the contrast. In some developed countries, they burn crops to keep up their prices, whereas in poor countries thousands of children starve to death in the desert sun. In western countries, they have mountains of butter melting to waste while in Asia and Latin America, a peasant often has to pay half a day’s wage for cooking oil. In the rich countries, people die not of hunger but of over eating. Rich or poor, the reality we see over the world is the same: the world is sick, it is at war.

But I am a dreamer. I hope that one day all the people of the world will work together rather than fight each other. They will establish a firm and lasting peace which promotes the unity and brotherhood, based on mutual respect, understanding, and acceptance of the other.

1. Choose the most suitable idea of the text:

- a- The different diseases that the world suffers from.
- b- Getting informed by reading the newspapers.
- c- The causes of the world’s illness.

2. Say whether the following statements are true or false.

- a- People used to be more educated.....
- b- People lead a better life than ever before.....
- d- Children die of hunger in poor countries.....

3. Answer the following questions according to the text:

a-Is the writer worried about the world?

.....

b-What does the world suffer from?

.....

c- What are the writer’s predictions for the future of the world?

.....

4. Who / what do the underlined words in the text refer to:

- a- myself (§1) =.....
- b- it (§2) =.....

B. Text exploration:

1. Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to:

a- fright (§2)=..... b- die of hunger (§3)=.....

2. Find in the text words that are opposite in meaning to:

a- healthy (§1)=/=..... b- safety (§2)=/=.....

3. What do the underlined words express:

a- We must exchange ideas and opinions in peaceful dialogues.....

b- We mustn't use violence to solve problems.....

c- People needn't be rich to be happy.....

d- These children look tired and weak. They must be hungry.....

4. Classify these words according to the pronunciation of their final 's'

Ancestors- prices-countries –thousands- establishes –results

/s/	/z/	/ɪz/
.....
.....

5. Fill in the gaps with words from the following list:

struggle -wars -must -problems - better

Poor countriesrely on themselves and organise their economy muchto put an end to famine, unemployment and that have often led to bloodybetween the people and their army. Civil..... must be avoided at any expense.

Best wishes

