

Level : 2 ASLLE	2019/2020
English Exam (second term)	Time/ 2 hours

Name: **Surname:**

Stories from recent natural disasters

Over the past few months, the United States, Mexico and nearby Caribbean Islands have suffered major natural disasters.

The recent fires in Northern California have killed 23 people with at least 285 people still missing, according to CNN nearly 170.000 acres have been burned through the state.

As reported by ABC News, Irma Hurricanes causes around \$100 billion in damages, killed 75 people in Florida and ravaged islands in the Caribbean.

For the first time in 300 years, there is not a single living person on the Island of Barbuda. A civilisation that existed there over 300 years has now been extinguished, Ronald Sanders told “USA today” after Hurricane Irma hit.

Though there has been, an incredible damage and loss of life, there has also been “light amidst darkness”. Collected here are two of these stories that have caught national attention.

Airbnb (Air, bed and breakfast) has activated its open homes for those who have lost their homes in California fires. The company is asking for hosts to donate any space for those displaced by the fires to stay while they get back on their feet.

During the Hurricane Harvey, a panic set for a woman who was soon to be a mother. According to people, Andrea Smith and her husband expected to drive to hospital to give birth, but they were met with 2 to 3 feet of water outside their apartment. Luckily, a neighbour of Smith’s had contacted a friend who lived near a fire station. The friend commandeered a fire truck and drove to take them to hospital. More of Smith’s neighbours formed a human chain to get her safely to the fire truck.

By Mike Anderson for the “Desert News”
October 12.2017

Part one: Reading Comprehension: (7.5pts)

1) Say if the sentences are true or false : (2pts)

- The report is about series of recent disasters in the USA and some parts of the World
- The fires of Northern California killed over a hundred of people.
- The Airbnb’s administration instructed its partners to offer accommodation to the victims.
- During the Hurricane Harvey, some neighbours offered help to a lady who was in emergency as she was suffering from a severe disease.

2) Answer the questions according to the text: (3pts)

- What is the fact that explains the tragedy of the island of Barbuda ?
- What does the writer mean when he said : Through there has been an incredible damage, there has been also “light amidst darkness”.
- Why were Andrea Smith and her husband driving to hospital ?

3) In which paragraph is it mentioned that : People called for solidarity (0.5pt)

4) **What do the underlined words refer to ? (2pts)**

- a. The company b. they
c. they d. her

Part two : Text Exploration : (7.5pts)

1) **Find in the text the words that are closest in meaning to : (1pt)**

- a. exterminated (4§) ⇒ b. among (5§) ⇒
c. fortunately (7§) ⇒

2) **Find in the text opposites to : (1pt)**

- a. Restored (3§) ≠ b. leave (6§) ≠

3) **Fill in the gaps with words from the list : (1pt)**

Imperative / aid / solidarity / emergency

Natural disasters have always elicited Firstly, people help one another to cope with needs. Then, religion makes it a moral Religions orders have often organized for the victims before states and private organizations such as the Red Cross and the Red Crescent intervene.

4) **Transform the second sentences so that they mean the same as the first : (.....pt)**

- a) All people must help to the victims.
⇒ Help
b) If I were you I would contribute in solidarity actions.
⇒ You
c) He asked him : "How do they know the number of victims?"
⇒ He asked him
d) All the victims were taken to hospital.
_.....

5) **Underline the silent letters in the words below : (1pt)**

while - often - wrong - castle

6) **Order the sentences below into a coherent paragraph : (2pts)**

- a. They arrived at once evacuated the inhabitants of the building.
b. Fortunately, everybody was safe.
c. As he was laying in his bed, Carl noticed the fire in the building.
d. And fought the flames for 15 minutes
e. He immediately called the fireman

Written expression: Choose only one topic.

Topic 1: You were a witness of a disaster you felt moved by the event you contributed in solidarity actions. Tell us what you did to help the victims.

Use these notes to help you :

- Sensitized friends / donate blood / clean the affected areas / drive the victims to hospital / funds / money food clothes.

Topic 2: You live in a seismic area. Write an essay in which you tell about the safety measures that should be taken before and during earthquake.

English test (correction)

Reading Comprehension

- 5) a) true / b) false / c) true / d) false

Comprehension

6)

- a) There was a tragedy in the island of Barbuda because all its people died. A civilization has been extinguished.
- b) When the writer said : “Though darkness”
He mean by the darkness the catastrophe and light solidarity. Despite of the tragedy there was help and love.
- c) Andrea Smith and her husband went to hospital to give birth to their baby.
The idea is mentioned in the last paragraph (4th).

7) **The idea is mentioned in paragraph 6 and 7.**

8) There = The island of Barbuda

They = those displaced by fire

They = Andrea Smith and her husband

Her = Andrea Smith

Text exploration

7) a) extinguished / b) amidst / c) luckily

8) a) ravaged / b) stay

9) a) solidarity / b) emergency / c) imperative / d) aid

10) a) Help must be brought by all people to help victims

b) You read better contribute in solidarity actions

c) He asked him how they knew the number of victims

11) while / often / wrong / castle

12)

1	2	3	4	5
c	e	a	d	b