

Part One : Reading Comprehension

(Score: 11/20)

Read the following selection which sheds light on debatable issues related to CO₂ emissions and deforestation, and then answer the questions that follow.

Carbon Emissions Trading

- 1 Pop quiz for all of you global-warming experts: After China and U.S., which country emits the greatest quantity of greenhouse gases per year? If you answer high-tech Japan or industrial Germany, you will flunk. **It** is rural Indonesia, which emits 3.3 billion tons (almost 3 billion metric tons) of carbon dioxide annually—almost entirely from deforestation.
- 2 Living trees absorb CO₂, but once they are cut down or burned, they release their stored carbon into the air. Trees also absorb sunlight that warms the earth, but in the tropics they absorb CO₂ and promote cloud formation that has a net cooling effect. In addition, thinning forests mean fewer trees to soak up the carbon emitted by industry and transport. Deforestation is responsible for about 20% of global carbon emissions more than those emitted from all the cars, boats and planes in the world.
- 3 Many programs plant trees to reduce CO₂ emissions, but it is not enough. It is more important to save the trees we already have. “You have got to deal with forests if you are going to make any progress on climate change,” says Carter Roberts, president of the World Wildlife Fund.
- 4 Despite the high emissions rate, the Kyoto Protocol for reducing carbon emissions gives tropical countries no incentives for protecting their forests, a process called “avoided deforestation”. However, the time for change has come. The World Bank is raising \$250 million for a pilot fund to support projects that would encourage governments and companies in the developed countries to pay for preserving trees in the tropics. That gives them the right to get carbon credits that allow the emission of CO₂. It is a small step, but it represents one of the first attempts to use the tools of carbon finance to save the 32 million acres (13 million hectares) of forest destroyed each year.
- 5 Existing carbon-credit programs focus on industrial emissions. The World Bank’s initiative extends carbon trading and CO₂ emissions caused by deforestation. “If deforestation is 20% of the problem, **it** should be 20% of the solution,” says Benoit Bosquet, a biocarbon specialist working with the bank, who is setting up the fund.
- 6 To reach **that** level, however, proponents of “avoided deforestation” must satisfy the skeptics who kept this project off the Kyoto Protocol when the environmental treaty’s carbon-trading program was set up in 2001. Negotiators at that time are worried that the carbon released by cut or burned timber was too difficult to track accurately—just try counting the trees in the Amazon basin—so countries could have ended up receiving credit for preserving nonexistent forests. But since then, scientists have greatly improved their ability to monitor deforestation through satellite technology.
- 7 If “avoided deforestation” takes off, its benefits will go far beyond reducing CO₂ emissions. Tropical forests are rich in biodiversity, but there has been no way to make money from keeping them safe—until now. Giving tropical countries carbon credits for the greenhouse gases saved when trees are preserved puts a market price on maintaining forests. And that allows conservation to compete economically with destructive logging and ranching. Instead of clearing trees, the rural poor could earn a living from the sale of carbon credits for preserving forests. “You can address poverty reduction and biodiversity cultivation and deal with huge carbon losses,” says Marcel Silviu, senior program manager for Wetlands International.
- 8 Not every critic is convinced. Jutta Kill of the forest advocacy group worries that rich

countries will use forestry credits as an excuse to avoid reducing industrial emissions. What is certain is that “avoided deforestation” gives tropical nations a vital stake in the efforts to slow down climate change by not forcing them to choose between development and the environment.

9 Indonesia is already pushing to include the problem of deforestation in any post-Kyoto deal at the climate-change talks at later stages. Let us hope it succeeds. It is time to save the trees, so they can save us.

Questions

A. Answer each of the following questions in 1-4 complete sentences of your own.

- 1. What is surprising about the result of the global warming pop quiz? **(Score: 01)**
- 2. Identify two advantages of living trees, as mentioned in the selection above. **(Score: 01)**
- 3. What common goal is there between the World Wildlife Fund and the World Bank? **(Score: 01)**
- 4. Explain why the project of “avoided deforestation” was excluded from the Kyoto Protocol. **(Score: 01)**

B. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

- 1. What is the writer’s tone in Paragraph 9? Justify your answer. **(Score: 01)**
- 2. How does the writer achieve credibility in the selection above? Provide examples. **(Score: 01)**
- 3. Identify two types of audience, other than the general reader, that might be interested in reading the selection above. State what interest each type finds. **(Score: 01)**

C. Scan Paragraphs 7 and 8 to fill in the table with advantages and disadvantages of “avoided deforestation” program, using phrases. Copy the chart in your booklet. **(Score: 02)**

Avoided Deforestation	
Advantages	Disadvantages
1.	1.
2.	2.

D. Refer to Paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 to find words/phrases that almost have the following meanings. **(Score: 01)**

- 1. *to fail or be mistaken*
- 2. *becoming less or diminishing*
- 3. *an introductory step*
- 4. *to put forward a plan for acceptance*

E. What does each pronoun, bold-typed in the selection above, refer to? **(Score: 01)**

- 1. **It** (Paragraph 1)
- 2. **it** (Paragraph 5)
- 3. **that** (Paragraph 6)
- 4. **us** (Paragraph 9)

Part Two: Writing **(Score: 09/20)**

The natural environment is the source of many valuable elements such as food, water, and air. However, it has been devastated by human induced activities. In a well-organized essay of 250-300 words, write about an environmental problem (pollution, global warming, ozone depletion, melting of ice caps, loss of biodiversity, etc.), focusing on its causes and effects. Make sure that, in your introduction, you put your reader in the general atmosphere of your topic and clearly provide a thesis statement, and that each of your body paragraphs starts with a topic sentence which you back up with relevant supporting details. Draft, revise, and proofread your essay. Your writing will be assessed for ideas, language and style, and tidiness. [Score: 05 for content, 03 for language and style, and 01 for tidiness and legible handwriting]

Part of the Q	Answer Key	Mark
	Competencies: - Utilize reading strategies - Develop literal and interpretive comprehension of written discourse - Produce transactional writing	
I-A-1	The surprise is that Indonesia, and not high-tech Japan or industrial Germany, is the country that emits the highest quantity of greenhouse gases.	01
I-A-2	First, living trees absorb CO2 emitted by industrial activities. Second, they have cooling effects when they absorb sunlight. (0.5 for each)	01
I-A-3	Both are calling for preserving forests. The president of World Wildlife Fund clarifies that progress in climate change requires dealing with the issue of forests. Similarly, the World Bank has launched a plan that supports projects to preserve trees. (0.5 for each)	01
I-A-4	Preserving trees means less carbon release and deforestation means more carbon release. Thus, it was difficult for those involved in the Kyoto protocol treaty to control and measure the carbon released as a result of deforestation in developed countries. Consequently, some countries would be credited for forests which don't exist.	01
I-B-1	The writer's tone is hopeful/optimistic/wishful. He hopes that Indonesia will succeed in its attempts to include the problem of deforestation in future deals so that trees and people's lives will be saved. (0.5 for identification and 0.5 for justification)	01
I-B-2	The writer uses different types of evidence to achieve credibility. First, he uses specific names such as in Paragraphs 1 and 4: "China", "U.S.", "Indonesia", "Kyoto Protocol", and "World Bank". Second, he uses numbers and percentages such as in Paragraphs 2 and 4: "20% of global carbon emissions" and "\$250 million". Third, he uses experts' opinion such as in Paragraphs 3 and 7: the opinions of Carter Roberts and Marcel Silvius about environmental problems. (Other correct types of evidence with examples are acceptable; two types are enough, and 0.5 for each)	01
I-B-3	First, environmentalists (environmental organizations) might be interested in reading the selection because it informs them about the steps that should be taken to address the issues resulted from CO ₂ emissions. Second, leaders/governments of industrial countries might be interested in reading the selection because it provides details about the environmental and financial benefits of preserving forests. (Any other logical and specific answer with its justification is acceptable; 0.5 for each)	01

I-C	Avoided Deforestation	02	
	Advantages		Disadvantages
	1. Protecting more trees		1. Increasing industrial countries' investment
	2. Reducing emissions of CO ₂		2. Using forestry credits as an excuse to avoid reducing industrious emissions
	3. Addressing poverty reduction and preserving diversity		3. Allowing destructive logging and ranching in countries
	(two are enough; 0.5 for each)		
I-D-1	flunk	0.25	
I-D-2	thinning	0.25	
I-D-3	initiative	0.25	
I-D-4	setting up	0.25	
I-E-1	"It" refers to the answer/ the country	0.25	
I-E-2	"it" refers to deforestation	0.25	
I-E-3	"that" refers to the idea of deforestation becoming 20% of the solution	0.25	
I-E-4	"us" refers to people/human beings	0.25	
II-A	Ideas and organization	05	
II-B	Language and style	03	
II-C	Tidiness and legible handwriting	01	