

الاسم:
الرقم:

مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية
المدة: ساعتان ونصف

Part One: Reading Comprehension

(Score: 12/20)

The following selection discusses the efforts taken to reconstruct Banda Aceh city, Indonesia, after it was hit by a devastating tsunami. Read it carefully, and then answer the questions that follow.

The Rebirth of a Devastated City

1 Few disasters can be compared to the devastation caused by the tsunami that struck the north coast of Sumatra on December 26, 2004. After a 9.1 magnitude earthquake in the Indian Ocean, immense waves — some thirty meters high — destroyed the Indonesian province of Aceh, leaving at least 163,000 people dead or missing, including 60,000 in the capital, Banda Aceh.

2 It was the largest sudden loss of urban life in a generation — in fact, **one** of the largest in modern history. More than 60 percent of Banda Aceh's houses were swept away, and the entire coastal communities were removed. Aid agencies estimated that 90,000 housing units would need to be replaced. Along the coast, some 70 square kilometers were left barren, and clear evidence of land disappeared throughout this ruined land of mud, salt, and erosion. In addition, legal documents were lost, and the tsunami's power obliterated "the natural boundaries like trees and footpaths," according to the Indonesian government.

3 Almost as shocking as the loss of life and livelihood was the challenge of rebuilding Banda Aceh from the ground up. In the months and years that followed, a rush of international aid — a wave of more than 500 groups that some have called the "second tsunami" — transformed the physical, cultural, and political landscape. That wave has since receded, leaving 140,000 new houses, 1,700 schools, nearly 1,000 government buildings, 36 airports and seaports, and 3,700 kilometers of roads, funded by \$12 billion in foreign support.

4 Ten years later, the world has turned its attention to other problems, leaving Banda Aceh completely forgotten. An official report states, "Since 2009, no assistance has been available from donors," before offering this reassuring conclusion: "Aceh has, to a large extent, returned to normal." But what can "normal" mean in these circumstances? How does "recovery" begin and when does it end? When does post-disaster planning give way to the everyday challenge of managing a city? How well did reconstruction planners anticipate the problems of reconstruction?

5 Banda Aceh is a city with a quarter million residents living along the delta of the Aceh River. It has changed in ways that were unimaginable a decade ago. Eight "escape buildings" were built to accommodate tourists and aid workers along the coastal landscape. Nowadays, these buildings serve as community centers. One escape building in Banda Aceh is home to the Tsunami and Disaster Research Center, and another to the Tsunami Museum that displays heartbreaking photographs and endless memories of the monster that had once hit the country.

6 A team of United Nations (UN) officials visited Banda Aceh to study how successful housing initiatives have been. The UN team found conflicting signs of a recovery that is remarkably widespread and sustained. The international organizations funded much of the reconstruction efforts that should meet the expectations and their financial investment.

7 However, residents on the ground have taken a broader view. They understand that true "recovery" is impossible, but **that** does not deter them from moving ahead with the day-to-day tasks of rebuilding lives and communities. If recovery has succeeded in Banda Aceh, it is largely because residents have defined the process broadly, on their own terms. Rather than focusing solely on reconstructing the physical city, or improving the economy, or attending to the emotional needs of survivors, **they** have viewed recovery through multiple lenses.

8 Housing is not merely a means of shelter but also a means of engaging in an improved quality of life. A healthy housing recovery requires a long-term commitment needed for living and surviving households. First, truly affordable housing ensures access to economic wellbeing — either because **it** is located with a workplace or because it is sited near employment opportunities that match the education and skill levels of residents. It also affords a healthy environment by reducing the risks of environmental hazards, from floodwaters to tsunamis. In addition, it affords personal and familial security so essential in

a place like Banda Aceh that has suffered a painful disaster. Finally, it affords community empowerment so that the new housing can bring together residents to negotiate community standards, norms and expectations.

9 The post-disaster reconstruction efforts in Banda Aceh provide an opportunity to study how housing can be, and should be, connected to these issues of livelihood, environment, and security. Taking a complete view of housing and its role in society, the UN team sought to assess the effectiveness of the reconstruction and to more fully understand how housing plays a key role in disaster recovery.

Questions

- A. Answer each of the following questions in 1-4 complete sentences in your own words.
1. Based on Paragraphs 1 and 2, what caused the tsunami of Sumatra and what two damages did it leave? (01)
 2. Explain how the “tsunami” mentioned in Paragraph 3 differs from that mentioned in Paragraph 1. (01)
 3. In reference to Paragraphs 6 and 7, contrast the international organizations’ view towards reconstruction to that of Banda Aceh’s residents. (01)
 4. Based on the last paragraph, what two lessons can be deduced from the case of Banda Aceh? (01)
- B. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
1. Identify and explain the figure of speech in Paragraph 5. (01)
 2. State two types of evidence the writer uses to achieve credibility. Support your answer with examples. (01)
 3. Identify two types of audience, other than the general reader, that might be interested in reading the selection above. Then mention the interest each one finds in it. (01)
- C. Write a one-sentence summary of Paragraph 8. (01)
- D. The table below shows the number of rebuilt constructions in Banda Aceh after the tsunami. Read it carefully, and then answer the question that follows in 3-4 sentences. (01)

International Aid Figures for Reconstruction				
Types of Construction	Houses	Government Buildings	Schools	Airports
Number	140,000	1000	1,700	36

What can be deduced from the numbers of the table above? Provide evidence.

- E. Based on contextual clues, infer the meaning of each word in the box below. Then fill in the blanks with the correct words to complete the sentences that follow. The words are underlined in the selection. (02)

obliterated (Par. 2)	transformed (Par. 3)	receded (Par. 3)	deter (Par. 6)	sought (Par. 8)
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1. Most economic investments in Sumatra _____ after the tsunami had ruined the factories.
 2. The rising prices after the economic crisis did not _____ the citizens from buying daily commodities.
 3. The government has _____ a new reconstruction plan to provide the victims with adequate housing.
 4. Most of the coastal communities were completely _____ by the devastating disaster that hit Sumatra.
- F. What does each of the following words, **bold-typed** in the selection, refer to? (01)
1. **one** (Paragraph 2)
 2. **that** (Paragraph 7)
 3. **they** (Paragraph 7)
 4. **it** (Paragraph 8)

Part Two: Writing (Choose ONE of the following prompts.) (Score: 8/20)

Prompt A: Usually the goal of national reconstruction plans is to develop cities and centralized areas instead of focusing on rural areas. In a persuasive essay of 250-300 words, show how significant it is to rebuild rural areas (villages) to preserve the environmental and cultural spirit of a country.

Prompt B: Disasters, whether natural or manmade, are responsible for many socio-economic and environmental problems, particularly in developing and underdeveloped regions. This is due to both the lack of preventive action plans and insufficient financial resources. In an expository essay of 250-300 words, develop two negative effects (social, economic, environmental, etc.) of disasters. Then show how awareness can be raised to lessen such effects.