

 (1) The land was once fertile, food and fresh water were plentiful, and there were reliable sources of energy. But people took these things for granted and thought **they** would last forever, and they were wrong. Now food and water are scarce, and there's widespread drought and famine. Supplies of oil and other natural resources are dwindling (*) fast and countries have been forced to develop nuclear weapons in order to protect what little they have. Conflict has become a way of life.



(2) This may sound like a Hollywood film scenario, but according to a recent report investigating the impact of climate change, it could really happen in the near future. Environmentalists have long been warning us about the threats of global warming. Now it appears even the US is getting worried. **Its** report states that rapid climate change would create 'global chaos' and a global environmental catastrophe. As soon as 2020, it is claimed, we could see 'climate wars' caused by catastrophic shortages of water and energy supplies.

(3) Are such terrible warnings really incredible? Perhaps not, there's evidence that the pace of climate change is accelerating. In Alaska, wintertime temperatures have risen by an average of 6°C, a signal bigger than anything the computer models have predicted. The ice in the Arctic Circle will disappear forever, according to the last predictions, within the next hundred years. Meanwhile, in the Southern hemisphere, one of the seven natural wonders of the world is at risk. The Great Barrier Reef* is one of Australia's top tourist attractions, but it may not be for much longer. The heating is slowly killing the beautiful coral* on the Reef and 95% of it will be dead by the year 2050.

(4) Change is even taking place in Scotland where winter sports industry is suffering. Two out of five of the Scottish ski resorts are now up for sale due to financial losses caused by the lack of snow in recent years. Is winter becoming a thing of the past? Global warming may not all be bad news for Scotland, though. It has better summers and the Mediterranean gets too hot, so the Scottish tourism industry should benefit in the summer months.



From Newsreader Articles, May 2004 (adapted)

Glossary:

* **Coral:** a marine organism that lives in colonies and has an external skeleton

* **Reef:** underwater ridge of coral or rock in a body of water, with the top just below or just above the surface

Name: Class: 2 C.T N^o:



READING COMPREHENSION: (15 marks)

1- Tick (✓) the right alternative. (2 marks)

- The text is mainly about:
 - water scarcity dangers
 - Global warming threats
 - Famine/starvation
- The author is
 - explaining that climate change has become a real threat more than ever.
 - contrasting ecological conditions in the North and in the South.
 - suggesting solutions to protect the environment.

2- The following statements are false; correct them with details from the text.

(3 marks)

a- Global warming is a recent environmental issue/problem. (§2)

.....

b- The global climate is changing slowly. (§3)

.....

c- Scotland will be a big loser due to climate changes. (§4)

.....

3- Match the following figures/dates with what they represent in the text? (3 marks)

Figures/Dates	Statements	Answers
1- About 0°C	a - The ice in the Arctic Circle will disappear	1 +
2- 3005	b- 95% of the coral on Australia's Great Barrier Reef won't survive	2 +
3- 2050	c- wintertime temperatures' rise in Alaska	3 +

4- What do the underlined words mean? Circle the right alternative. (2 marks)

a- Supplies of oil and other natural resources are dwindling fast. (§1)

- decreasing/ diminishing.
- increasing in number or quantity.
- becoming more valuable.

b- We could see 'climate wars' caused by catastrophic shortages of water and ... (§2)

- supplies.
- demands.
- Lack/ insufficiency.

5- Find words in the text that nearly mean the same as: (2 marks)

- rare (Adj) (§1) =
- disaster (N)(§2) =

6- What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 marks)

They (§1 3) =

Its (§2 L5) =

7- According to you, how can we avoid (if not stop) this environmental catastrophe? (1 mark)

In order to avoid global warming, we should.....

.....



LANGUAGE (10 marks)

1- Fill in the blanks with words from the list below. (There're 2 extra words). (3.5 marks)

with - exciting - online - many - addiction - using - who - rooms -
e-mail

The amount of time kids spend online is a source of frustration for many parents. Parents welcomed the internet into their homes, believing they were opening up an _____ world of educational opportunities for their children. However, _____ parents soon realized that, instead of _____ the internet for homework or research, their kids were spending hours playing online games, or talking to strangers in chat _____.

Children _____ are shy with their peers are often attracted to the chances of creating new identities in online communities. Boys in particular, are frequent users of _____ role-playing games where they interact _____ other players. However, excessive playing can further isolate those children from friends and peers.

2- Circle the right alternative. (3 marks)

It was really a catastrophe; the world's (bad - worse - worst) natural disaster had struck Sri Lanka after a massive earthquake in the sea (register - registered - registering) 9° on the Richter scale. It caused an even greater depth of sadness (on - at - in) the country (where - who - which) whole communities were wiped out. It brought (die - dead - death) and destruction. Sri Lanka dominated the world's headlines as people (slept - woke - dreamt) up to view the devastation on their TV screens.

2- Put the bracketed verbs/words in the right tense/from. (3.5marks)

Last month, scientists produced a frightening report on global warming. The 1990s were the (warm) _____ ten years for one thousand years, they say. Temperatures (go) _____ up more quickly in the next century. The sea will be (high) _____ than it is now. People in Asia will lose (they) _____ homes in terrible (flooded) _____. Most people agree that carbon dioxide in the air is the biggest problem. It (produce) _____ when we burn gas and oil. Recently, 160 countries (meet) _____ to discuss the problem, but nothing is decided upon the issue.

