

Reading Explorer 5 Midterm

DIRECTIONS: Choose the best answer for each question.

Last of the Amazon

[A] On the morning of February 12, 2005, on a secluded path deep in Brazil's Amazon rain forest, two gunmen confronted a 73-year-old nun named Dorothy Stang. The nun warned the gunmen that the forest was not theirs and that they had no right to clear-cut the trees to plant grasses for their cattle.

[B] "So, you don't like to eat meat?" one of the men taunted.

[C] "Not enough to destroy the forest for it," she replied.

[D] "If this problem isn't resolved today, it's never going to be," the man said.

[E] According to a witness, who later appeared at the two men's trial, Stang saw him reach for his gun. She opened her Bible and read, "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied." As she turned to go, one of the men aimed his gun at her and pulled the trigger.

The Battle for the Amazon

[F] "The death of the forest is the end of our lives," Stang would tell her followers, mostly poor family farmers who had settled small plots of land along the Trans-Amazonian Highway, the largest road cutting through the Amazon rain forest. Stang encouraged farmers to live and work in harmony with the Amazon ecosystem, in contrast with large-scale cattle ranchers and land speculators whose widespread tree-cutting often results in the destruction of entire ecosystems. She worked to educate poor farmers, organizing them and encouraging them to resist the ranchers and speculators who want the same land - and who are sometimes ready to use violent methods to obtain it.

[G] During the past 40 years, close to 20 percent of the Amazon rain forest has been cut down - more than in all the previous 450 years since European colonization began. Scientists fear that an additional 20 percent of the trees will be lost over the next two decades. If that happens, the forest's ecology may begin to fall apart. Intact, the Amazon produces half its own rainfall through the water it releases into the atmosphere. Eliminate enough of that rain through clearing, and the remaining trees dry out and die. The natural result is an increase in forest fires burning out of control.

[H] Much of the destruction of the Amazon is done illegally. Incredibly, there are more than 160,000 kilometers of illegal logging roads throughout the forest. Once the trees have been cut down and taken away, the logging roads provide access to the forest for ranchers, farmers, settlers, and others attracted by the promise of free land. There is great competition, and gunmen are frequently recruited as a way to protect settlers' claims.

[I] The production of fake, illegal titles to Amazon land has become so common that Brazilians have a name for it: *grilagem*, from the Portuguese word *grilo*, which means "cricket." In order to make fake land titles look older and therefore more authentic, *grileiros*, as the people who steal land by creating false titles have come to be known, put the documents in drawers full of hungry crickets. The crickets eat some of the pages and make the documents look older. The practice is certainly widespread: in just three years, the Brazilian government discovered 62,000 questionable land titles.

A Clash of Ideals

[J] "What's happening today in Amazonia is a clash between two models of development," said Felicio Pontes, one of a new group of government lawyers seeking to prosecute land fraud and environmental crimes in the Amazon. The first model is based on logging and cutting down trees to create large cattle ranches and plantations, usually undertaken by big business. It devastates the forest. The alternative model, advocated by Dorothy Stang, is what Pontes calls social environmentalism. This newer model encourages small-scale family farms that work together and manage the forest in sustainable ways.

[K] Perhaps the best-known representative of the first model is Blairo Maggi, the governor of the state of Mato Grosso. Maggi is often portrayed by the environmental movement as representing big business and rapid destruction of the rain forest. The non-governmental organization Greenpeace has given Maggi, who is known as "the King of Soy" because the company he founded is the world's largest single producer of soy beans, its Golden Chainsaw Award for leading Brazil in deforestation for three straight years.

[L] Not all environmentalists see Maggi in a completely negative light, however. He is known for respecting private property, he doesn't allow any land to be cleared illegally, he doesn't make use of slave labor, and he is careful not to use agricultural chemicals within 500 meters of a stream. "We're very responsible environmentally and socially," Maggi says.

[M] To Maggi, deforestation is an exaggerated issue. He thinks people fear it because they do not understand how enormous the Amazon really is. "All of Europe could fit inside the Amazon," he says, "and we'd still have room for two Englands."

[N] And what does Maggi think of Dorothy Stang's vision of small growers living and farming in harmony with the land "*Totalmente errado* - completely wrong," Maggi says. He believes that such projects as Stang's won't succeed because they don't take the laws of business into consideration. He believes that it is useless to fight the big business model because it makes the most efficient use of the land and can maximize production. As production grows, prices fall to levels such that it is no longer feasible for small producers to compete without a great deal of financial help from the government.

A Cause for Hope

[O] Stang would have been pleased when in February 2006, coinciding with the one-year anniversary of her death, Brazil's president announced the protection of 65,000 square kilometers of rain forest. Although *grileiros* still operate freely over wide areas of the Amazon, they will be kept out of the protected area. Some environmentally responsible logging will be allowed, but no clear-cutting or settlements will be permitted.

[P] Additionally, an older law that restricts farmers to clearing no more than 20 percent of their land is finally being enforced. If properly followed, this law could radically change the current patterns of deforestation. While in the past most farmers have largely ignored the law, in the years since Stang was murdered government pressure has increased on *grileiros* and farmers who have cleared too large a percentage of their land. In Mato Grosso, Governor Maggi helps such farmers by allowing them to buy up forest areas adjacent to their farms in order to supplement their percentage of forested land. Thanks to these and other efforts, recent forest surveys seem to indicate a decrease in the rate of deforestation of the Amazon. However, the fight to protect the forest is not over yet. There is a long way to go before Dorothy Stang's dream of a protected and sustainable Amazon is realized.

- _____ 1. What is the author's purpose in writing the passage?
- to explain Brazil's economic need to exploit the Amazon
 - to inform the reader about the struggle to save the Amazon
 - to suggest better solutions for protecting the Amazon
 - to celebrate the success achieved in protecting the Amazon
- _____ 2. In paragraphs A to E, which of the following events takes place first?
- Dorothy Stang opened her Bible.
 - One of the men shot Dorothy Stang.
 - Dorothy Stang turned to walk away.
 - Dorothy Stang spoke to the two gunmen.
- _____ 3. Which of the following statements about Dorothy Stang is true?
- She sometimes used violent methods to obtain land.
 - She was killed by mistake on a dark night in the forest.
 - She encouraged farmers to resist ranchers and speculators.
 - She wished to clear-cut the forest to allow poor farmers in.
- _____ 4. What's the author's purpose in telling the story of Dorothy Stang?
- to emphasize the fact that deforestation is murder
 - to explain why nothing can be done to stop deforestation
 - to demonstrate what a serious issue the fight against deforestation is
 - to show that religion and politics are separate in Brazil
- _____ 5. In paragraph E, who are *they who hunger and thirst for justice* referring to?
- people who want and fight for what is right
 - children who often have to go hungry
 - those who feed on the suffering of others
 - people who are unfairly treated
- _____ 6. In the last sentence of paragraph F, who does *them* refer to?
- cattle ranchers
 - poor farmers
 - land speculators
 - the forests
- _____ 7. In paragraph I, what are *grileiros*?
- people who create and use false land titles
 - insects used to make documents look older
 - government investigators of questionable land titles
 - gunmen hired to protect illegal land holdings
- _____ 8. In paragraph J, what does *clash between two models* mean?
- two styles that don't look good together
 - two methods that don't work well together
 - a violent confrontation between two people
 - a loud sound made by two versions of a product
- _____ 9. What can we infer about the Golden Chainsaw Award from paragraph K?
- Maggi is very proud that his company won the award.
 - The award also comes with a cash prize.
 - The Golden Chainsaw is only awarded once every three years.
 - Greenpeace does not approve of the actions of the award recipients.

_____ 10. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence from paragraph M?

"All of Europe could fit inside the Amazon," he says, "and we'd still have room for two Englands."

- a. personification
- b. hyperbole
- c. imagery
- d. alliteration

_____ 11. The following sentence would be best placed at the end of which paragraph?

But the Amazon is shrinking fast; scientists predict that in the next twenty years 40 percent of the Amazon will be gone.

- a. Paragraph F
- b. Paragraph L
- c. Paragraph M
- d. Paragraph P

_____ 12. According to Maggi, why is Stang's model of development *completely wrong*?

- a. It is too kind to farmers.
- b. It refuses to accept government help.
- c. It doesn't follow the laws of business.
- d. It causes too much anger among ranchers.

_____ 13. Which of the following does *such farmers* in paragraph P refer to?

- a. farmers who follow the Stang model
- b. farmers from big business
- c. farmers of mainly soy beans
- d. farmers who have cleared too much land

_____ 14. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following people is most likely to agree that deforestation is necessary, but should be done legally?

- a. Blairo Maggi
- b. Dorothy Stang
- c. Felicio Pontes
- d. the *grileiros*

DIRECTIONS: Complete the chart using no more than three words from the reading in each blank.

Blairo Maggi: Socially and Environmentally Responsible?
Arguments for: 1. He is careful to respect private _____. 2. He never makes use of _____ labor. 3. He never uses _____ within 500 meters of a stream.
Arguments against: 4. He does not believe in Stang's vision of farmers living and working _____ the forest. 5. Greenpeace gave him its _____ Award. 6. He doesn't worry about deforestation, because he thinks it is a(n) _____.

15. (1) _____

16. (2) _____

17. (3) _____

18. (4) _____

19. (5) _____

20. (6) _____

DIRECTIONS: Choose the word or phrase that best fits the definition or example given.

_____ 21. something that will happen soon

- a. subsequent
- b. imminent
- c. offset
- d. deadline

_____ 22. something that is very likely to fail

- a. doomed
- b. rural
- c. rational
- d. startling

_____ 23. to think about carefully for a long time

- a. contemplate
- b. so-called
- c. devoid of
- d. implement

- _____ 24. to go or move upward
a. haul
b. inspect
c. ascend
d. audit
- _____ 25. a sudden, powerful forward movement
a. retreat
b. yield
c. surge
d. shrink
- _____ 26. an entry point to beginning something new
a. threshold
b. frame
c. obstacle
d. shield
- _____ 27. situated or raised higher than the surrounding area
a. dispersed
b. elevated
c. distinguished
d. take for granted
- _____ 28. trying to achieve something despite difficulties
a. grueling
b. alarming
c. subtracting
d. struggling
- _____ 29. not proud or arrogant
a. subversive
b. humble
c. delicate
d. outlier
- _____ 30. clever, creative, and imaginative
a. accountable
b. vulnerable
c. ingenious
d. incentive

DIRECTIONS: Read each sentence. Decide if the use of the underlined word in each sentence makes the statement T (true) or F (false).

- _____ 31. The fish in the aquarium seem to be flourishing because many of them are dying off.
- _____ 32. The gear involved in a particular activity is the equipment you use.
- _____ 33. If something is artificial, it does not occur or exist naturally.

- ___ 34. If someone has a biased view, they favor one option over the other.
- ___ 35. Someone who is sentimental feels or shows a lot of emotion.
- ___ 36. Something that is compact is extremely big.
- ___ 37. Your library card is renewable, so you can only use it once.
- ___ 38. She works at home, so she has a long commute each day.
- ___ 39. Listening to extremely loud music everyday can be detrimental to your hearing.
- ___ 40. In most places, tides cause the sea level to rise and fall twice each day.

DIRECTIONS: Match the correct word to complete each sentence. Use each word only once.

- a. commonplace
- b. complements
- c. consensus
- d. demise
- e. deserted
- f. dire
- g. envision
- h. instability
- i. persistent
- j. regime

- ___ 41. At job interviews, candidates are often asked what they ___ they will be doing five years from now.
- ___ 42. Older men marrying younger women is fairly ___, but the reverse is unusual.
- ___ 43. Everyone left during the long drought, so the remote village is now abandoned and ___.
- ___ 44. The man was severely wounded and in ___ need of immediate medical treatment.
- ___ 45. Following the assassination of the king, there was a period of political ___.
- ___ 46. His heavy smoking, drinking, and poor lifestyle choices all contributed to his early ___.
- ___ 47. The brutal ___ was in power for four years and claimed the lives of millions.
- ___ 48. The ___ of the world's leading scientists is that humans are causing global warming.
- ___ 49. The sweetness of the cranberry sauce ___ the flavor of the turkey very well.
- ___ 50. She is the most ___ person I know; even when she faced numerous setbacks, she never stopped chasing her dream.

Reading Explorer 5 Midterm Answer Section

- | | | | |
|--|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. ANS: B
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Purpose |
| 2. ANS: D
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Sequence |
| 3. ANS: C
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Supporting Detail |
| 4. ANS: C
Purpose
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Understanding Rhetorical |
| 5. ANS: A
Context
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Guessing Meaning from |
| 6. ANS: B
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Anaphoric Reference |
| 7. ANS: A
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Unfamiliar Vocabulary |
| 8. ANS: B
Context
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Guessing Meaning from |
| 9. ANS: D
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Making Inferences |
| 10. ANS: C
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Identifying Figurative Language |
| 11. ANS: C
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Cohesion |
| 12. ANS: C
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Gist |
| 13. ANS: D
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Reference |
| 14. ANS: A
TOP: Midterm | PTS: 1 | REF: Midterm | OBJ: Making Inferences |
| 15. ANS:
property
PTS: 1
TOP: Midterm | REF: Midterm | OBJ: For and Against | |
| 16. ANS:
slave
PTS: 1
TOP: Midterm | REF: Midterm | OBJ: For and Against | |
| 17. ANS:
agricultural chemicals
PTS: 1
TOP: Midterm | REF: Midterm | OBJ: For and Against | |

18. ANS:
in harmony with
PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: For and Against
TOP: Midterm
19. ANS:
Golden Chainsaw
PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: For and Against
TOP: Midterm
20. ANS:
exaggerated issue
PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: For and Against
TOP: Midterm
21. ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
22. ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
23. ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
24. ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
25. ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
26. ANS: A PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
27. ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
28. ANS: D PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
29. ANS: B PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
30. ANS: C PTS: 1 REF: Midterm OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
31. ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Unit 1 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
32. ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Unit 2 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
33. ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Unit 2 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
34. ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Unit 3 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
35. ANS: T PTS: 1 REF: Unit 4 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
36. ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Unit 5 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
37. ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Unit 5 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm
38. ANS: F PTS: 1 REF: Unit 5 OBJ: Vocabulary
TOP: Midterm

39.	ANS: T TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Unit 6	OBJ: Vocabulary
40.	ANS: T TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Unit 6	OBJ: Vocabulary
41.	ANS: G TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
42.	ANS: A TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
43.	ANS: E TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
44.	ANS: F TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
45.	ANS: H TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
46.	ANS: D TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
47.	ANS: J TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
48.	ANS: C TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
49.	ANS: B TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary
50.	ANS: I TOP: Midterm	PTS: 1	REF: Midterm	OBJ: Vocabulary