

Text Type: Web page
Suggested finishing time: 15 mins



 Carlos L'eau at  Grand Park Lagoon Villa. 3hrs ago


Photo du jour at the best photo spot with the best souvenir in hand.




Let's Think!




1. What do you know about the Maldives?
2. Have you ever heard about coral poaching?

 Jenna Rosanna 2hrs ago


[1] How dared you to have done something so atrocious? It's illegal coral poaching that makes the already critical condition of the ecosystem beyond repair. As the culprit who has taken away numerous lives of up to 7,000 species, you shouldn't have shown pride in your recklessness.

 Ivana Lambert 2hrs ago


[2] I understand that you couldn't resist not having enough selfies in the heavenly Maldives...but did you seriously think it's fine to get 'likes' with your approach to carpe diem? Haven't you ever heard that the Maldives is sinking? You should be accountable for the degradation of the coral reefs, which has made the coastline, lined with homes and businesses, vulnerable to shoreline erosion.

 Selina Sherby 2hrs ago


[3] OMG, is he off his nut? Prof [@Zachary Tesluk](#), while your research team is monitoring the corals at the Philippines and the Great Barrier Reef, this selfish man just didn't take note of the havoc he has wreaked to the Maldives. [@Carlos L'eau](#), you're such an egoist...do you really consider yourself more important than anyone else?

 Carlos L'eau 1hr ago

[4] All you hypocrites must be so jealous of me snorkelling in my natural aquarium-like lagoon villa. And what's wrong with getting some corals, a symbol of vitality, for my loved ones?


 Elizabeth Cole 1hr ago

[5] Isn't inobservance to the core of the problem always a good way to get round criticism? A strangely effective defence, though.


 Noel Lorraine 55mins ago

[6] [@Selina Sherby](#), it's vain to expect inconsiderate beings to face their problems squarely. In the Maldives, many resorts have


benefited from coral transplantation, which conserves the damaged reefs and restores the fragile ecosystems.

 Zachary Tesluk 40mins ago


[7] The marked deterioration in the sustainability of the coral reefs should not be understated. Reefs are vital for sustaining the ecosystem and for the livelihood of the Maldivians.

 Pear Xiaojuan 37mins ago

[8] Why overreact? Jewellery made of coral, especially red corals endowed with curative powers of healing ailments, is commonplace in markets on all Maldives islands.

 Nigel Lo 32mins ago

[9] I find corals look better flourishing on the reefs, rather than being put round somebody's neck. If every visitor to the Maldives had also taken a coral home, the Maldives could have long lost its crown as 'a paradise with awe-inspiring nature', without which it could not have attracted hundreds and thousands of tourists.

 Brian Wong 5mins ago

[10] The Maldives, as scientists claimed, will have vanished completely by 2080 because of the rising sea levels. With more selfish people like the one we're leaving comments for, all habitants in the Maldives, I'm afraid, will have gone extinct by then.

~420 words

Looking into Grammar 

The future perfect tense is used to talk about a completed action not later than a specific moment in the future.

✓ Amy will have finished (✗ will finish) her exams by this time next week.

? Circle TWO verbs used in the future perfect tense in the web page.

Part A Multiple Choice Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the web page. Choose the best answer by blackening the appropriate circle.



1. In comment 1, the word ‘atrocious’ can best be replaced by ‘_____’.

- A. adventurous
- B. heinous
- C. constructive
- D. life-threatening

Q1: The suffix ‘-ous’ is added to the noun ‘atrocious’, which means ‘of very bad quality’ or ‘violent and shocking’.

2. It is Carlos’s _____ that attracts criticism and leads to outcries on social media.

- A. denial of wrongdoing
- B. destruction to reefs
- C. egoistic selfie
- D. selective response

2 Read the first comment to figure out the root cause of the influx of negative comments.

3. Corals at the Philippines and the Great Barrier Reef _____.

- A. may be in the same predicament as those in the Maldives
- B. are recovering in the care of Professor Zachary Tesluk and his team
- C. are approached only for research purposes
- D. will be transplanted to the Maldives

4. Selina thinks what Carlos did was _____ when she asks if he is ‘off his nut’.

- A. absurd
- B. rebellious
- C. antisocial
- D. bold



5. The way Elizabeth responded to Carlos showed that she was _____.

- A. overreactive to his rashness and sarcasm
- B. discontented with his playfulness and defensiveness
- C. reproachful about his ignorance and unresponsiveness
- D. sceptical about his conceit and cruelty

5 First figure out Elizabeth’s tone in her reply to Carlos. Then infer from her tone how she might have thought about Carlos’s attitude.

6. Read comment 6. ‘Inconsiderate beings’ refers to _____. This expression aims to _____ Carlos.

- A. irresponsible snorkellers...provoke criticism over
- B. disrespectful travellers...pick on
- C. attention seekers...mock
- D. self-centred individuals...implicitly show discontent towards

7. The professor’s comment is NOT made on the basis of _____.

- A. ecology
- B. biology
- C. biodiversity
- D. economy

8. The Maldives _____.

- A. appeals to tourists with its aquariums and museums
- B. is under the threat of natural disasters
- C. relies on coral transplantation to sustain
- D. none of the above

More to Take Away



Like humans, corals can also be stressed. When stressed by environmental factors such as heat or pollution, corals would expel marine algae which give them their stunning colours, and then turn white like a skeleton. This phenomenon is known as ‘coral bleaching’.



Self-evaluation
Checklist

Please scan the QR code on P.6 to access the checklist for evaluating your own reading progress.

Part B Pre-HKDSE Questions

Answer the following questions based on the information provided in the web page. For questions 1 and 2, answer in complete sentences.



1 See what Carlos was criticised for.

1. Did people criticise Carlos only out of jealousy? Explain your answer.

(Any reasonable answers)

No, people criticised Carlos for his selfishly fulfilling his desire at the expense of the habitat's

sustainability and there is no indication that they were jealous of him.

2. Explain why Elizabeth commented that inobservance can be 'strangely effective' to get round criticism. (Any reasonable answers)

Q2: Explain to students that inobservance is effective as a getaway from responsibility, but it is ineffective in reaching solutions to the problem.

Elizabeth said so probably because she found that Carlos, by not responding to what others accused

him of, could really detach himself from criticism, not having to bear the responsibility for his

wrongdoing.

3. Read comment 9. The word 'which' refers to the crown as 'a paradise with awe-inspiring nature'.

3 To what are the tourists in the Maldives attracted?



4. Look for words or phrases in the web page to match the definitions below.

(i)	<u>poaching</u>	(comments 1-3)	(<i>n.</i>)	catching or killing an animal without permission
(ii)	<u>take note of</u>	(comments 1-3)	(<i>idm.</i>)	to give attention to
(iii)	<u>wreaked</u>	(comments 1-3)	(<i>v.</i>)	caused something to happen in a violent and uncontrolled way
(iv)	<u>vain</u>	(comments 6-8)	(<i>adj.</i>)	useless or of no value
(v)	<u>curative</u>	(comments 6-8)	(<i>adj.</i>)	able to cure or cause to get better

5. Put the correct letters in the boxes by matching each quote with its most likely speaker.

A. Carlos L'eau

B. Pear Xiaojuan

C. Ivana Lambert

D. Jenna Rosanna

- (i) 'What about the corals there for sale? Aren't they legal?'

B

- (ii) 'Thanks to you, the food chain is in unprecedented crisis.'

D

- (iii) 'My social media followers must be envious of me right now.'

A

- (iv) 'It's irresponsible of people to seek pleasure at the cost of jeopardising the environment.'

C

Part C Vocabulary Bank

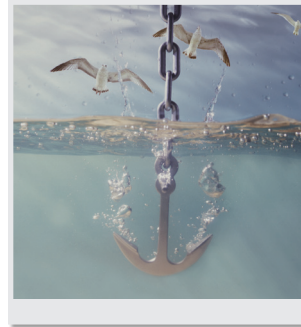
Label the photos below with the causes of marine habitat destruction from the word box.

invasive species
pollution

overfishing
canal digging

boat anchor
climate change

unsustainable tourism
coral mining



1. overfishing

2. coral mining

3. boat anchor

4. canal digging



5. unsustainable

6. pollution

7. invasive species

8. climate change

tourism

Word Craft

Carpe diem (Refer to P.110.) (=seize the day)

A significant portion of entries in English dictionaries are borrowed from **Latin**.

e.g. ad astra per aspera (=to the stars through hardships)
vice versa (=the other way around)
status quo (=the state in which things are now)
etc. (et cetera) (=and so on, and so forth)
i.e. (id est) (=that is)

Let's Discuss!

1. Do you agree that humans are the culprit of marine habitat destruction? Explain your thoughts.
2. Do you know about any marine conservation organisation?