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Assignment No. 2(Spring 2011)

English Comprehension (ENG101)

Total Marks: 15

Lectures: 10-18

Objectives:

- To enhance and test students' knowledge of grammatical terms, and their usage.
- Use of different methods to improve writing skill.

Instructions:

1. No assignment will be accepted via e-mail after the due date.
2. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism occurs when a student uses work done by someone else without acknowledging the actual author. It also means copying and pasting the material from handouts and internet source without rephrasing it in his/her own words.

Q1: Read the following passage and answer the questions given below: (Marks 10)

Between the first reported damage and the time of the sinking, approximately 3 to 4 hours later, seas of 25 to 30 feet and winds gusting to 80 knots were variously observed. Without exception, expert testimony has affirmed the fact [(1)] **that seas in shoal waters are inherently more violent and wild than in open water.** It follows, therefore, that subsequent to her initial sustained damage, the FitzGerald suffered progressive damage from laboring, rolling, and pitching for the next 3 to 4 hours as it proceeded toward Whitefish Point Light.

At or about 1730, Captain Woodard aboard the Swedish vessel Avafors received a report from Captain [(3)] **McSorley stating the Fitzgerald had a "bad list," had lost both radars and was taking heavy seas over the deck in one of the worst seas he had ever**

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been in. In approximately 2 hours from the initial report of a list, the Fitzgerald had acquired a "bad list" and sustained the loss of both radars.

Approximately 1 hour 40 minutes later at or about 1910, the Fitzgerald reported it was holding its own. This was the last transmission ever heard from the Fitzgerald. Aside from the expert testimony elicited at the Coast Guard Marine Board hearing, [(2)] **it is self-evident that Captain McSorley had a damaged ship, and that he did not know how damaged she was.**

It is true that initial damage to the Fitzgerald could have been sustained by other means, but it would be a most unlikely coincidence that damage was sustained at the same approximate time that she was reported by Captain Cooper of the SS Anderson to be in close or over shoal waters.

Q1. What is the significance of the "shoal waters" described in the first and the fourth paragraphs? (3)

Answer:-

According to the described paragraph it is clear that the sea in SHOAL WATER is more violent and wild than the open water.

Q2. Based upon the last transmission from the Fitzgerald, what does the author of the passage conclude? (3)

Answer:-

The coast guard of marine board heard by itself that captain McSorley had a damaged ship and he don't know how it happened.

Q3. What can the reader infer about the condition of the Fitzgerald based upon the 1730 report? (2)

Answer:-

McSorley stating the Fitzgerald had a "bad list," had lost both radars and was taking heavy seas over the deck in one of the worst seas he had ever been in.

Q4. Choose the best option to answer the following statements:

1. In the first paragraph of the passage, the author makes an assumption about how the Fitzgerald sank. Identify the assumption on which the author's argument is based. (1)

A. The author assumes the ship sank as the result of the storm.
B. The author assumes that the ship broke apart in heavy seas.

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C. The author assumes that the Fitzgerald sustained damage 3-4 hours prior to the time she sank.
D. The author assumes that the captain did not know he was in shallow waters.
E. The author assumes the waves were at least 25 feet high.

2. The author adopts the position that the Fitzgerald damaged its hull in shallow water but the ship is stuck deep in the mud in more than 500 feet of extremely cold water. How could the author's hypothesis about hull damage have been tested? (1)

A. Examine the hull using a submersible.
B. Examine the shoal for evidence of damage by the ship.
C. Examine the hull using side-penetrating sonar.
D. Examine the hull by using a remote controlled camera.
E. Review records from the ship and other ships in the area.

Q2. Mark the following statements as true or false and CHANGE the false statements into correct ones. (Marks 5)

1- If we read rapidly our comprehension will necessarily suffer. **True/ False**
If we read solely our comprehension will necessarily suffer.

2- Vocalization process is helpful in improving our reading skill. **True/ False**
Vocalization process is helpful in improving our reading skill.

3- Text-based information is used for quick reference. **True/ False**
Text-based information is used for quick reference.

4- Fact is a statement that can be proved true through objective evidence. **True/ False**
A fact is a statement that can be proven *by direct experience or* objective *verification.*

5- In any argument whether it is good or bad, one must make a point and then provide support i.e. persuasive and logical evidence, to back it up. **True/ False**
In any argument whether it is good or bad, one must make a point and then provide support i.e. persuasive and logical evidence, to back it up

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