



MIIM Grammar School (G-11 Campus)

Date: 5th April, 2021

Class: 5th

Subject: English

Unit: 1

Topic: Lost in the Desert (Lesson 3 Reading, page#4+5)

Starter:

Ask questions from students like.

1. Did anybody go to the seaside?
2. Who went to the mountain?
3. Do you have any picnics?
4. Where did you go for picnic?

Main activity:

Reading with explanation of pg#4 to 5.s

Homework:

Make sentence of the following words: wrecked, frost, faint, muddled, astonished.

UNIT 1 Lesson 3 Reading: Lost in the Desert Expedition diary

A Read Part 1 of the diary to find answers to these questions. What happened to the airmen's plane? What was their first important decision?

I am writing this diary in pencil. The sun has just risen over the horizon, and is still red. (1. ___) Two days ago, Habib and I took off in our single-propeller bi-plane to fly to Ghadames, where the borders of Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya meet in the Sahara. I have flown over 450 hours, and Habib has flown even more. We are both experienced aviators. Pilot - Fly boy

One hour after take-off, we ran into problems. We could see a dust-storm on the horizon. It was wide and high, so we had no choice but to fly through it.

Dust is the enemy of all engines. It gets into the fuel-air mixture and into the cylinders. The engine started to splutter and cough, like an old man with a chesty disease. Then it died. I couldn't see the ground, but we glided lower and lower. (2. ___) The plane hit the ground and we bounced, spun round, leant over to one side, then stopped.

Habib and I climbed out of the plane. (3. ___) We checked the food and drink in our day-packs: some grapes, two oranges, one small cake, a half-litre of coffee, and 250 millilitres of water. Barely enough for a few days in the desert, I fear.

We discussed what we should do. Should we stay with the wrecked plane? It was visible from the air, but this desert, which I know well, measures 1,000 kilometres by 1,100 kilometres. How would anybody know where to look? 'There are a few wells, some scattered oases where people live.' We decided we would have to walk. I also started writing this journal. Perhaps one day this will explain what happened to us.

Watering place

B Read Part 2 and answer these questions. Which three decisions did they make later? Do you think these were wise decisions?

Day 1. (later) We both feel anxious and are especially worried about the midday sun. Habib shakes his head. 'If we walk during the day, we shall sweat out the moisture in our bodies.' We have agreed to start walking just before sunset.

Day 2. The early morning was very cold, with a white frost. We walked last night in the moonlight, using Habib's pocket compass. We stopped walking soon after sunrise and rested at the foot of a cliff in the shade.

Today has been much worse. We didn't eat or drink yesterday. Our survival programme is: We shall not drink for the first two days, nor eat for the first seven days. Humans can go for 21 days without food, but only for 7 days without water. We may not be alive after seven days.

Endure - wait for something

Day 3. We are so thirsty that we cannot swallow. We have finished our food and drink, contrary to our careful survival plans. We came to a wadi (that's a small valley). 'Water often collects under the centre of a wadi,' I croaked to Habib. 'If we walk along the wadi, we might find a well.' (4. ___)



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illusion
nomadic
Arab of the
desert

In the day-time, the surface of the sand shone and sparkled like a lake. We both knew it was a mirage—the sand was cruelly pretending to be a lake. (later) I feel faint and sleepy. My heart is beating faster and I'm breathing rapidly too. This is the beginning of the end, I fear.

dizzy

Day 4. (5. ___) I think I can hear a cock crow, as dawn approaches. I stop, bend my head to one side and listen. Strangely, Habib does the same, then looks at me. We BOTH heard the cock crow, messenger of a new day, and maybe the welcome sign of an oasis. A Bedouin appears over the top of a hill, leading a dromedary by a rope. He looks at us in astonishment. (6. ___) He takes down a water-skin from a bag on the dromedary. We press our faces, our mouths, our tongues into the skin of water. I am still muddled in my head, but think, 'Water! You have no colour, no smell, no taste. But you are a life-giver, a life-saver.'

Arabian camel

made of goat or sheep

a container of skin for holding water

not arranged in order

Adapted from *Wind, Sand, and Stars* (1939) by Saint-Exupery

Reading for understanding. Answer these questions about Parts 1 and 2. Underline