



Nro. De Control :

LEVEL 2**PART 2 – READING COMPREHENSION**

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Estimated time needed: 45 minutes.

• Exercise 1

Read the news and then decide if the statements below the news are True (T) or False (F)

ENGAGING AFGHAN TRIBES

AFGHAN PRESIDENT HAMID KARZAI recently proposed a new project, called Community Guard Program which aims to help communities and tribes protect their homes against militants operating in the area. The project has also received support from the United States, and will be piloted in the southern and eastern areas of Afghanistan.

Tribal chiefs and community leaders can sign up to take part in the program. These volunteer recruits will then be trained by the Afghan government to defend their villages from militant attacks. Afghan and foreign forces will provide clothing and other support, as well as assistance and reinforcements should the need arise.

This program was used successfully in Iraq as well. Iraqi tribesmen were engaged to help fight terrorists resulting in a reduction in the level of violence in the area.

PAKISTAN LAUNCHES OPERATION

MILITANTS AND OUTLAWS IN PAKISTAN have been attacking supply lines to NATO and U.S. forces operating in Afghanistan. Pakistan has responded to these attacks by launching a major security operation in the Khyber Pass region. To curb the militancy, Pakistani security forces are fighting on the ground, and helicopter gunships are backing these troops. Meanwhile, the entire region remains under curfew.

The region, situated in the north west of Pakistan, is an important strategic position. It is the most important district on the Pakistani-Afghan border, and is the main supply route for NATO and U.S. forces in Afghanistan. Pakistani soldiers recently blocked shipments of containers loaded with supplies for NATO forces in Afghanistan. These shipments will not resume until the major highways passing through the Khyber Pass have been cleared of militants.

The militants began attacking in this region early in 2008. Since then, the number of enemy combatants has greatly increased, and they have extended the scope of their activities. They are now allegedly providing shelter to militants from other regions.

THE YEAR OF THE NCO

NATO has designated 2008 as the Year of the Non Commissioned Officer to promote the profile of the contribution made by NCOs. The message is clear: NATO highly values the leadership, professionalism, and initiative of NCOs. Moreover, NATO is committed to developing the role of NCOs, and highlights the vital role they play within the organization. NATO has also proposed that all future NCOs be trained to make decisions and take initiative.

Last month in Brussels, NATO held the closing ceremony of the Year of the NCO. Members from 24 nations attended this special event.

The concept of an “international NCO” was introduced, sending the message that, irrespective of nationality, language, or culture, NCOs from around the world are equally dedicated.

ITALIANS TRAINING IRAQI POLICE

THE ITALIAN CARABINIERI have just completed their sixth specialized course in Police Leadership Course at Camp Dublin, Baghdad. The Italian Carabinieri provided training to members of the Iraqi National Police under the NATO Training Mission in Iraq.

The eight-week course aimed to increase the strength and autonomy of the force. During that time, participants developed numerous policing skills, which included operational planning, police procedures, intelligence, counter-insurgency skills, First Aid, police ethics and human rights

Increasingly more provinces in Iraq are transferring these law enforcement tasks to the Iraqis. By reducing the number of illegal weapons caches, the Iraqi National Police are hoping to make communities safer.

Decide if the following sentences are True (T) or False (F).

1. Community Guard Program aims to reduce militancy in Afghanistan. . . .
2. Community Guard Program will use new Army recruits to fight the insurgents. . . .
3. Pakistan is responding to the increasing attacks against a strategic position. . . .
4. Pakistani paramilitary are helping to deliver the shipments of containers into Afghanistan. . . .
5. NATO wants to communicate to key audiences around the world the value of NCOs. . . .
6. NATO is suggesting that NCOs be given more responsibility. . . .
7. The Italian Carabinieri is performing more and more tasks which were previously done by the Iraqis. . . .
8. The Iraqi government aims to task the Iraqi National Police force with law enforcement. . . .

- **Exercise 2**

Read the texts and choose the most appropriate answer A, B or C. An example (0) has been done for you.

0 Cut or remove the casualty’s clothing to expose the wound. You must not remove clothing stuck to the wound because additional injury may result. Do not attempt to clean the wound.

The text is about . . .

- A being ambushed.
- B wounding the enemy.
- C administering first aid.

9 Approximately 40 minutes into the flight, there was an explosion. The aircraft lost altitude very quickly and there was a sudden drop in cabin pressure. The captain announced that we had lost an engine and that we should brace ourselves for an emergency. The cabin filled with thick smoke. Two minutes later, we hit the ground hard. Luckily, everyone on board was still alive.

The text is about a . . .

- A fire drill.
- B crash landing.
- C natural disaster.

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- 1 Find out what they know about the military.
- 2 Do not use highly technical vocabulary.
- 3 Speak carefully and clearly.
- 4 Pause frequently.
- 5 Do not assume the person you are dealing with doesn't understand your language.

The above rules apply to those working with a/an . . .

- A** humanitarian relief worker.
- B** platoon sergeant.
- C** interpreter.

KEYS TO READING COMPREHENSION

Exercise 1

1. True
2. False. The program will engage tribal elders and leaders from Afghan communities.
3. True
4. False. The shipments have been suspended until the area is cleared of militants.
5. True
6. True
7. False. The Italian Carabinieri are teaching the Iraqis policing skills to increase their autonomy.
8. True

Exercise 2

9. B
10. C