

## Sacred Heart CMI Public School, Thevara

Class: X

English Worksheet 3

Marks: 20

### 1. Reading Comprehension:

(12 marks)

1. At first glance, Port Blair, the capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, look pretty much like any village square in Kerala – uneven terrain, lush trees, modest shops and a ubiquitous chai and meat shop at every junction. Even the buses are painted red and pale yellow like the Kerala's State buses. Move a little away from the central square and the differences start to emerge. For one, the sea is never far away.

2. The archipelago is dotted with hints of its murky past and subsequent revival – its towers over you particularly at 'Kala Pani' or Cellular Jail, the solitary confinement prison to which political dissenters were exiled by the British. The three-storeyed structure, shaped like a seven-spoke wheel with a watch tower in the centre, has withstood an earthquake that destroyed four wings and now serves as a reminder of its grim past.

3. Once home, almost exclusively to indigenous tribes, the island is today a potpourri of cultures and has immigrants from Bangladesh, Myanmar, families of convicts and the armed forces and those who migrated as part of the Indian government's efforts to promote agriculture in the islands in the first few decades after independence.

4. As focus shifted from agriculture, the island too evolved, making infrastructure development and tourism its priorities. Along the way, commercial operators realized that nothing sells as much as the 'experience of the exotic', resulting in a major tussle between tour companies and human rights' groups battling for Jarawas.

5. The Jarawas are one of the six main tribes of indigenous people inhabiting the islands since at least the 1850s. When the British came, the Jarawas, along with the Sentinelese, refused to fraternize with them. As years passed the Sentinelese continued to isolate themselves from others. Meanwhile, the Jarawas' resistance to the outside world weakened, partly due to the construction of the Grand Andaman

Trunk Road that connects Port Blair with Diglipur, the largest town in North Andaman, and cuts through Jarawa territory.

6. Today, at the entrance of the Jarawa Reserve Forest checkpoint, around 60 km by road from Port Blair, there is an information board with a list of do's and don'ts, which, among others, forbids tourists from stopping their vehicles in the area. Until not so long ago, my guide tells me, 'human safaris' were all too common.

7. On Havelock Island, cutoff from the main island if not for the ferries that operate less than half a dozen times a day, internet and Wi-Fi connectivity is frustrating slow. Unlike the tower-to-tower connectivity in the mainland, the islands depend on a satellite wing with a limited bandwidth. "It's like Mumbai traffic," jokes a guide at the government help centre. "Thousands of cars on a single, narrow road." A new project lay submarine cables from Chennai to Port Blair is in the offing.

**1.1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words (2x4 = 8 marks)**

- a) How is Port Blair compared with any village square in Kerala?
- b) What serves as a reminder of its grim past?
- c) Describe the potpourri of cultures of Port Blair.
- d) What do you know about the Jarawa tribe of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

**1.2 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following:(1x4 = 4)**

- e) The Cellular Jail is called 'Kala Pani'. (True/False)
- f) The island is today a ..... of cultures.
- g) A word similar in meaning to 'everywhere' in Para 1 is .....  
(i) nowhere (ii) ubiquitous (iii) somewhere (iv) disappear
- h) A word similar in meaning to 'local' in Para 5 is .....  
(i) Indian (ii) Foreign (iii) Indigenous (iv) Adopted

2. You are Kashish/Kailash, a strong believer in the theory that one must eat healthy food to live well. However, you are disturbed that your friends are junk food addicts. **Write an article** for your school magazine 'Awaz' talking about the problems of unhealthy eating, leading to various body disorders. (8 marks)

\*\*\*\*\*