

Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions according to the information therein. Each question has four choices, A-D. Choose the best alternative.

UNITED NATIONS

1. Nearly 60 million people have been driven from their homes by war and persecution an unprecedented global exodus that has burdened fragile countries with waves of newcomers and littered deserts and seas with the bodies of those who died trying to reach safety. The new figures, released recently by the United Nations refugee agency, paint a staggering picture of a world where new conflicts are erupting and old ones are refusing to subside, driving up the total number of displaced people to a record 59.5 million by the end of 2014, the most recent year tallied.

2. Half of the displaced are children. Nearly 14 million people were newly displaced in 2014, according to the annual report by the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to other words, tens of thousands of people were forced to leave their homes every day and seek protection elsewhere " last year, the report found. Tens of millions of others fled in previous years and remain stuck, sometimes for decades, unable to go home or find a permanent new one, according to the refugee agency. This includes more than 2.5 million displaced in the Darfur region of Sudan, and the 1.5 million Afghans still living in Pakistan.

3. When refugees flee their own countries, most of them wind up in the world's less developed nations, with Turkey, Iran and Pakistan hosting the largest numbers. One in four refugees now finds shelter in the world's poorest countries, with Ethiopia and Kenya taking many more refugees than, say Britain and France. As the report states. "the global distribution of refugees remains heavily skewed away from wealthier nations and towards the less wealthy." Even so, there has been a sharp backlash in European capitals against the waves of people coming across the Mediterranean Sea, including many who are fleeing conflict and repression in countries like Syria and Eritrea. For now, the European Union has shelved its plans to get approval from the United Nations Security Council to target human smugglers who operate in lawless Libya and to destroy the shops they use to bring migrants across the sea. Instead, the European Union is scheduled to meet on Monday to discuss whether it will start military operations in the international waters of the Mediterranean Sea, for which it does not need the council's blessings.

4. European Union leaders are still squabbling with one another over how to split up at least 40,000 asylum seekers across their 28 member states. And they have stepped up search and rescue operations after intense public pressure stemming from a sharp increase in the deaths of migrants crossing the Mediterranean this year. Australia has felt no such compaction. Its prime minister, Tony Abbott, has pledged to turn around migration boats before they enter Australian territorial water, including those with minority Rohingyas fleeing persecution in Myanmar. His administration faces scrutiny over allegations that it paid smugglers to turn a boat back to Indonesia after it was intercepted on the high seas.

5. "For an age of unprecedented mass displacement, we need an unprecedented humanitarian response and a renewed global commitment to tolerance and protection for people fleeing conflict and persecution." Antonio Guterres, the high commissioner for refugees, said in a statement accompanying the annual report."

6. Amnesty International in a report issued this week, accused governments and smugglers alike of pursuing "selfish political interest instead of showing basic human compassion." The United States offers permanent resettlement to roughly 70,000 refugees each year, though its plans to admit 2,000 Syrian refugees this year have drawn scrutiny from Republican lawmakers who worry that some among them might be terrorists. The war in Syria is the largest source of displacement. By the end of 2014, 7.6 million Syrians were displaced within the country itself, and nearly another 3.9 million were refugees living outside the war-torn nation.

Source: United National English Language Programme

1. Which of the following sentences reflects Antonio Guterres's view towards refugees?"

- A. [people are being persecuted at an unprecedented rate.](#)
- B. [the world should be more tolerant to those displaced from their homes.](#)
- C. [people who flee conflict and persecution need to be more tolerant.](#)
- D. [we need to be aware that there is an unprecedented humanitarian response today.](#)

A. people are being persecuted at an unprecedented rate.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

B. the world should be more tolerant to those displaced from their homes.

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Answer: B. Antonio Guterres, the high commissioner for refugees, calls for a "renewed global commitment to tolerance and protection for people fleeing conflict and persecution." This suggests that he believes the world needs to be more understanding and accepting of refugees.

C. people who flee conflict and persecution need to be more tolerant.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

D. we need to be aware that there is an unprecedented humanitarian response today.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

2. Why is the United States reluctant to admit Syrian refugees?

- A. because it runs its own political interest.
- B. because there are terrorists mixed with the refugees.
- C. because it is possible for the refugees to settle within Syria.
- D. because Republican lawmakers do not trust the refugees.

A. because it runs its own political interest.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

B. because there are terrorists mixed with the refugees.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

C. because it is possible for the refugees to settle within Syria.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

D. because Republican lawmakers do not trust the refugees.

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Choice D is correct. The passage states that the plan to admit 2,000 Syrian refugees "have drawn scrutiny from Republican lawmakers who worry that some among them might be terrorists." This indicates that their reluctance is based on concerns about security and potential threats.

3. According to paragraph 2, which one of the following sentences is NOT true?

- A. compared to the adolescent or the elderly emigrant, children are larger in number.
- B. the 1.5 million Afghans living in Pakistan do not seem to want to go back home.
- C. newly dislocated people in 2014 make up nearly a quarter of the total number of displaced people.
- D. relatively a significant number of those who flee their countries fail to find permanent homes.

A. compared to the adolescent or the elderly emigrant, children are larger in number.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

B. the 1.5 million Afghans living in Pakistan do not seem to want to go back home.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

C. newly dislocated people in 2014 made up nearly a quarter of the total number of displaced people.

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Choice C is correct. The passage states that "nearly 14 million people were newly displaced in 2014." This figure represents approximately 23.5% of the total displaced people by the end of 2014, which is more than a quarter.

D. relatively a significant number of those who flee their countries fail to find permanent homes.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

4. What is the paradox that one can see in paragraph 3?

- A. poor countries take more refugees than wealthy ones.
- B. wealthy countries take more refugees than poor ones.
- C. wealthy countries were supposed to take more refugees than the poor ones.
- D. people who flee their own countries eventually land in less developed nations.

A. poor countries take more refugees than wealthy ones.

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Choice A is correct. The passage mentions that "most of them [refugees] wind up in the world's less developed nations" and that "one in four refugees now finds shelter in the world's poorest countries." This suggests a paradox where poorer countries are hosting a disproportionate number of refugees compared to wealthier nations.

B. wealthy countries take more refugees than poor ones.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

C. wealthy countries were supposed to take more refugees than the poor ones.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

D. people who flee their own countries eventually land in less developed nations.

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

5. Which countries in paragraph 3 are among those that should take the blame with regard to creating refugees?

A. [Syria and Eritrea](#)

B. [Ethiopia and Kenya](#)

C. [Britain and France](#)

D. [Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan](#)

A. Syria and Eritrea

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Choice A is correct. The passage mentions that many of the people crossing the Mediterranean Sea are fleeing conflict and repression in countries like Syria and Eritrea. These countries can be considered sources of refugees and bear some responsibility for the displacement

B. Ethiopia and Kenya

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

C. Britain and France

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

D. Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

6. What made the European Union intensify its search and rescue operations?

- A. [the sharp increase in the death of migrants](#)
- B. [the serious demand put on them by the public](#)
- C. [the increasing number of asylum seekers](#)
- D. [their intention to send back new arrivals](#)

A. the sharp increase in the death of migrants

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

B. the serious demand put on them by the public

Correct [Next Question](#)

Explanation: Choice B is correct. The passage states that the European Union stepped up search and rescue operations "after intense public pressure stemming from a sharp increase in the deaths of migrants crossing the Mediterranean this year." This indicates that public sentiment played a significant role in prompting the EU to take action.

C. the increasing number of asylum seekers

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

D. their intention to send back new arrivals

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

7. What does the phrase 'fragile countries' (paragraph 1) refer to?

- A. [countries located around deserts and seas](#)
- B. [countries form where people are persecuted for some reason](#)
- C. [countries that had to host emigrants from other places](#)
- D. [countries form where people leave their homes because of war](#)

A. countries located around deserts and seas

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

B. countries form where people are persecuted for some reason

Incorrect [Try Again](#)

C. countries that had to host emigrants from other places

Correct

Explanation: Choice C is correct. The context suggests that "fragile countries" are those that are struggling to cope with the influx of refugees. It implies that they are burdened and potentially destabilized by the large numbers of displaced people they are hosting.

D. countries from where people leave their homes because of war

Incorrect [Try Again](#)