Key Learning Points

Reading Comprehension

• Reading is an **active process**.

• Good readers reread a passage or a sentence, all the time asking **“What is going on here?”**

• Struggling readers rarely talk to themselves about what’s going on with the text; most confuse page-turning with comprehension.

• **Strategies for Reading Success:**
  - Read the title, scan for pictures and try to predict what the reading will be about.
  - Read a few questions before starting to read. This way, you know what you are looking for.
  - Always reread when unsure of text.
  - Highlight main ideas, words, and sentences.
  - Make notes about text in margins.
  - Relate what is read to your personal life experience(s).
  - Visualize the text. Good readers describe reading as running a movie inside their heads.
  - Never give up when experiencing difficult vocabulary.
  - Understand the three types of questions you will encounter: **Right There, Think and Search, and On My Own Questions**

Rereading is probably the last strategy struggling readers use to make sense of text!
The Three Types of Questions You Will Need to Answer

Right There

- Answers to Right There questions are always in the text. You need to actively go back into the text and find the answer!
- Literal level questions:
  - Who is...
  - Where is...
  - List...
  - What is...
  - When is ...
  - How many ...
  - When did ...
  - Name ...

Think and Search

- Think about how the ideas in the text relate to one another.
- Search through the entire passage to find information that applies:
  - Summarize ...
  - What caused ...
  - Contrast ...
  - Retell ...
  - How did ...
  - Explain ...
  - Find two examples ...

On My Own

- Questions that can be answered with information from students’ background knowledge combined with reading the text
Multiple Choice Test Taking Tips

- Read the question before you look at the answer
- Come up with an answer in your head before looking at the possible answers. This way the choices given on the test won’t throw you off or trick you.
- Eliminate answers before choosing your answer
- Read all choices before choosing your answer
- Don’t keep on changing your answer. Usually your first choice is the right one, unless you misread the question
- Guess if you don’t know the answer!
- Shade in the bubbles on your student answer sheet.
Venice is sinking. Each year, millions of tourists rush to see this unique city in Italy before it disappears in the sea. The travellers themselves are probably unaware that their combined weight is adding to the problem. Venice has suggested imposing a tax on all visitors, to help pay for restoration of the ancient buildings and public squares and to finance research into ways of preventing further sinking.

As we begin the new century, there are 1.6 billion tourists roaming the world, and the impact of tourism can be devastating. Some say that tourism is ruining the planet. But how and to what extent should we impose restrictions on the tourists’ right to go wherever they wish?
New groups of "green" tourists or "eco-tourists" are upset by the effects of mass tourism on coastal regions such as those of the Mediterranean. They suggest that only low-volume tourism should be allowed. They don't want the world's picturesque places to be destroyed by the hordes of people who go there to experience the natural beauty. It's ironic that these same "green" tourists travel to some of the most sensitive spots on earth, where the environmental impact of even a few visitors can be very severe. How many people can visit the Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador without affecting the ecological balance? And how should we decide who is allowed to visit and who isn't?

Still other groups point out the damage to local communities, customs and crafts that results from the arrival of huge groups of tourists. Tourism is almost always portrayed as evil. But do local people always want to stay the way they are? Why should they not enjoy the economic benefits of tourism? In many places, it's tourism that's actually keeping alive or even reviving the local traditions and crafts, as well as the economy.

So how should the recent explosion of tourism be managed? The travel industry - airlines, hotels, cruise companies - should work with local councils and government agencies to agree upon realistic standards for planning and development in tourist areas. More frequently, the tourist destinations themselves are beginning to realize that they don't want to "kill the goose that laid the golden egg." The Caribbean island of St. Lucia, for example, recently turned down a plan to build a cable car and restaurant on top of Pitons, the island's twin volcanic peaks.

It may become necessary for the United Nations to work out international agreements and strict environmental controls on the tourist industry. A lot of little steps can help to ensure that the earth's unspoiled travel destinations remain unspoiled for future generations of tourists.
Multiple Choice (be sure to answer on the Student Answer Sheet)

1. “... the impact of tourism can be devastating.” (paragraph 2) What is the best meaning of "devastating" as used in this sentence?

   A huge
   B destructive
   C exaggerated
   D wide-ranging

2. Quotation marks are used around the word “eco-tourists” (paragraph 3) to indicate

   F a speaker’s words
   G a specialized terms
   H a Mediterranean word
   J a quotation from a travel brochure

3. How are the first and last sentences of paragraph 4 connected?

   A They emphasize the damaging effects of mass tourism.
   B They demonstrate the economic benefits of mass tourism.
   C They indicate that local people do not support mass tourism.
   D They show that mass tourism has both positive and negative effects.

4. What is the main purpose of the phrase “So how”? (paragraph 5)

   F to reinforce an anti-tourism message
   G to present an additional example of eco-tourism
   H to add more information about problems in tourism
   J to shift the focus from problems to solutions in tourism
Written answers

5. How does the first sentence of this selection catch the reader's attention?

6. According to this selection, what is one way Venice would use the money from a "tax on all visitors"?

7. Why does the writer start the final sentence of paragraph 3 with the word "And"?

8. Name one environmentally sensitive spot on Earth not mentioned in this selection and explain why it is sensitive.

9. Is this selection more "in favour of" or more "against" tourism? Give a reason for your answer.
Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test  
March 2009

Student Answer Sheet  
For Spoiling Paradise: The Impact of Tourism

• To indicate your answer, use blue or black ink to fill in the circle completely, as shown below:

Like this: ●  Not like this: ❌ ✓ ◼ ◼

• If you fill in more than one circle for a question, the question will be scored incorrect.

• If you wish to change your answer, put an X through the incorrect answer and fill in the circle for the correct one.

In this example, C would be considered your final answer.

Section A

1. A B C D
2. F G H J
3. A B C D
4. A B C D
5. Respond in booklet
6. Respond in booklet
7. Respond in booklet
8. Respond in booklet
9. Respond in booklet

Don't Forget:  
Fill in the circle completely!
After your class has finished writing, please take up your answers with your teacher.