

Grade 7

Time 1 hr

Total marks 50

Answer all questions.

Section A

1. Choose the correct word from the list below to fill in the blanks.

Apart from *volcanoes* and the growth of corals, there are other *natural processes* which contributed in *shaping* and transforming the *natural landscape* of our islands.

Weathering is the process whereby *rocks* are broken down into smaller pieces without being *displaced*.

Erosion occurs when materials such as rocks, sand and soil are *transported* by winds, waves, and running water. Here *displacement* of the materials take place.

[displacement, volcanoes, shaping, weathering, rocks, erosion, natural processes, natural landscape, displaced, transported.]

10 marks

2.State true or false.

(A) Long ago Mauritius was a Dutch colony. **TRUE**

(B) In the year 1910, the British captured the island from the Dutch. **FALSE**

(C) From 1968 to 1992, Mauritius had a Governor General and a Prime minister.
TRUE

- (D) The first Governor General was Sir John Shaw Rennie. **TRUE**
- (E) Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam was the first President. **FALSE**
- (F) There is a dispute between Mauritius and Britain to jointly manage the island of Tromelin. **FALSE**
- (G) The Republic of Mauritius including all its islands, has a total land area of 2040 km² *with an Exclusive Economic Zone of 1.9 million km²*. **TRUE**
- (H) Agalega and Saint Brandon are volcanic islands. **FALSE**
- (I) Most of our islands are found on the Mascarene Plateau which lies under the sea. **TRUE**
- (J) The last eruptions occurred in the area of Nouvelle Decouverte about 20,000 years ago. **TRUE**

10 marks ½

Section B

1. How do we call a group of islands?

➔ Archipelago

2. Explain why the islands vary in size and have different landscapes.

➔ This is because some are of volcanic origins and others from coral origin.

3. In which year, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly was set up?

➔ In the year 2002, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly was set up to grant autonomy to the island.

4. List the different names given to our island in the past by the (I) Arabs, (ii) Portuguese, (iii) Dutch, (IV) French (V) British.

- i. Dina Arobi (Desert/A Island)
- ii. Cirne (Swan-shaped)
- iii. Mauritius (In honor of Prince Maurice Van Nassau)
- iv. Ile De France
- v. Mauritius

5. Explain the Exclusive Economic zone.

The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) refers to an area of sea that extends 200 nautical miles from the coast of a country. A country has all rights for exploring, exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources in its EEZ.

6. Give the reasons why it is important to have a sustainable management of our maritime environment.

It is important so as to create sustainable development in the long run.

7. A landscape consists of what?

A landscape consists of the landforms and all the natural and man-made features that can be seen in an area of land.

8. Write 3 reasons why we need to preserve and protect the diverse natural environment of our islands.

- i. They are our natural capital
- ii. They clean our air, water, maintain our soil, regulate the climate and provide us with food.
- iii. Some of those may never reappear if extinct.

9. Name the five plains.

- i. Grand Port Plain
- ii. Flacq Plain
- iii. Northern Plains
- iv. Plaine St Pierre
- v. Plaines des Roches

10. How is a coral reef formed?

A coral reef is built up by layers of skeletons covered by new groups of living polyps. Year after year the reefs grow in size.