

PAPER I – READING

Part I. Questions 1-7

You can write on this exam paper but you must remember to put your final answers on the separate answer sheet

- You will read a newspaper article about Ed Stafford, an explorer who spent 2 months alone on a desert island.
 - Choose the best answer: **A, B** or **C**.
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Example answer:

Ed Stafford

- a) **walked down the Amazon 2 years before living on the desert island.**
- b) walked down the Amazon after living on the island.
- c) walked down the Amazon two-and-a half years before living on the island.

0	A	B	C
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. **On the island,**

- a) he had nothing except a few clothes.
- b) he had nothing at all except equipment for filming himself
- c) he was alone except for the camera crew.

2. **Ed Stafford**

- a) had to prepare himself for new challenges before he went.
- b) was already prepared for the challenge.
- c) had to learn how to light a fire without a lighter.

3. **Aborigines in Australia**

- a) advised him to spend some time in the bush to prepare himself for the challenge.
- b) advised him to build a stone circle to protect himself from wild animals.
- c) advised him how to protect himself from feelings of loneliness.

4. **The phrase a *double-edged sword*, underlined in paragraph 6 means:**

- a) the camera has advantages and disadvantages
- b) the camera was his only friend
- c) using the camera was frightening

5. Would he last the full period?

- a) A lot of people believed Ed would complete the 60-day period.
- b) Ed believed he would last two months on the island.
- c) Ed didn't think he would last two months.

6. The most difficult part

- a) was being there without his fiancée.
- b) not having enough drinking water.
- c) was not having enough food.

7. Walking the Amazon was

- a) more difficult than surviving on the island.
- b) much easier than surviving on the island.
- c) was completely different to surviving on the island.

The Reality Robinson Crusoe: Explorer Ed Stafford on his 60 days lost on a desert isle

(Adapted from an article by Chris Leadbeater in the Daily Mail online 14 March 2013)

Former British Army captain Ed Stafford made headlines in August 2010 when he became the first person to walk the full length of the River Amazon. This epic 4000-mile journey took him two-and-a-half years, carrying him from the Andean peaks of Peru to the Atlantic coast of Brazil. Two years on, Stafford's next challenge would be rather different: 60 days spent alone on Olorua, an uninhabited island (near Fiji) in the South Pacific. The idea: to see if he could survive for two months equipped with nothing – including *any clothing* – but the video cameras he would use to film himself.

Here, he talks to Chris Leadbeater about eating raw lizards for tea, coping with isolation and worrying that he was losing his sanity in the middle of the planet's biggest ocean.

"I funded my Amazon expedition myself, but Discovery Channel agreed to show it. The programme did well, so we talked about a new project. I wanted to try something that no one else had done, but didn't want to be away for another two years. So, we had the idea of limiting the challenge to 60 days. Then it was a case of making something interesting and someone said: 'What if you were dropped on a desert island for two months, with absolutely nothing, stark naked? Could you survive?' I said: 'I don't know.' They said: 'Perfect. That's what we'll do'. Essentially, the plan was to produce something authentic, absolutely real, with no storyline or camera crew. That final factor was very important.

It was a boyhood dream sort of thing. Would I be able to do it? I'm not a bushcraft guru. I'm an expedition leader, an ex-military guy. If I start a fire, I use a lighter, I don't normally rub sticks together. So, there were lots of new things that I had to learn because I didn't know all the local plants, or different methods of trapping fish, or hunting techniques, it was a genuine challenge. But that was the beauty of it.

I worked on making fire by friction, with pieces of wood. I learned how to make a stone axe – although there wasn't any stone on the island that was suitable as a blade, so I had to use clam shells and I also I learned how to make a bow-and-arrow. I went to Australia and met up with a few indigenous guys. In the Aboriginal tradition of coming of age, they go out and spend extended periods of time – 30 days, 40 days – in the bush, on their own. They told me not to underestimate the effect of isolation and told me to prepare tactics that would keep me mentally balanced. They advised me to create a stone circle, and if I felt overwhelmed, I should go and sit in this circle with the belief that, if I was inside it, I was safe. I constructed this on the island. It proved a simple way to keep myself calm.

One of the strangest things was having to film myself - the camera is a double-edged sword in this situation. In a way, it's your friend yet I was also very aware that if a wave of panic came over me, it would all be recorded. But the

programme would not be very interesting if it just showed a He-Man figure who only thinks positive thoughts and says positive things. It is more fascinating if you look at the demons and the devils. I was never sure whether the camera made things easier or harder.

Many people thought I wouldn't be able to make it to the end of 60 days but I always thought I would. It started well. On the first day, I found a cave to sleep in, sea snails to eat, and coconuts to drink. I could have lived like that for the next 60 days and got by but the idea was not just to survive, but to evolve, become master of the island, build a sustainable, civilised life.

The toughest part was that I was always slightly dehydrated, because the water source was not abundant enough until it rained heavily – when I was able to collect more water. I was always slightly malnourished and there were times when I questioned what I was doing. I would start thinking: 'I have a beautiful fiancée in London, and I'm sitting on an island on the far side of the world, starving.' Isolation alters your perspective.

To survive I had to eat all sorts of weird and wonderful things. In the first episode viewers saw me eat snails and gheckos - they were both pretty disgusting. The best thing I ate was a coconut crab; they are bigger than a lobster, phenomenal things. And because they eat coconuts, they have this oily coconut flavour. There was also a herd of feral goats that a Fijian clan had left on the island about 60 years earlier. I managed to kill one. That was wonderful. A big goat – 45, 50 kilos.

I've been asked which was harder, my time on the island or walking the Amazon. I always say they were different beasts. Walking the Amazon was, of course, harder. It took two and a half years and there were life-threatening scenarios, whether it was being held at arrow-point by indigenous tribes, or held at gunpoint by drug traffickers in Peru. Oh, and the snakes! That said, there were moments on the island when I was surprised how far it pushed me. There were moments I felt I had gone crazy!