

## ESAME DI STATO CONCLUSIVO DEL SECONDO CICLO DI ISTRUZIONE

**Indirizzo:** IT04 TURISMO

**Disciplina:** LINGUA INGLESE

**IL CANDIDATO DEVE SVOLGERE TUTTE LE ATTIVITÀ COMPRESSE NELLA PROVA**

### QUESTION A

#### PART 1 - COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

##### **Empowering Women of Nepal through Sustainable Tourism**

*3 Sisters Adventure Trekking* is a social enterprise based in Nepal, empowering women in the local communities by promoting sustainable tourism. It is Nepal's first and only women-owned adventure guide company.

In 1993, the Chhetri sisters, Lucky, Dicky and Nicky were running a restaurant and a lodge in Pokhara, where they had the opportunity to meet women from all over the world. They met some unhappy and frightened solo women travellers who had been harassed by their male guides, and the idea for their own trekking business, by women for women was born.

1994. The 3 sisters started the Female Trekking Guide and Porter Services for Lady Trekkers, giving local women an alternative to domestic labour, but education opportunities were limited. To combat this challenge, they pushed hard for instruction at the Council for Technical and Vocational Studies Institute, and the first training course took place in 1996.

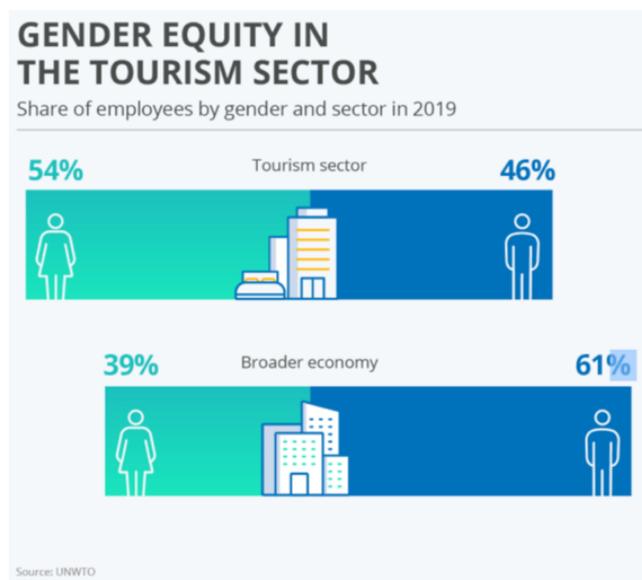
To continue the training program, the sisters founded Empowering Women of Nepal in 1999. At EWN they offer life skill and self-awareness programs. The first module is 'be yourself': we talk about gender roles, communication and conflict management

Between 1999 and 2008 EWN conducted 18 basic female trekking guide-training programs with more than 600 participants from all parts of the country.

Since 1988, the three sisters have managed to bridge a gap in the market and contribute successfully to women empowerment. Through the three sisters' work, it is now acceptable for women to work in the Nepali tourism industry. *3 Sisters Adventure Trekking* offers its employees not only fair wages (they earn USD \$1,200 annually whilst the Nepali average is USD\$240) but also benefits such as insurance, tuition fees for their children and a savings and credit program.

(286 words)

Fig. 1



Choose the answer which fits best according to the text. Circle one letter.

- 1 3 Sisters Adventure Travel is a business that operates
  - A to promote inbound tourism.
  - B to create revenue for social and environmental objectives.
  - C to develop new tourism attractions in Nepal.
  - D to maximize profits.
  
- 2 The 3 sisters' idea was to
  - A create job opportunities for women.
  - B create job opportunities for men.
  - C enhance voluntary tourism.
  - D create job opportunities for all.
  
- 3 What was the problem when the business started its activity?
  - A Most women refused to attend because they believed a woman's place is in the home.
  - B Guiding trekking expeditions in Nepal is a man's job.
  - C Most women needed to complete their education to attend trekking training courses
  - D Most trekkers distrusted female guides.

4 Nowadays, the wage of women working as trekking guides is

- A just above the average Nepali wages
- B less than the average Nepali wages
- C the same as the average Nepali wages.
- D much more than the average Nepali wages

*Answer the question by referring to Figure 1.*

5 Based on Figure 1, What is women's participation in the tourism sector when compared to men's participation? What is women's participation in the overall economy when compared to men's participation?

## PART 2 - WRITTEN PRODUCTION

*Choose one of the following tasks. Number your answer clearly to show which question you have chosen.*

*Either*

1. Your organization, 'Walks of life' promotes eco-friendly walking/hiking/cycling tours in natural surroundings in Italy. You are the organization's travel designer, and you aim to create bespoke itineraries that minimise environmental impact and support the local communities.

Plan a 5-day itinerary for a group of eco-friendly travellers who wish to experience sustainable tourism practices, blending cultural heritage, slow travel and nature.

Your itinerary should include:

- a particularly interesting natural setting (illustrated by an expert **local** guide)
- one or more historical towns
- sustainable accommodation
- local food
- opportunities for buying local
- tips for sustainable travel practices.
- use of public transport on long distances to minimize carbon prints.

*Or*

2. You have been asked to write an article for the school's online magazine. The title of the article is 'How Sustainable Tourism can benefit the economy without threatening the environment'. Explain how tourist behaviour can bring prosperity to a region and to its inhabitants.

*Write an article in about 300 words.*

**QUESTION B****PART 1 – COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION**

*Read the text and answer ALL the questions below.*

**Towards a Resilient Future: trade, finance, and equity in a post-pandemic world**

The global health crisis triggered by Covid-19 significantly disrupted economies around the world, and many low- and middle-income nations have yet to return to the levels of income and growth they experienced before the pandemic. The situation has been worsened by escalating prices, particularly for food and energy, which weigh heavily on households in countries with limited financial resilience. The inflationary pressures, intensified by international conflict, have been especially damaging for vulnerable economies where basic necessities consume a large portion of household income. At the same time, rising borrowing costs are aggravating debt burdens across the developing world, reducing the space for both public and private investment and limiting economic expansion. All of this unfolds against the backdrop of an environmental crisis, which disproportionately affects nations that have contributed the least to the problem and that lack sufficient resources to respond effectively.

There is clear evidence that progress achieved in past decades is now being reversed. Global development institutions report alarming setbacks: millions have been pushed into severe poverty due to the dual impact of the pandemic and armed conflict. Food insecurity has surged, with estimates indicating that hundreds of millions may face hunger in the near future—more than double the figures seen just a few years ago. Employment prospects have also deteriorated, with joblessness on the rise, widening disparities between genders, and an increasing number of young people who are neither employed nor receiving adequate education or training.

However, these negative trends are not irreversible. While current trajectories suggest a significant risk of failure in achieving the United Nations' sustainable development goals—particularly in countries with structural disadvantages — there remains an opportunity for change. Governments, business leaders, and community organizations can choose to act decisively now, creating the groundwork for equitable and enduring development. Current high-level discussions among international financial institutions offer a critical platform to advance this agenda.

One of the key tools available is global commerce. Trade has the potential to generate improved employment, foster economic diversification, and enhance resilience. Over the last four decades, deeper economic integration has contributed to lifting over a billion people out of poverty. Nevertheless, even before the pandemic, it was evident that many people in disadvantaged regions, as well as marginalized communities within wealthier nations, had not equally benefited from global economic growth.

The recent disruptions to supply chains have highlighted vulnerabilities but also offer a moment to rethink and redesign global economic cooperation. This reconfiguration should prioritize including communities and countries that have historically been left behind, allowing them to engage in and benefit from international trade to support their development objectives.

Central to this renewed vision is the expansion of production networks to involve a more diverse set of countries. By creating broader and less concentrated systems of production and distribution,

marginalized economies can gain access to global markets in both goods and services. Businesses are already diversifying their supply bases, moving operations to various regions in Asia and Latin America. Simultaneously, the growing demand for digital services is creating new opportunities that can be harnessed by a wider range of economies.

Including more small enterprises and businesses led by women in these networks would not only promote social inclusion and local development but also make supply chains more robust in the face of external shocks, whether due to climate events or health emergencies.

Nevertheless, trade alone cannot meet all the demands of a more inclusive and sustainable global economy. Long-term, affordable access to financing is also essential. A comprehensive rethinking of global financial mechanisms is needed to ensure that capital flows reach initiatives aimed at environmental sustainability and climate adaptation. Proposals have been made to restructure existing financial systems so that both public and private resources are better aligned with the needs of vulnerable nations. Supporting such reforms could be pivotal for financing both climate action and the broader development agenda.

Moreover, an effective and equitable trading system would amplify the benefits of reforms in debt management and investments in sustainable infrastructure. Access to foreign exchange through exports and expanded markets enhances the potential returns on investment.

Equally important is the creation of fair and inclusive industrial strategies that support the transition to carbon neutrality. Advancing innovation and facilitating the transfer of new technologies to emerging economies must be priorities. Combined with open trade policies, targeted investments, and accessible financing, such efforts can support the global South in producing and acquiring the goods necessary for a green transformation.

Undoubtedly, this agenda is ambitious, especially amid rising political tensions worldwide. Yet, recent agreements at international trade forums have shown that multilateral cooperation remains possible. Continued collaboration will be essential to ensuring that global trade supports inclusive development, enhances resilience, and contributes to a more equitable global future.

*Choose the answer which fits best according to the text. Circle one letter.*

1 What is one indirect consequence of higher interest rates in developing countries?

- A Increased agricultural output
- B Rising energy subsidies
- C Less investment in both public and private sectors
- D Improved export competitiveness

2 Why are rising costs of necessities particularly harmful to certain countries?

- A Their governments subsidize all food and energy products
- B Their population prefers imported goods

- C** A large share of household income goes to basic needs
- D** They mostly rely on tourism for income

**3** What is implied by the phrase “structural disadvantages” (l. 20) in the context of development?

- A** A lack of educational institutions
- B** Enduring limitations that make progress harder
- C** Poor infrastructure for sports and leisure
- D** Temporary economic setbacks

**4** What role do small enterprises and women-led businesses play in strengthening supply chains?

- A** They help reduce product quality variation
- B** They increase tax revenues
- C** They make production cheaper
- D** They improve stability and inclusivity

**5** What does the phrase “capital flows” (l. 45) refer to in this context?

- A** The movement of people between countries
- B** The transfer of money for trade and investment
- C** Natural resources moving through rivers
- D** Government money given directly to citizens

*Answer the following questions. Use complete sentences and your own words.*

- 6** Why might some nations feel the impact of climate change more strongly even if they didn't cause it?
- 7** In what way could redesigning global trade help address past inequalities?
- 8** What connection does the text suggest between access to finance and environmental goals?
- 9** How do digital services present a development opportunity for countries with fewer physical resources?
- 10** Why might political tensions make implementing this global agenda more difficult?

## PART 2 – WRITTEN PRODUCTION

Choose one of the following tasks. Number your answer clearly to show which question you have chosen.

Either

### 1 Tourism Briefing Note

You are a student intern at a local tourism board that is preparing for an upcoming visit from representatives of a major British travel company.

Your supervisor has asked you to prepare a briefing note in English to help the team understand how to present your destination effectively to international partners.

Write your briefing note in **about 300 words**, in which you:

- Highlight three main attractions or experiences that could appeal to English-speaking tourists
- Explain why these are attractive from a cultural, environmental, or recreational point of view
- Suggest how the tourism board can promote these in a culturally sensitive and engaging way during the visit

Or

### 2 Blog Entry for a Student Travel Platform

You are invited to contribute a guest blog post to an international student travel website. The theme this month is: "What tourism has taught me about people"

Write your blog entry in **about 300 words**, where you:

- Share a meaningful moment or interaction you had with tourists or during a visit to another place.
- Reflect on what you learned about cultural exchange and how this changed your thinking.
- Explain how using English helped you during this experience, or how you realized the importance of speaking English in the tourism field.