

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE SYLLABUS A**

Paper 4 Oral Communication Test 6

1190/04

September/October 2013

Approximately 20 minutes

**PART 1
READING ALOUD**

Your home is on an island in the Indian Ocean. Your English teacher at school is giving a class on how to write good letters and emails, and she asks you to read one of yours to the class. The email you read is to your friend, Kim, who now lives in Australia.

Hi, Kim! I'm attaching some pictures to this message – of a place you'll remember really well.

Shell Beach has re-opened for swimming at last. It seems longer, but it's been eight months since the accident and all the problems that followed. On that night, during a storm, two cargo ships collided offshore, and one of them was badly damaged. Luckily no-one was seriously injured or drowned, but a lot of oil spilled into the sea – and within a day it was beginning to wash up along Shell Beach and over the rocks at each end of it. The oil slick was a kilometre long, and it turned the sea into something like a flat red-brown pond. It looked filthy, and it was! It turned the white sand into stinking mud.

The clean-up has taken a long time and a lot of work. Half the island was declared an 'Emergency Area'. There were a lot of dead fish, and a lot of birds were caught, and had to be taken away and properly cleaned. Soldiers were sent from the mainland, and everyone who could help was out on the shore, scraping the oil away.

And now at last, as the pictures will show you, we're OK again – and much more aware of dangers to our beautiful environment than we were before!

I hope all is well with you and your family – and it'll be great to see you again in the summer. Send me your own news whenever you can.

PART 2
SPOKEN INTERACTION

Study the picture.



© Singapore Press Holdings Limited