

Lesson Notes- Week 4

Strand : Reading

Sub strand: Comprehension

Content Learning Outcome: be able to comprehend a given passage

COMPREHENSION WORKSHEET

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Conservation Effort to Preserve Life Below Water

A new initiative designed to support marine ecotourism and the Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) was launched to mark a new era in marine conservation. The South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) in partnership with Beqa Adventure Divers (BAD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with support from the Australian Government proudly
5 launched the My Fiji Shark Initiative in Suva on 18th of October, 2018.

With coastal pollution, overfishing and population growth, the oceans and the marine ecosystem are witnessing profound damage making the SDG 14 'Life Below Water' crucial for Fiji. There is optimism amongst scientists that new approaches to sustainable management and marine conservation can be found if traditional knowledge is complemented by science and technology.

- 10 Hence, the My Fiji Shark Initiative is a new innovative model to support the partners' efforts to realise this and raise the profile of marine conservation in the region.

According to the Chief Executive Officer of SPTO, this initiative is a tool to mobilise resources through tourism to implement the SDG 14 and support the 'Blue Pacific' identity as a **driver** for sustainable development in the region. This partnership is a demonstration of public-private
15 sector engagement in the conservation of the marine resources.

Beqa Adventure Divers is a credible business with research work to support the Shark Reef Marine Reserve. The initiative is working closely with the Shark Reef Marine Reserve managed by Beqa Adventure Divers, a local shark research, conservation and ecotourism operator, to raise the profile of marine conservation in the region through a shark adoption program.

- 20 UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji Country Director and Head of Pacific Regional Policy and Programme revealed that businesses globally have a big role to play in achieving the SDGs. It is also known that it will not succeed without private sector engagement and contributions. This initiative is all the more important as it targets SDG financing from the private sector.

- 25 My Fiji Shark Initiative supports work towards achieving the SDG 14 on Life Below Water, which is specifically linked to marine ecotourism and involving 'Adopt a Shark' campaign. It is that it is the first SDG private sector financing model and marketing campaign are about oceans and marine species.

- 30 The initiative would mobilise resources by allowing sponsors to adopt individual sharks in their symbolic natural habitat. Several tiers of 'adoption' are being offered, with current proposals ranging from US\$50 - US\$10,000 for adoption by the general public, with varying packages of benefits.

35 Beqa Adventure Diver's Head of Conservation and My Fiji Shark Program Coordinator is proud of this initiative and deeply grateful to their partners and sponsors as the funds raised will allow them to play their part in assisting the government to pursue the ambitious marine conservation and fisheries management goals it had announced at the 2017 Ocean Conference.

Furthermore, this project will also help to change the public's perception of these misunderstood animals that sharks are beautiful, intelligent, and dynamic creatures with individual personalities and character traits just like humans.

40 Sharks are also globally threatened by overfishing and habitat loss and deserve all the help they can get. However, Fiji's shark populations are faring comparatively well to global populations and also are the main attraction of a thriving niche product that has been shown to contribute more than FJ\$80 million in sustainable income every year to Fiji's ecotourism industry.

Beqa Adventure Divers and My Fiji Shark Initiative are proud pioneers of Fiji's shark ecotourism industry and their message to everyone in Fiji is:

45 "Please help us nurture and preserve this unique and precious resource which has been part of Fijian culture since time immemorial and Adopt Your Shark Now."

Adapted from: *www.pacific.undp.org*

A. **Multiple-Choice Questions**

Choose the **best** answer and write the **letter** of your choice.

1. Which new initiative was launched as stated in paragraph 1?
 - A. My Beqa Adventures
 - B. My Tourism Initiative
 - C. My Fiji Shark Initiative
 - D. My Marine Environment

2. What is the focus of Sustainable Development Goal 14?
 - A. Fijian Culture
 - B. Life Below Water
 - C. Pacific Regional Policy
 - D. Beqa Adventure Divers

3. As used in the passage, the word **driver** in line 13 means
 - A. distress.
 - B. deserving.
 - C. misleading.
 - D. directing towards.

4. The main goal of My Fiji Shark Initiative is to allow sponsors to
 - A. deplete the shark population.
 - B. lose interest in sponsoring sharks.
 - C. sell the Fijian breed of male sharks only.
 - D. adopt individual sharks in their natural habitat.

B. **Sentence Completion**

Complete the following sentences in your **Answer Booklet** using the ideas given in the passage. Use your **own word(s)** where possible.

5. My Fiji Shark Initiative model would be helpful in supporting its partners' to

6. The funds raised from this initiative will

7. Globally sharks are threatened
by

C. **Open-ended Questions**

Use **your own words** as far as possible to answer the questions given below.

Write complete sentences.

8. Explain a way in which shark populations contribute to Fiji's ecotourism industry.

9. List **two** human qualities attributed to the sharks in the passage.

10. Explain the significance of My Fiji Shark Initiative for the people in Fiji
