The use of cyanide to stun and capture live coral reef fish began in the 1960s in the Philippines to supply the growing market for aquarium fish in Europe and North America, a market now worth more than $200 million a year. Since the late 1970s, the poison has also been used to capture larger live reef fish (primarily grouper species) for sale to specialty restaurants in Hong Kong and other Asian cities with large Chinese populations. Selected and plucked live from a restaurant tank, some species can fetch up to $300 per plate, and are an essential status symbol for major celebrations and business occasions. As the East Asian economy boomed over the past several decades, live reef food fish became a business worth some $1 billion annually.

Despite the fact that cyanide fishing is nominally illegal in virtually all Indo-Pacific countries, the high premium paid for live reef fish, weak enforcement capacities, and frequent corruption have spread the use of the poison across the entire region – home to the vast majority of the planet’s coral reefs. Since the 1960s, more than one million kilograms of cyanide has been squirted onto Philippine reefs, and the vast Indonesian archipelago now faces an even greater cyanide problem. As stocks in one country are depleted, the trade moves on to new frontiers, and cyanide fishing is now confirmed or suspected in countries stretching from the central Pacific to the shores of East Africa. Sadly, the most pristine reefs, far from the usual threats of sedimentation, coral mining, and coastal development, are the primary target for cyanide fishing operations.

—"Destructive Fishing is Widespread in Southeast Asia,“ World Resources Institute website, www.wri.org
1 Why are these fishing practices considered destructive to the environment?
   A They introduce a poison to living coral reefs.
   B Overfishing leaves nothing for the future.
   C They inadvertently capture other sea animals, like dolphins.
   D They lead to additional destructive development, such as mining.

2 Which driving force is leading to destructive fishing practices in Southeast Asia?
   F tourism
   G conservation efforts
   H government requirements
   J free-market consumer demand

3 Which nation most likely faces the need to regulate these new fishing practices?
   A Laos
   B Thailand
   C Indonesia
   D Cambodia
4 Which modern-day nations occupy much of the territory of the Khmer Empire?

F Singapore and Laos
G Malaysia and Indonesia
H Cambodia and Myanmar
J Vietnam and the Philippines
Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following four questions.

The dense forests of Papua are a rich and complicated mosaic of different tribal groups. Far from the coast, at the foothills of the highlands, from an aircraft the land seems like mile after mile of empty barren swamp. But this is where the Kombai have stayed hidden from the outside world for generations, pursuing their ancient way of life as hunter-gatherers.

There are 4,000 or so members of the Kombai, most of whom live in isolated family homesteads in tree houses. As well as providing an escape from the heat and mosquitoes, the tree houses probably originated as their height is a defense against flooding during heavy rains as well as offering protection in times of conflict. Headhunting tribes such as the Asmat from the south used to terrorize these swampy lowlands.

The tribal communities of inland New Guinea were arguably the last peoples on earth to trade in metal goods such as knives or axes. In the remotest parts of this island this is still the case and the local people use stone axes to fell trees, bamboo slivers to slice their meat and traded shells or bamboo to hold their water. Cooking is done without receptacles, but using a method of heated stones.

But deforestation is becoming a major problem. Indonesian loggers who have destroyed millions of hectares of virgin forest in Sumatra and Kalimantan have now set their sights on Papua. Under the government's "Go East" policy, four Jakarta-based timber barons have divided up the country between them. The government is paying for logging roads into what were once impenetrable forests. These in turn create land erosion and the destruction of habitat. There's nothing simple about the future here: some changes would be welcome to the Kombai. But the traditional ways of life in the forest are under great threat.

—"The Kombai," British Broadcasting Corporation website, www.bbc.co.uk
5 How do the Indonesian government and the Kombai differ on the use of the forests in the region?

A The Kombai desire to leave the forest, while the Indonesia government wants to preserve it for ecotourism.

B The Kombai view the forest as sacred and have violently resisted attempts by the Indonesian government to develop the forests.

C The Kombai depend on the forests for survival, while the Indonesian government considers the trees an economic resource.

D Both desire to protect the forests, but the Kombai desire isolation, while the Indonesian government wants to open the region to development.

6 All of the following are ways the Kombai have used their environment to their advantage EXCEPT —

F store water in shells

G build roads into the forests

H live in trees to avoid mosquitoes

J use stone axes to cut down trees

7 Which farming practice do the Kombai use?

A outsourcing

B cottage industry

C commercial agriculture

D subsistence agriculture

8 How is the management of the forests by the Indonesian government affecting the location of timber industries?

F The Indonesian government is restricting timber industries to the foothills in Papua.

G The Indonesian government is banning logging in the densely forested regions of Papua.

H The Indonesian government is allowing foreign investors to manage forest sizes in Papua.

J The Indonesian government is encouraging timber industries to move into the densely forested regions of Papua.
Use the diagram and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

9 Where does the independent city-state of Singapore likely fall on the economic spectrum?
   A A
   B B
   C C
   D D

10 How have the economic policies of governments in Southeast Asia shifted in the last decade?
   F Recent economic policies have ignored environmental concerns.
   G Recent economic policies have created millions of economic refugees.
   H Recent economic policies have limited international investment and financial aid.
   J Recent economic policies have reduced government controls over sectors of the economy.
Use the map and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

**Indonesia**

11. Which factor most contributes to the national boundaries of Indonesia?
   - **A** natural boundaries with the ocean
   - **B** cultural boundaries with differing ethnic groups
   - **C** economic boundaries with societies like Singapore
   - **D** historical boundaries between Buddhism and Hinduism
Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

. . . only a revitalization of Buddhist values can help rural people retain a level of self-sufficiency and independence. In the past, before the modernization of Thailand under capitalism, the Buddhist monastery was the center of village life and Buddhist monks were its cultural leaders. The Buddhist sangha (community of monks) provided villagers not only with Buddhist teachings, culture, and ritual, but also education, medical care, and occupational advice. In such a community, the spirit of sharing and cooperation prevailed; villagers shared a common local Buddhist culture. However, this Thai rural social structure, with the Buddhist sangha at its center, has collapsed under the impact of economic dependence, social dislocation, and cultural transformation.


12 Why does the author argue for the people of Thailand to return to Buddhist values?
   F  Capitalism has led to less unity and greater hardship for rural people.
   G  Monasteries can serve as the local democratic government.
   H  Buddhism has been an important element of culture for most rural Thais.
   J  Modernization has led to a small group having too much wealth.

13 Why has Singapore served as a hub of cultural diffusion for Southeast Asia and the world?
   A  It is a center of agriculture production, exporting rice and wheat to the region.
   B  It is an international port city, connecting trade across the Indian and Pacific oceans.
   C  It has the world's busiest airport, providing connections to Australia and the Asian mainland.
   D  It serves as a major center for education, with many people traveling from across Asia to attend its schools and universities.

14 The religious affiliations of a majority of people in Southeast Asia are—
   F  Islam and Hinduism
   G  Buddhism and Islam
   H  Judaism and Hinduism
   J  animism and local religions

15 Because the island regions of Southeast Asia are being formed by physical processes, all of the following are hazards facing the region EXCEPT —
   A  tsunamis
   B  volcanoes
   C  El Niño
   D  earthquakes
Use the photograph and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

**Vietnamese rice paddies**

16 The agricultural practices seen in the photograph are an example of —
- F globalization
- G technological diffusion
- H humans modifying the environment
- J humans adapting to the environment

17 Before Hong Kong was handed over to the Chinese, it was considered to be an example of pure free enterprise. What did this mean?
- A All production was determined by tourists who shopped there.
- B Hong Kong was only controlled by a committee of capitalists.
- C Trading was freely allowed with the Chinese communists.
- D The market was primarily controlled by supply and demand.
Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

Malaysia has long prided itself as a model of ethnic harmony. But the country’s three main races Malays, Chinese and Indians now find themselves at an uneasy turning point. The post-independence political formula of race-based parties united in a common coalition is breaking down, with Chinese and Indians withdrawing their support. An affirmative action program favoring Malays has been extended indefinitely and is widely resented among non-Malays. Add religious tensions to the mix and the notion of a common Malaysian identity is looking fragile. Malay Muslims are asserting their rights to be judged by a separate Islamic legal system in matters pertaining to marriage, divorce and inheritance. The civil courts have so far ruled in their favor.


18 The use of a separate legal system for Muslims is an example of —

F ethnic tensions that cause social divisions
G social issues that contribute to ethnic unity
H cultural beliefs that influence public policies
J government policies that encourage patriotism

Use the excerpt and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Free Trade Area, or the AFTA, is considered to be the heart and soul of ASEAN economic integration. Agreed upon by the ASEAN Leaders in January 1992, the ultimate objective of AFTA is to increase ASEAN’s competitive edge as a production base geared for the world market. The basic feature of the AFTA is the liberalization of trade in the region, done through the elimination of intra-regional tariffs and non-tariff barriers. By doing so, AFTA is expected to make manufacturing sectors in ASEAN more efficient and ready to compete in the global market for trade in goods and investment.

—ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) brochure, 2003

19 Which force led ASEAN to establish a free trade area?

A communism
B nationalism
C globalization
D urbanization
As Southeast Asia’s forests were nationalized in the 20th century and the timber industry expanded its operations throughout the region, vast areas of forests were degraded. At the same time, indigenous systems of management were displaced. The erosion of customary forest management systems has generally led to the deterioration of forests in many parts of Asia.

While the forests of Southeast Asia were sparsely inhabited by scattered groups of people for thousands of years, that scenario has changed dramatically in the past century. There may be over 140 million forest-dependent people in Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, representing about one-third of the population in those nations. This estimate includes individuals who live on or near forestland and are dependent on it for a significant portion of their livelihood requirements. Since the forestlands on which they lived were nationalized, and were largely considered "state domain", forest-based communities had no tenure status and were frequently considered "encroachers" and subject to legal action and expulsion. While industrial logging was widely believed to be the engine of early economic development in post-war Southeast Asia, deforestation was blamed on illegal occupants of the forest and the practitioners of "slash and burn" agriculture. The government attitude towards forest-dependent people was hostile, and most development agencies were readily supported with projects to accelerate logging and remove the unwelcome populations throughout the 1970s.

—“People in the forest: community forestry experience from Southeast Asia,” International Journal of Environmental and Sustainable Development, 2006

20 How did national management of forests in Southeast Asia during the 1970s affect the indigenous people of forest-based communities?

F Many indigenous people shifted away from primary industries like agriculture.

G Many indigenous people violently rejected government control of the forests.

H Many indigenous people were forced to move out of nationally-controlled forests.

J Many indigenous people worked in conjunction with the national government to encourage sustainable use.
Use the map and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

21 Which factor best explains the location of these cities?
   A They are less crowded than cities in other locations.
   B They are port cities on rivers or seas for trading purposes.
   C They have abundant natural resources located within city limits.
   D They have popular natural formations that attract tourists.
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