Test 11 - Trades English

This is a test in reading. After you have read the information you will then answer the multiple choice questions.

As an example, read the passage of text for Sample A. Then choose your answer from the options below.

Once you have chosen an answer for Sample A, check your answer below.

Sample A

Toward the end of February, people start asking, "Have you seen a robin?" By the second week of March, reports of robin sightings begin even though snow may still be in the forecast.

By April, robins begin their nesting ritual, as the male sings to mark territory and to chase off other birds, and the female makes a nest and lays the eggs. The parents take turns roosting, and in about two weeks, they welcome a new brood of featherless babies with huge, brightly coloured mouths. The parents respond to the open mouths and fluttering wings by foraging tirelessly for food to feed their hungry youngsters.

When the babies are old enough to fly, they sit on the edge of the nest and flap their wings, sometimes tumbling out. Their parents then hurry to their defense, diving and pecking at any person or animal whose approach threatens the fallen flyers in training. Chirping encouragement, the parents urge the youngsters to seek shelter.

As food supplies dwindle in the fall, robins begin to gather in large groups in anticipation of the migration south, but they are casual about it. When food supplies are readily available, individual robins may often delay their migration or remain north throughout the winter.

Sample Question:

The main idea of this passage is that

Sample Answer:

- A. robins are popular birds.
- B. male robins sing while the female builds the nest.
- C. young robins often fall out of their nest..
- D. robins breed during the spring, raise their young in the summer and then usually fly south for the winter.

Answer: D

Question and answer adapted from: Spargo, Edward. Timed Readings Plus. Book Eight, Level K. Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill. 1998.