

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

9395/41

Paper 4 Specialised Tourism

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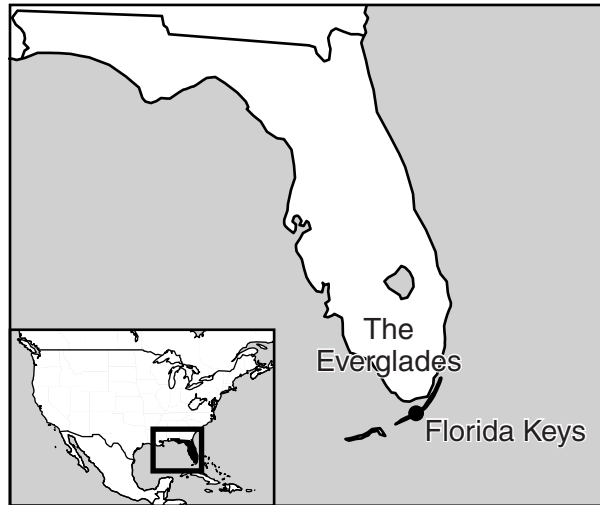
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Fig. 1 for Question 1

Everglades National Park

The Everglades National Park is a sub-tropical wetland at the southern tip of Florida, USA. It is popular for its impressive mangrove forests and diverse plant and animal life. However, it has been damaged by residential development and poorly regulated tourism.

The Everglades National Park is the largest designated sub-tropical wilderness reserve on the North American continent. It is located on the boundary between temperate and sub-tropical America. The shallow bays and deeper coastal waters create habitats which support very diverse flora and fauna. It contains the largest mangrove ecosystem, the largest continuous area of grassland and the most significant breeding ground for wading birds in North America. The mixture of sub-tropical and temperate wildlife species is not found anywhere else in the United States. The Everglades National Park is a sanctuary for a large number of birds and reptiles, as well as over 20 rare endangered species. These include panthers, alligators, crocodiles and manatees. The park provides an important breeding habitat for more than 400 species of birds and is a major migration route.



Florida Keys

Tourism makes a significant contribution to South Florida's economy. Local governments and the State of Florida spend a lot of money each year promoting the growth of tourism in the area. The growth of recreational fishing and diving on the coral reefs threatens the protected areas of the Florida Keys.

Recreational fishing is a major tourist activity in the Florida Keys. Regulations that limit the size of fish and the time that certain fish species can be caught have been developed. However, recent evidence suggests that fishing has dramatically reduced the size and number of species of fish on the reefs. Researchers have suggested establishing fishing-free zones to investigate the effects of fishing on reef ecology and to provide areas for fish to breed and recolonise.

Each year millions of people visit the Florida Keys to dive on its coral reefs, but the reefs have been deteriorating for many years. Dive boat anchoring has caused extensive damage to corals in some areas. Divers touching the corals is also a serious problem. Studies of how divers may be affecting corals need to be conducted, so that regulations can be developed to reduce the impacts of divers on the reefs.

Fig. 1

Fig. 2 for Question 2

Increasing number of tourists stealing artefacts in Rome, Italy

Rome is the capital city of Italy and the capital of the region of Latium (*Lazio*). Founded in 753 BC, Rome was first the centre of the Roman Republic, then of the Roman Empire, and it became the capital of the Christian world in the 4th century. Parts of Rome are designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In 1990 more areas of the city were included in the designation, including the walls of Urban VIII, some of the major monuments, such as the Forum, the Pantheon, Trajan's Column and the Column of Marcus Aurelius, as well as the religious and public buildings of Papal Rome.

The population of Rome is 2 667 000. Each year Rome receives 12 million tourists who come to see the beautiful architecture, famous buildings and learn about Roman history.

According to police, tourists have been stealing mosaic pieces, marble mile markers, cobblestones and other pieces of the city's history. This is threatening tourists' enjoyment of visiting Rome. Airport security staff are aware of this problem and they have been able to return a large number of artefacts.

Fig. 2

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