

G 5.3 FISHING AND AQUACULTURE



G5.3.2

Exploring the difficulties encountered by fishermen

A. Answer by filling the blanks or marking the boxes with X.

1. Mention a difficulty encountered by every Maltese fisherman.



2. A difficulty for a full-time fisherman is



cannot work on Saturday	
cannot go fishing all year round	
the nets are torn quickly	
Marsaxlokk has many tourists	

3. Mention one fish that is commonly caught by Maltese fishermen:

4. Most of the fish caught by Maltese fishermen is

sold to Americans	
taken to the fish market to be sold	
not good for eating	
thrown back into the sea	

5. The work of fishermen can be very difficult. Why?

B. Read and think.

What is the work of Fishermen?

The work of a fisherman starts on land, long before he goes out to sea:



- ❖ He cleans, repairs and paints the fishing boat every season to keep it in the best condition possible. So that it will not be dangerous.
- ❖ Remove everything that got stuck in the nets and traps, after each fishing trip.
- ❖ Repair any damage done to the nets and the 'luzzu'.
- ❖ Prepare the fish food used while fishing.
- ❖ Sell the caught fish.

It is worth mentioning that the number of fishermen is constantly declining.



Fishermen encounter a lot of problems at sea.

These problems include:

The sea presents many risks, amongst which is the bad weather faced by the fisherman.

- ❖ The hardships of fishing at sea.

- ❖ Fishermen spend whole days separated from their families.
- ❖ Sometimes, they spend whole days at sea and the catches would not be good, with the result of having spent many expenses in vain.
- ❖ Catches are constantly declining and, for this reason, the profit/earnings fishermen do is also decreasing.
- ❖ Another problem is that marine machine equipment, such as GPS, Radar and 'Skandal', is very expensive and even the same fishing boat requires a lot of money to remain in a good condition.
- ❖ Another problem Maltese fishermen have to face is the competition with foreign French and Italian fishing which could be better equipped for fishing than the Maltese.
- ❖ For example, the Italians and French use the net to catch tuna, whilst the Maltese fish for tuna using the long line.
- ❖ Hence, we can say that the Italians and French catch more fish than Maltese fishermen.

C. Fill in the blanks with these sentences.

1. Fishing in Malta was always a means to _____.



2. Some fishermen are only _____ and they fish using a fishing rod.

3. There are more fishermen who are _____ than _____.

4. One of the difficulties fishermen encounter is:

5. A lot of money is spent on buying _____ and fishing _____.

D. Write TRUE or FALSE for every sentence.

1. In Malta, fishing is common because we are surrounded by sea. _____
2. Fgura is one of the most popular places for fishing. _____
3. In Marsaxlokk you can see a lot of fishing boats along the coast. _____
4. The work of fishermen hugely depends on the weather. _____
5. There are more full-time fishermen than part-time. _____

E. Choose the correct answer.

1. When you go fishing with a small boat (you cannot, you can, it is preferable) go far away from land.
2. Whoever uses a fishing rod uses a piece of (nylon thread, tree branch, pocket knife) to fish.
3. Some children use a (hand net, long line, hat) to catch fish from near the sea.
4. Many fish caught by Maltese fishermen is bought by (hotels, farmers, government) due to tourists that visit Malta.
5. Fishermen have a problem when they end-up in (the sun, bad weather, hot weather).