

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 ✓.

1. Mention a difficulty encountered by every Maltese and Gozitan fisherman.



2. A difficulty for full-time fishermen is that...



they cannot work on Saturdays	
they cannot go fishing all year round	
the nets are torn quickly	
Marsaxlokk is full of tourists	

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

4. Most of the fish caught by Maltese fishermen is

sold to Americans	
is sold at the fish market, at fish shops and to restaurants	
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 the fisherman?

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.
- ❖ Removes everything that gets stuck in the nets and traps, after each fishing trip.
- ❖ Repairs any damage done to the nets and the 'luzzu'.
- ❖ Prepares the fish food used while fishing.
- ❖ Sells the fish caught.

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 their catches are not good, with the result of having made many expenses in vain.
- ❖ Catches of some types of fish are constantly declining, and, for this reason, the profit/earnings fishermen make is also decreasing.
- ❖ Another problem is that marine machine equipment, such as GPS and Radar, is very expensive and even the fishing boat itself requires a lot of money to be kept in a good condition.
- ❖ Another problem Maltese fishermen must face is the competition with foreign fishermen, like Tunisians and Italians, who could be better equipped for fishing than the Maltese.
- ❖ For example, the Italians and Tunisians use nets to catch tuna, whilst the Maltese fish for tuna using the long line.
- ❖ So, we can say that the Italians and Tunisians 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 depends very much 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 to) go far away from land.
2. Whoever uses a fishing rod uses a piece of (nylon thread, tree branch, pocketknife) to fish.
3. Some children use a (hand net, long line, hat) to catch fish from near the sea.
4. Many of the fish caught by Maltese fishermen are bought by (hotels, farmers, the government) due to the tourists who visit Malta.
5. Fishermen have a problem when they end-up in (the sun, bad weather, hot weather).