Profesores Asociados Egresados del Insti Enseñanza Superior en Lenguas Vivas " <i>Juan Ran</i>		dez"	
LEVEL A7 <u>COMPLETAR CON LETRA IMPRENTA</u> Apellido:	РА	PER 1 / 18	
Nombre:			
Lugar de Nacimiento:			
Fecha de Nacimiento:			
	EX 1+2+3	EX 4+5+6	Total mark

# 1. Read the article about two young men who worked on a farm and answer the questions $The \ Run$

Dennis and Mac had been driving for almost a week, and they hadn't seen a single soul. They were worried. When they'd left the ranch, they'd thought maybe they'd run into someone, another survivor. But there was no one. The roads were almost empty. There was the occasional abandoned car, but that was it. They drove mostly on highways, to make better time. Mac wondered if they might not have better luck on the smaller country roads, but Dennis wouldn't have it. Those roads had curves and were thick with trees. There was no way of seeing danger coming. If someone wanted to spring a surprise on you, you wouldn't know it until it was too late.

When the plague came, Dennis and Mac had been working as ranch hands on a cattle farm. Both had just finished their first year of college. Dennis went to school on the East Coast, Mac on the West. They found that they were very similar people. They both studied hard and read a lot of books. But they also both liked being outdoors. At the end of a good day, they came home smelling of sweat and dirt. They quickly became friends.

The ranch was a small, family-run operation, with only about 50 head of cattle. The family that ran it, the Greersons, would advertise in college newspapers in the spring. There were plenty of ranch hands in the area who needed work, but Bucky Greerson felt city kids could benefit from an exposure to country life. Young men would apply, and then the Greersons would hire about a half-dozen hands every spring to help them run cattle. It was tough work, but Dennis and Mac felt lucky to be picked.

The farm didn't have a TV or the Internet or a telephone. As a result, the first time they heard of the plague was on the radio. Every night, the ranch hands liked to gather in the hall and play cards. While they played, they listened to the radio. The ranch was so far up in the hills that the radio only got one station. At night they listened to the station's best DJ, Petey "The Muskrat" Coltrain, who played old records. Sometimes, between records, The Muskrat told stories. Dennis and Mac thought he was very funny.

One night, though, The Muskrat's radio show was very different. It couldn't have been more than six months ago, but to Dennis and Mac, thinking back on it now, it felt like another lifetime. The Muskrat had been playing a Bill Monroe song when he cut out the record halfway through the chorus. The ranch hands stopped their game of cards. They turned and looked at the radio. The Muskrat always played a record all the way through. What could be wrong?

"Folks," said the Muskrat. "I don't know how to tell you this, but I'm going to ask you to stay very calm. The manager of my station has just passed me a note. It seems that the local health authorities are asking us radio folks to tell you, our listeners, that... well, a disease is spreading."

The ranch hands put down their cards. Dennis and Mac exchanged a glance.

"Now," The Muskrat said, his rich voice sounding uncharacteristically shaky, "they don't quite know what this disease is, but it's real bad. It's very contagious, and people who get it don't have a lot of luck recovering. Now, doctors are trying to figure out a cure, but there's been no luck yet. So, in the meantime, we're asking that you stay in your homes as much as possible and avoid public places until the disease dies down."

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"Please, folks, do what the doctors say," The Muskrat pleaded. "I'm sure it'll just be for a few days." He was quiet for a moment. Then the ranch hands heard the sound of a turntable needle hitting the record, and an old Earl Scruggs song came on.

1. Why didn't Dennis want to drive the smaller country roads?

2. What did Dennis and Mac have in common?

3. How did the Geersons find the people they needed to work on their farm in the summer?

4. When did The Muskrat stop his radio show to tell his audience about the disease?

5. What were the characteristics of the disease The Muskrat described?

## 2. <u>Go on reading the story and fill in the blanks with the right form of the verbs in brackets.</u> <u>When you see + use a modal</u>

That was the beginning of it. For the next few days, the ranch went about its business. The Greersons told the boys (not worry) \_\_\_\_ , that this would all be over soon. They had enough food on the ranch to last months. In the meantime, they (+keep) \_\_\_\_ working on the farm. At night, everyone gathered around the radio and listened to updates. The news seemed only (get) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ worse. More and more \_\_\_\_\_ sick. The symptoms were strange. People (+become) people (get) \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ violently ill, then fall into a long, deep sleep. The big cities - New York, Los Angeles, Chicago – (become) \_\_\_\_\_\_ like ghost towns. No one dared (go) \_\_\_\_\_ out into the street for fear of catching the disease. The news kept getting worse until, finally, the radio station stopped (transmit) \_\_\_\_\_. The Greersons called a meeting in the dining room of the main house. Everyone (sit) \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ around the big dining room table where Ann Greerson served \_\_\_\_, Bucky Greerson stood up. Sunday supper. After everyone (sit) \_\_\_\_\_ "Now," he said, "I know you're worried, and I (not feel) \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ right keeping you here while you don't know what (happen) \_\_\_\_\_\_ to your family and friends. So, anyone who (want) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_to leave is free to go." \_\_\_\_ about leaving but had Dennis and Mac looked at each other. They (talk) tried to pretend they (+ not need to) \_\_\_\_\_ . They had hoped the plague would be over soon, that the world would return to the way it was, that it had all been a strange hallucination. Now that they (have) \_\_\_\_\_\_ the option to go out into the world and see how bad things really were, they weren't sure they wanted (know) If Bucky Greerson had not given them the option, they (not leave) \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_, but Mac and Dennis decided they (+not stay) \_\_\_\_\_\_ there any longer.

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The Greersons gave them enough food (last) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them a couple of weeks and as Mac and Dennis packed up their things and put everything into Mac's truck, the Greersons and the ranch hands gathered around to see them off.

#### 3. Go on reading and fill in the blanks with a suitable connective

A week later, Mac and Dennis had zigzagged through dozens of small towns and a few larger cities. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_they found frightened them: every place was empty. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_they looked one way or another, there was not a person out.

Sometimes, they would stop and knock on doors. the fact that no one they would sometimes find the would answer, they sometimes went inside. dinner table set, they never found a single person home. Every time they entered a new room, they both winced, thinking they'd find a dead body. they never did. It was a very \_\_\_\_\_ if the whole world had disappeared around them. strange feeling, \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ the place still got electricity, they'd try to use the phone. Every Sometimes, what number they dialed, the same recorded message came on: "The time, no \_\_\_ number is not in service. Please check the number and try again." \_\_\_\_\_, the young men decided to go in the direction of the nearest big city. Even \_\_\_\_ it would be a full day of driving, they thought it was their best chance of

finding someone. You can't abandon a whole city.

#### 4. Fill in the blanks with ONE word only.

Dusk had come, and Mac was at the wheel. Dennis had \_\_\_\_\_\_ driving for the last eight hours. He was \_\_\_\_\_\_ tired to go on driving and was taking a nap in the passenger seat. They were passing through a long, flat piece of land \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mac saw some movement in the distance. He stopped the car, \_\_\_\_\_\_ off the engine and shook Dennis awake.

"Look," Mac said excitedly. "I think someone's coming."

Dennis squinted his eyes. The movement was becoming larger. \_\_\_\_\_\_ had been a dot of motion became a long line, stretching across the horizon. Mac and Dennis

\_\_\_\_\_\_ an effort to see what it was. It looked \_\_\_\_\_\_ people, but they were not sure.

Denis looked for his binoculars, put them to his eyes and looked \_\_\_\_\_\_ them.

"My gosh," whispered Dennis.

What he saw was people. Thousands of people. Hundreds of thousands, maybe a million. And they were all running. They were running \_\_\_\_\_\_ fast as they could go, like something was chasing them, or like they were chasing something. As they grew closer, Dennis could just make \_\_\_\_\_\_ the people's faces. Their eyes were wild.

"Start the car," screamed Dennis.

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# 5. Dennis and Mac started talking in the car. Complete the dialogue

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Dennis	Mac, I'm scared!
	doing?
Mac	I've no idea. But they were coming our way! Did you get a good look at them?
	?
Dennis	Like zombies! And their eyes were wild!
Mac	Zombies? You can't be serious, Dennis
	?
Dennis	I believe in what I see. And they didn't look like ordinary people!
Mac	But maybe they need our help
	?
Dennis	Turn back? Help them?
	serious, Mac. I'm telling you they were dangerous.
Mac	sure?
Dennis	I saw the look in their eyes. It was really frightening.
Mac	Ok, Ok?
Dennis	I don't know. Just keep driving as fast as you can.
Mac	Dennis, you must calm down. It's no good
	We must think of a plan.
Dennis	The only plan I can think of is to hide from those horrible people.
Mac	?
Dennis	I think I saw a cave a few kilometres away from here. Maybe we can hide from them in
	there.
Mac	That may be a good plan, but unless
	a gas station we'll soon run out of petrol!
Dennis	Oh, no!!! I think I saw a gas station somewhere near here. Keep going, Mac! Please!!!

## 6. <u>Composition. Write about 200 words on ONE of the following:</u>

- The End of the Road. Continue the story of Mac and Dennis
- "There is no life after death." Discuss