

[Note: This is a shortened extract from a Part 3 IELTS exam text about the effects of governments and farming.]

Type 5. Matching Headings

Questions 1 – 5

The passage has five sections, **A-E**.

Choose the correct heading for sections **A-E** from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number **i-viii** in boxes 1-5 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings

- i The probable effects of the new international trade agreement
- ii The environmental impact of modern farming
- iii Farming and soil erosion
- iv The effects of government policy in rich countries
- v Governments and management of the environment
- vi The effects of government policy in poor countries
- vii Farming and food output
- viii The effects of government policy on food output

- 1 Section **A**
- 2 Section **B**
- 3 Section **C**
- 4 Section **D**
- 5 Section **E**

Section A

The role of governments in environmental management is difficult but inescapable. Sometimes, the state tries to manage the resources it owns, and does so badly. Often, however, governments act in an even more harmful way. They actually subsidize the exploitation and consumption of natural resources.

Section B

No activity affects more of the earth's surface than farming. World food output per head has risen by 4 per cent between the 1970s and 1980s mainly as a result of increases in yields from land already in cultivation, but also because more land has been brought under the plough.

Section C

All these modern techniques may have damaging environmental impacts. For example, land clearing for agriculture is the largest single cause of deforestation; chemical fertilizers and pesticides may contaminate water supplies; and use of high-yielding varieties of crops have been accompanied by the disappearance of old varieties of food plants.

Section D

Government policies have frequently compounded the environmental damage that farming can cause. In certain rich countries the trend has been to introduce new payments to encourage farmers to treat their land in environmentally friendlier ways. It may sound strange but such payments need to be higher than the existing incentives for farmers to grow food crops.

Section E

A result of the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations is likely to be a reduction of 36 per cent in the average levels of farm subsidies paid by the rich countries in 1986-1990. Some of the world's food production will move from Western Europe to regions where subsidies are lower or non-existent, such as the former communist countries and parts of the developing world.