

**Part (A) Reading Comprehension**

1. When did Santiago wake up to prepare for his journey?
  - a) After sunrise.
  - b) Before sunrise.
  - c) At noon.
  - d) In the evening.
2. What food did Manolin bring Santiago in the early morning?
  - a) Bread and milk.
  - b) Black beans, rice, and coffee.
  - c) Fish and fruit.
  - d) Meat and water.
3. How did other fishermen react to Santiago as he passed?
  - a) They all laughed.
  - b) They all praised him.
  - c) Some respected him, others pitied him.
  - d) They ignored him completely.
4. What kind of boat did Santiago own?
  - a) A large ship.
  - b) A modern boat.
  - c) A wooden skiff.
  - d) A canoe.
5. Why did Santiago tell the boy not to come with him?
  - a) Because the boy was too young.
  - b) Because the boy had to stay with a lucky boat.
  - c) Because Santiago wanted to fish alone.
  - d) Because the boy disliked the sea.
6. What number did Santiago call his "lucky number"?
  - a) Forty.
  - b) Sixty.
  - c) Eighty-four.
  - d) Eighty-five.
7. What did Santiago believe about luck?
  - a) It was more important than skill.
  - b) It was useful, but exactness mattered more.
  - c) It never existed.
  - d) It only helped the young.
8. What did Santiago do after pushing the boat out?
  - a) He waved goodbye to everyone.
  - b) He rowed steadily and listened to the sea.
  - c) He shouted loudly to the fishermen.
  - d) He went back to his hut.