

★2021 年優等作品 ( 國立虎尾高中 許雅婷老師、桃園市陽明高中 曾心民老師 )

## 試題本文

On 23 March 2021, Ever Given, an enormous container ship, was blocked at the Suez Canal. An extremely strong sandstorm struck this 400m-long vessel, forcing the captain to steer in poor visibility. Even worse, strong winds stuck Ever Given in the waterway. Other vessels could not pass through that part of the canal until Ever Given was finally freed six days later. Egyptian authorities claimed that technical problems or human errors were also involved.

To move the ship, factors including silt, weight, and tide needed to be taken into account. On March 23, an excavator from Suez Canal Authority (SCA) began to dig around the stern of Ever Given to release it from the sand and silt. In addition, fuel and nine thousand tons of ballast water were removed from the ship to lighten this heavy machinery. Should these measures prove insufficient to refloat the ship, large floating cranes would have to be brought in to remove the containers on Ever Given. Some Egyptian officials also suggested using heavy lift helicopters, but none of these was capable of lifting a full shipping container. At last, however, it was tugboats that took advantage of the day's high tide to pull Ever Given away from the riverbank.

Since more than 12% of global trade passes through the Suez Canal, the incident has a significant negative effect on trade between Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Lloyd's List estimated that the total value of the goods delayed each hour during the blockage was US\$0.4 billion. After being released, Ever Given was ordered to pay a total of US\$916 million for the SCA's losses of transit fees as well as the fee for salvaging the giant ship.

Despite the fact that the ships had already been released and the Suez Canal was reopened, the aftermath of the blockage may continue. Suzano, the largest pulp and paper company in Latin

America, stated that the obstruction had caused the delay of wood-pulp shipment, leading to unavoidable short supply of toilet paper. The Suez Canal jam also resulted in the blockage of shipping containers full of the type of coffee used by Nescafe instant coffee and livestock planned to be delivered to Saudi Arabia and Jordan. This blockage, in addition to impacting daily necessities productions, was also responsible for a rise in oil price. The incident had such a profound influence on the Suez Canal Authority that they have contemplated widening the south end of the canal and investing in larger tugboats and cranes in order to avoid similar issues in the future.

參考資料：

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021\\_Suez\\_Canal\\_obstruction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Suez_Canal_obstruction)

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<https://www.businessinsider.com/toilet-paper-coffee-products-delayed-suez-canal-blockage-impact-2021-3>

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210330-sheep-on-ships-suez-jam-spotlights-livestock-sea-transport>

**Q1**

Please organize how the author introduces the Suez Canal blockage.

- A. Course of events.
- B. Impact on daily necessities.
- C. Economic Influence.
- D. Solutions to the problem.

\_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_ → \_\_\_\_\_

正解：A → D → C → B

**Q2**

According to the first paragraph, please fill in the blanks 1, 3, and 4.

Cause	Effect
1.	Ever Given was blocked at the Suez Canal.
2. Strong winds	
3.	
4.	

正解：sandstorm, technical problem(s), human error(s)

**Q3**

What ways were adopted to move Ever Given from the riverbank? Please place a check mark (✓) in the answer box.

<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Clearing the silt and sand.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Removing the liquid from the ship.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Lifting the containers by floating cranes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Elevating the ship by heavy-lift <u>helicopters</u> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Dragging the vessel when the tide is high.

正解：1, 2, 5

**Q4**

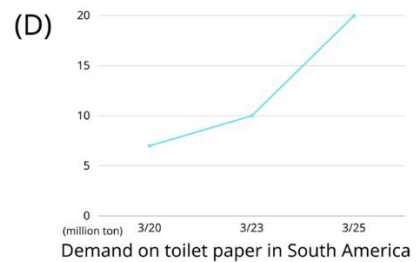
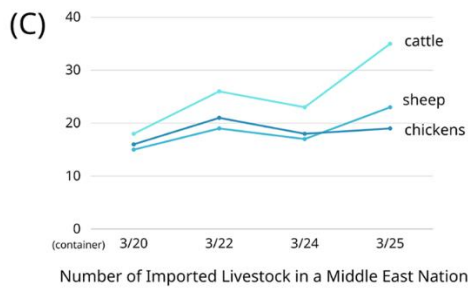
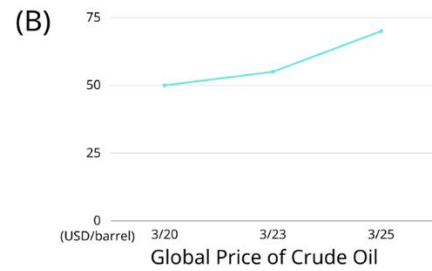
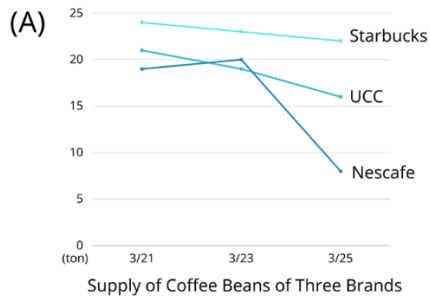
Please calculate how much the delay has cost in total as a consequence of the blockage.

(A)\_\_\_\_\_ billion per hour \* 24hrs\* (B)\_\_\_\_\_ days = (C)\_\_\_\_\_ billion.

正解 : (A) 0.4 (B) 6 (C) 57.6 (0.4 bn / hr \* 24 hr = 9.6 bn 9.6\* 6= 57.6)

**Q5**

Inferring from the passage above, which of the following line graphs is the LEAST possible to be seen after the blockage event?



正解 : C