CAE –Reading Test

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Choose the correct item.

The Holiday and the Nightmare

We were jet- 1) lagged / worn before we arrived in Isla Perlita. We had made a number of unscheduled 2) turnovers / stopovers on our way to the island and all in 3) total / all our journey took 36 hours. Hardly a(n) 4) express / direct flight! It would have been quicker had we walked. Bearing in mind that this was high season, we probably should have been suspicious at

being the only passengers, but it wasn't until we actually 5) touched / landed down on the island that we began to wonder why we had believed what had been written in the brochure. The airport building was the size of a garden shed and the customs 6) officer / attendant who searched our bags (and



who, for no reason 7) confined / confiscated our belongings) also turned out to be the island's only taxi driver and porter at the Bay Hotel. We were dropped off in San Lorenzo's main street. Or should I say its only street. San Lorenzo 8) consisted / comprised of one dusty street, six shacks, two dogs and an empty telephone box. From there on, things went rapidly downhill. The Bay Hotel was half-built, did not have 9) flowing / running water or electricity and was staffed by a pensioner and the taxi driver, Johnny Paraquay, who spent most of his time asleep in his bedroom. The meals lovingly prepared by the chef (*Johnny Paraguay again*) included such local 10) specialties/ specials as coconuts, tinned peas and coconuts with tinned peas. Falmer

Beach was a long 11) stretch / sequence of grey sand 12) littered / teeming with rubbish. The
hotel pool resembled a stagnant pond and we were unable to swim in the sea because it was
full of poisonous jelly fish and man-eating sharks. Recreational activities included find the water,
13) handle / haggle with Johnny Paraquay for our passports, and on our third day, run as fast as
we could from San Lorenzo as Mount Machu, the supposedly extinct volcano, 14) burst /
erupted.