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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/494/2021_2022_06_E5_B9_B412_E6_9C_88_c67_494178.htm Part IV Reading Comprehension (Reading in Depth) Section A Directions: In this section, there is a short passage with 5 questions or incomplete statements. Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions or complete the statements in the fewest possible words. Please write your answers on Answer Sheet 2. Questions 47 to 51 are based on the following passage. I've heard from and talked to many people who described how Mother Nature simplified their lives for them. They'd lost their home and many or all of their possessions through fires, floods, earthquakes, or some other disaster. Losing everything you own under such circumstances can be distressing, but the people I've heard from all saw their loss, ultimately, as a blessing. "The fire saved us the agony of deciding what to keep and what to get rid of," one woman wrote. And once all those things were no longer there, she and her husband saw how they had weighed them down and complicated their lives. "There was so much stuff we never used and that was just taking up space. We vowed when we started over, we'd replace only what we needed, and this time we'd do it right. We've kept our promise: we don't have much now, but what we have is exactly what we want." Though we've never had a catastrophic loss such as that, Gibbs and I did have a close call shortly before we decided to simplify. At that time we lived in a fire zone. One night a firestorm raged through and destroyed over six hundred homes in

our community. That tragedy gave us the opportunity to look objectively at the goods we had accumulated. We saw that there was so much we could get rid of and not only never miss, but be better off without. Having almost lost it all, we found it much easier to let go of the things we knew we would never use again. Obviously, there is a tremendous difference between getting rid of possessions and losing them through a natural disaster without having a say in the matter. And this is not to minimize the tragedy and pain such a loss can generate. But you might think about how you would approach the acquisition process if you had it to do all over again. Look around your home and make a list of what you would replace. Make another list of things you wouldn't acquire again no matter what, and in fact would be happy to be rid of. When you're ready to start unloading some of your stuff, that list will be a good place to start. 47. Many people whose possessions were destroyed in natural disasters eventually considered their loss _____. 48. Now that all their possessions were lost in the fire, the woman and her husband felt that their lives had been _____. 49. What do we know about the author's house from the sentence "Gibbs and I did have a close call _____" (Lines 1-2, Para.4)? 50. According to the author, getting rid of possessions and losing them through a natural disaster are vastly _____. 51. What does the author suggest people do with unnecessary things? _____

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