

READING COMPREHENSION

Task 1: *Read the text carefully. Complete the task on the next page.*

PROSPECTS OF SPACE EXPLORATION

It is often described as “the final frontier”. The phrase, though, may take an even more literal meaning for those exploring space in the future. The next generation of astronauts may hurtle through the cosmos for years or decades on a mission to explore distant planets and stars – and never return.

“The prospect of spending years cooped up in a spacecraft would not deter potential astronauts from applying,” a senior NASA official has said. “You would find no shortage of volunteers,” said John Olson, NASA’s director of exploration systems integration. “It’s really no different from the pioneering spirit of many in past history, who took the one-way trip across the ocean with no intention of ever returning.”

If, as Olson predicts, humans reach Mars by the middle of this century, engineers and astronauts may then set their sights on the frozen planets, fiery moons and stars beyond. “We’re going back to the moon, not for flags and footsteps but for a sustained presence,” Olson said. “We’re going to use the moon as a stepping stone to Mars and we’re going to look at all the other exciting places to go in this solar system.”

NASA is currently bound by President John F. Kennedy’s directive to bring its astronauts home. But the other nations rapidly developing space programmes may shed the constraint, as could the commercial companies that may replace national efforts. “Space is no longer for power and prestige – it’s truly for economic benefit,” *Apollo 11* flight director Eugene Kranz said.

With currently foreseeable technology, a round trip to Mars would take two to three years – a journey of six to nine months each way with a year-long mission on the surface. The star nearest Earth’s solar system, Alpha Centauri, is 4.37 light years away, or more than 2.5 trillion miles.

Robert Park, a physicist and prominent critic of manned space flight, said that even a one-way trip to Alpha Centauri is beyond the laws of physics. The energy required to push a spacecraft up to the speed needed to get to the star within 50 years is so great as to be barely conceivable. “A multigenerational space ark would doom the children raised to continue the mission never to see Earth and would decide their destiny before their birth, raising profound ethical questions.”

Rather than devote immeasurable resources to sending humans into space, Park said science should instead build stronger telescopes to better study distant stars and planets.

READING COMPREHENSION – TASK

Task: Based on what you have read in the article, complete the statements below. You have to fill in between 1 – 3 words (the number of missing words is indicated). The statements do not follow in the same order as the information appears in the article.

1. In the future, space exploration may be carried out by (2 words)
2. According to Robert Park, launching a multigenerational spacecraft would create issues. (1 word)
3. As regards astronauts in the future, defining space exploration as *the final frontier* can have a more (2 words)
4. NASA has a duty to bring its astronauts back home in accordance with the of President John F. Kennedy. (1 word)
5. The threat of being kept in a space capsule will not potential astronauts from registering at NASA. (1 word)
6. Robert Park believes that to research planets and stars, science should use rather than launch a manned spacecraft. (1 word)
7. Astronauts are predicted to by 2050. (2 words)
8. Robert Park views manned space flight as something incompatible with the (3 words)
9. NASA representatives consider exploration of the moon as a/an to other places in the solar system. (2 words)
10. A return trip to the closest planet will take up to three years with at present. (2 words)

..... / 10 pts

VOCABULARY

Task 1: In the following sentences, decide which option (A, B, C or D) best completes each collocation or fixed phrase. Circle the letter representing the correct option.

1. The new leisure centre doesn't quite up to my expectations.
A approach B get C come D fulfil
2. Very few popular sports today remain amateur in any sense of the word.
A audience B spectator C observational D viewing

..... / 2 pts

Task 2: Fill each blank space in the article below with the correct form of the word in capital letters.

PAULO COELHO

Paulo Coelho is dressed entirely in black. He sits in the lobby of a plush London hotel – all clean (3) lines and strangely placed mirrors – looking MINIMUM entirely at home, the black of his clothes contrasting (4) DECORATION with the beige upholstery. Paulo has never had problems communicating with other people. In fact, he's (5) successful at it. Since PHENOMENON the publication of his first work, *The Pilgrimage*, he has sold 65 million books, making him the best-selling author in the world – above John Grisham, Tom Clancy and the seemingly (6) J. K. Rowling, one of the most ASSAIL (7) writers of this era. Despite, or perhaps because PRESTIGE of his success, Paulo Coelho is a strong advocate of spreading his books through peer-to-peer file-sharing networks. Sales of his book jumped from 3,000 to one million in three years, with no additional promotion or (8) PUBLIC from his publishers. His blog *Pirate Coelho* provides free translations and (9) versions of many of his books. Due to the DOWNLOAD (10) regarding his content, author Jeff Jarvis OPEN named Coelho “the Googliest author” in the world.

..... / 8 pts

..... / 10 pts

G R A M M A R

Task 1: Fill each of the numbered blanks in the passage with one suitable word.

NEW IDEAS TO FIGHT GLOBAL WARMING

EXAMPLE: (0) to

This article will describe a couple of radical ideas which could be used (0) fight global warming.

Climate change is (1) experienced everywhere in the world, and just reducing carbon emissions (2) not be enough. Some scientists are now beginning to suggest (3) radical inventions that might save us from disaster by actually putting the greenhouse effect (4) reverse.

One scientist is proposing to put a huge glass sunshade into space (5) would orbit the Earth so that it would always face the sun. This would deflect some of the sun's rays (6) into space so the temperature of the atmosphere would be reduced.

(7) proposal is to fire rockets loaded with sulphur into the stratosphere. The sulphur would be released and would form a thin cloud-like layer (8) the Earth, which would block some of the sun's rays.

The third interesting idea is to pump fine particles of sea water (9) the clouds. This would increase the thickness of the clouds (10) the sun's rays would be deflected.

Proposals like (11) may seem like science-fiction, but some experts believe we may soon be forced to take (12) seriously (13) the sake of the planet.

..... / 13 pts

Task 2: Complete the following sentences using each verb and pronoun in the appropriate form.

I think it's fair to say that Jim Thompson wasn't liked in our company and when he was made sales manager, many of us objected to (14) (he, be, promote). Over the next few weeks, things just got worse. One of my colleagues caught (15) (he, steal) some money from the cash box.

..... / 2 pts

..... / 15 pts

L I S T E N I N G

You will hear an interview with Tracy Pullman, a psychologist in Missouri. Below you can read ten statements which summarize the information. In the gaps provided, fill in the missing words (the number of missing words is indicated).

TRACY PULLMAN

1. Conducting an interview with psychologists for a newspaper inspired Tracy to start her study of psychology. (1 word)
2. Tracy considers doing research and consulting professionals as for her. (2 words)
3. Tracy's advice for potential psychologists is to be open-minded, inquiring and (1 word)
4. Tracy feels because her work is significant for her clients and her own development. (1 word)
5. Future psychologists should be patient and (1 word)
6. The career of a psychologist involves being a during their professional path. (2 words)
7. If psychologists find helping others motivating, then their career will be for them. (1 word)
8. Psychologists are obliged to protect their clients' and (2 words)
9. Psychologists avoid sharing personal information about themselves as this could influence the with their clients. (2 words)
10. Tracy is naturally interested in knowing more about people's lives, thus she has become not only a good listener but also a good (1 word)

..... / 5 pts

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