

Mid-term Test N°1

The text:

1 A South African millionaire who has dreamed of rockets and space flight since he was a boy is to become the world's second space tourist on Thursday when he blasts off in a Russian spacecraft bound for the International Space Station.

2 Mark Shuttleworth, 28, who made his fortune in the internet business, has gone through months of tests and training in Russia to become part of the three-member crew aboard a flight to exchange a new spacecraft for **one** that has been attached to the station for six months.

3 The 10-day mission, commanded by Yuri Gidzenko, a veteran astronaut, will also be the first space flight for Roberto Vittori, an Italian astronaut of the European Space Agency, a major partner in the 16-nation space station project.

4 Shuttleworth, who dislikes being referred to as a tourist, said he has prepared to be a useful member of the crew and wanted to spend his week aboard the station not just looking out of portholes but engaged in serious scientific and educational projects he developed for the trip.

5 "I'm very proud to carry the flag of South Africa into space for the first time," he said. "This is the realization of a personal dream, a dream that started at the tip of Africa. I hope it will inspire many of my fellow Africans, of all ages to believe in the power of **their** dreams."

6 But realizing dreams comes at a cost. Shuttleworth will be paying more than the \$ 20 million spent by the first space tourist Dennis Tito, an American financial analyst, because of the scientific package that shuttleworth insisted on taking along. As a matter of fact, Shuttleworth paid South African Universities and researchers to develop several experiments that he and his fellow crew members will conduct aboard the station. The experiments involve working with stem cells from sheep and mice in the micro-gravity of space and growing crystals from proteins from immune-system cells and the AIDS virus.

Adapted from : *The International Herald Tribune*,
April 25, 2002

READING COMPREHENSION (10marks)

1) Tick the most appropriate alternative. (1 mark)

The text is about : a. a painful trip b. a trip to the moon c. an African astronaut.

2) Fill in the table with information about the flight. (3 marks)

Duration	Destination	Purpose	Number of crew members
.....	International Space Station

3) For each of the following statements find one sentence in the text showing that it is FALSE. (2 marks)

a) Shuttleworth did not need any special preparation for the trip

.....
.....

b) Shuttleworth was the first person to have paid for a trip into space

.....
.....

4) What do the underlined words in the text refer to ? (2 marks)

a) "one" in paragraph 2 refers to

b) "their" in paragraph 5 refers to

5) What do the underlined words in each sentence mean ? (2 marks)

Tick a, b or c .

A: A Russian spacecraft bound for the international space station. (§1)

- a) attached to
- b) travelling to
- c) launched from.

B: I hope it will inspire many of my fellow Africans to believe in the power of their dreams. (§5)

- a) oblige
- b) train
- c) encourage.



نجاحك يهمننا

II/ Language(10 marks)

Fill in the blanks with words from the box below. There are two extra words. (3 marks)

More – foreign – stadium – lasts – cosmopolitan – exciting – most - spectacular

In Brazil, people celebrate carnival in February or March. Every region has its own festival, but carnival in Rio is the..... famous. It lasts four days and millions of people go there, including 300,000.....visitors. It's bigger than any other Brazilian carnival- and better, say the cariocas (the people of Rio). There are two nights of parades in the streets and in the giant Samba....., which holds 90,000 people. Some parades have thousand of dancers, all in the most Amazing costumes, and 600 to 800 drummers. Each paradeten to twelve hours and the judges choose the best dancers. There are also all-night carnival balls with nonstop loud music. At carnival, Rio is the mostcity in the world, but it is also one of the most expensive- hotels and taxis cost four times as much as usual. But that's because Rio has the biggest and mostcarnival **in the world!**

2

3) Circle the right option : (3.5 marks)

Christa was riding in a Volkswagen with her fiancé through a rainstorm in Pennsylvania in 1969 (**while – when – since**) the news came over the car radio : a man had set foot on the moon. They both cheered , but neither had (**some – no – any**) reason to suspect that the event would someday directly change their lives. Much (**late – later – lately**) she said “when I was young, women did not fly in space”. Last July, NASA announced that she (**is – has been – had been**) chosen to join a shuttle crew. Despite other newfound (**celebrity – competition – inspiration**) Christa never doubted that following her sojourn in space she would return to the family and above all to her classroom. She (**tells – tell – told**) an audience last August : “the more I touch the future, the (**better- good – best**) I understand space.”

Good luck



نجاحك يهمنا

1) Fill in the blanks with words from the box below (3 marks)

travelling - space ship - planned - passengers - Flight - space

An Indian businessman from Kerala could soon become the country's first..... tourist . Santosh Kulangara is due to take a two-hour space..... organized by global space tour operator Virgin Galactic on its first If the journey goes ahead as....., he would join the league of few other people in the world. Kulangara said in statement on this venture: " I'm really excited not only because I'll be the first space tourist but also the first journalist to go to space. I can show my people in India what Earth looks like, experience of travel, preparation and re-entry to earth". He would beto France and would be meeting the otherof the voyage. He would be joined by Two US-based Indian Americans who are also going to space on the maiden flight.

2) Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form. (4 marks)

Thomas Cook, British travel agent, was born in Melbourne, England. He **(become)**..... a missionary in 1828 and later was an active temperance worker. In 1841, he **(charter)**..... a special train to carry passengers from Leicester to Southborough for a temperance meeting. The **(succeed)**.....of the guided excursion led to the formation of a travel agency **(bear)**his name.

Cook organized **(personal)**.....conducted tours throughout Europe and procured travelling and hotel **(accommodate)**.....for tourists making independent trips. He also **(provide)**.....travel services, **(include)**.....the furnishing of supplies and personnel, for the British government on several occasions, notably the final expedition of the British general Charles Gordon to the Sudan in 1884.

3) Circle the correct alternative. (3 marks)

Yuri was in his first year at university, **(study - studied - studying)** History. He was a lazy student, and he tended to avoid **(work - to work - working)** whenever he could. In the middle of the semester, his history professor gave out an assignment, due in two weeks. Yuri intended to do the assignment, but he postponed **(write - writing - to write)** it for a week. The following week he forgot **(to do - doing - do)** it. The night before the assignment was due, he suddenly remembered it, and rushed to the library. He tried to read as **(little - much - many)** as possible on the topic, but there wasn't enough time. Yuri considered asking for more time to do his paper, but finally he decided to cheat and **(copying - to copy - copy)** his paper from somewhere else.