

I * COMPREHENSION (4 points). CHOOSE TEXT 1 OR TEXT 2 AND ANSWER **ALL** THE QUESTIONS FROM THAT TEXT **ONLY**.

TEXT 1: SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL LIFE GOES IN ALL DIRECTIONS

- 1 The US Congress recently asked the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a report on the future
2 of space exploration. Among other things, the report calls on NASA to look for signs of alien life in every future space mission.
3 Now that we have discovered thousands of new Earth-like planets, the study argues, we should always be alert for signs of
4 extraterrestrial life, or biosignatures. Accordingly, it urges the US space agency to develop "flight-ready instruments" and
5 imaging systems to carry out the search. NASA's response has been to fund a research team specialized in biosignatures with
6 \$7 million to start working on such explorations.
7 Meanwhile, the Trillion Planet Survey, a new project at the University of California Santa Barbara, is using extremely
8 sophisticated software to process images of the Andromeda galaxy. It's looking for evidence of optical signals from faraway
9 civilizations, instead of the radio waves we have been listening for since the early 1960s. In turn, the US Congress has been
10 considering whether it should again start funding the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence project (SETI) after 25 years of
11 indifference.
12 And then there is Donald Trump's call for the creation of Space Force, a new branch of the US military. The American
13 president has suggested that there's a need to safeguard the world in case other powers like Russia and China decide to start
14 a war outside the atmosphere. But conspiracy theorists aren't convinced. They think the real purpose of Space Force is to fight
15 off a possible alien attack.

CHOOSE AND WRITE THE CORRECT OPTION (A, B, C or D). (0.5 points each)

1. The National Academies...

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| (a) have discovered thousands of new stars. | (b) are looking for biosignatures in the universe. |
| (c) will themselves develop new flight instruments. | (d) have recently delivered a report to the US Congress. |

2. According to the text, NASA...

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|--|---|
| (a) is using new software in the processing of images. | (b) is already looking for biosignatures in its space missions. |
| (c) has already reacted to the National Academies' report. | (d) is very interested in the SETI project. |

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (0.5 points each)

3. **The University of California Santa Barbara has already processed more than a trillion images of the Andromeda Galaxy.**
4. **Only optical signals have been used to scan the universe for intelligent life.**
5. **The US Congress has not yet decided to put money back on the SETI program.**
6. **Conspiracy theorists do not believe that the purpose of Space Force is to fight other world powers.**

7. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)

- 7.1. ONE OPPOSITE FOR "enthusiasm" (noun).
7.2. ONE SYNONYM FOR "protect" (verb).

8. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)

- 8.1. ONE WORD MEANING "creature from outer space"
8.2. ONE WORD MEANING "secret plan by a group of people"