

Name: _____

Date: _____

Mark: _____ / 80 marks

Reading

Read the article about a meteor which hit a region of Russia.

Is the Sky Falling Down?



A

The meteorite that crashed into the Chelyabinsk region of Russia in February 2013 was the largest to hit Earth in more than 100 years and made us painfully aware of a very important fact: although humans are highly capable and intelligent and have created all sorts of missiles and defense systems, we are helpless against a rock falling out of the sky.

B

Although the damage at Chelyabinsk was extensive and over 1,500 people endured horrible injuries, if this had happened over London or New York, there would have been a greater human toll, more damage to property, disruption of services and a catastrophic global economic fallout. The Tunguska impact in 1908, which was a similar event to Chelyabinsk but on a much larger scale, emitted a powerful shock wave over a remote forest region, again in Russia. In that incident, 80 million trees were flattened over an area twice the size of New York City.

C

The characteristics of the space rock bound for Chelyabinsk are impressive. Before slamming into the atmosphere, it had a mass of up to 10,000 tonnes, a 15-metre diameter, and it was travelling at 18 kilometres per second.

D

What happens when a meteor enters the Earth's atmosphere? Meteors are so fast that they create a sonic boom, which is a very loud noise triggered by the shock wave from an object travelling faster than the speed of sound. What people heard in Chelyabinsk was not an impact explosion, but a sonic boom. It proved strong enough to shatter dishes and televisions in people's homes.

E

Scientists assure us that the chances of Earth getting hit by an asteroid in the near future are slim. But those assurances matter little to the people of Chelyabinsk whose city became the first in modern times to be the victim of a meteor event. Some astronomers have been watching the skies for years for any signs of potentially dangerous rock or metal chunks in our solar system, and warning us that such an incident will play havoc with us again. We just don't know where or when. There are dangerous, massive asteroids in space, but they are being tracked and will pose no threat any time soon, say scientists. However, millions of undetected rocks the size of the Russian meteor or bigger are out there, and some of them will hit us. Perhaps governments should be funding asteroid detection programmes so that we can find smaller space rocks before they find us.

B Complete the Exam Task.

Exam Task

You are going to read an article about a meteor which hit a region of Russia. For questions 1 – 10, choose from the paragraphs A – E. The paragraphs may be chosen more than once.

Which paragraph

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1 predicts the impact on the world's financial markets should a meteor hit a major city? | ☐ |
| 2 details the effect the sound of an asteroid moving through the air had on household objects? | ☐ |
| 3 explains that we are vulnerable to another meteor strike because we lack information about some meteors? | ☐ |
| 4 details the author's belief that we need a type of early warning system? | ☐ |
| 5 compares the crash with a much more powerful one? | ☐ |
| 6 details the dimensions of the Chelyabinsk meteor? | ☐ |
| 7 explains the likelihood of a meteor colliding with our planet again? | ☐ |
| 8 explains a result of the speed of asteroids? | ☐ |
| 9 implies that mankind is not as powerful as we think? | ☐ |
| 10 explains the effect a meteorite had on vegetation in an Asian country? | ☐ |

(___ / 10 marks)

Vocabulary and Use your English

A Complete the words in the sentences.

- 1 Barry has got a huge a _____; he's always eating. And his p _____ are massive – I've never seen so much food on a plate before!
- 2 I can't eat Indian c _____ because it gives me painful i _____.
- 3 Millions of s _____ people in the world's poorest countries suffer from m _____.
- 4 Rice is a s _____ ingredient in many Asian c _____ and accompanies every meal.
- 5 At the b _____ in the huge dining room of the castle, the servants carried out food on silver p _____.
- 6 I don't like f _____ drinks; I prefer non-carbonated b _____.
- 7 A popular pizza t _____ in Japan is octopus, but I don't find that very a _____.
- 8 Grandpa has some d _____ restrictions; he isn't allowed to drink full-fat milk, he can only have s _____.
- 9 We haven't eaten all day and we're f _____! What's for s _____? Is it pasta?
- 10 Pass me that d _____ and I'll dry the dishes while you put the l _____ in the fridge.

(___ / 10 marks)

B Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 We shouldn't be indifferent _____ the dangers that threaten natural habitats.
- 2 We were so hungry after the hike that we managed to whip _____ a big dinner in ten minutes.
- 3 I was unaware _____ the large number of animals that are endangered.
- 4 The chocolate cake didn't just vanish _____ thin air! Who ate it all?
- 5 I would advise very strongly _____ swimming in that river; it's polluted.
- 6 Why don't we dine _____ in that new French restaurant to celebrate your graduation?
- 7 When we destroy natural habitats, we interfere _____ the balance of nature.
- 8 Do you think we will discover a viable alternative _____ fossil fuels?
- 9 I wish I hadn't polished _____ all that pasta. I won't be able to eat that lovely dessert now.
- 10 We disagreed with Fred's insistence _____ using pesticides in the garden.

(___ / 10 marks)

C Match the first part of the sentences 1 – 10 to the second parts a – j.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1 I can't keep up with my niece; she's | ☐ | a rain over Scandinavia. |
| 2 Climate change has become a real hot | ☐ | b landscape that is very forbidding. |
| 3 In some countries chemical | ☐ | c bucket down this afternoon. |
| 4 Air pollution in the UK ends up as acid | ☐ | d potato in recent years. |
| 5 Pesticides can cause soil | ☐ | e surroundings for future generations. |
| 6 Marine life is destroyed by oil | ☐ | f dumping is rampant and unchecked. |
| 7 Australia's interior is a barren | ☐ | g contamination when they enter the ground. |
| 8 It is impossible to withstand the searing | ☐ | h full of beans all the time. |
| 9 We must protect our natural | ☐ | i spills and takes years to recover. |
| 10 Don't forget to take a waterproof jacket | ☐ | j heat of the desert in the daytime. |
| when you go out; it is going to | | |

(___ / 10 marks)

Grammar

A Complete each sentence with two words.

- 1 You've got chocolate on your face, _____?
- 2 So, you think nuclear energy is safe, _____?
- 3 I ate the best hot dogs in New York, _____?
- 4 You couldn't lay the table, _____?
- 5 She'd rather wear real leather, _____?

(___ / 5 marks)

B Correct the mistake in each sentence.

- 1 The beach is filthy. Shouldn't the local authorities clean up it? _____
- 2 Not liking spinach, Jody only picked her food at. _____
- 3 Thankfully, the storm was short-lived and blew it over very quickly. _____
- 4 I need coffee in the morning; I can't do it without to wake up. _____
- 5 They were on the third day of their hike when ran out the food. _____

(___ / 5 marks)

C Circle the correct words.

- 1 We don't have to / mustn't pollute the oceans and the seas.
- 2 Being caught up in a hurricane must have been / should have been a terrifying experience.
- 3 Bart can't have watered / needn't have watered the plants because he wasn't at home.
- 4 James could cook / would cook dinner, but he's too lazy to do anything around here.
- 5 Before, Henry should throw out / would throw out old newspapers, but now he recycles them.
- 6 You didn't have to do / couldn't do the dishes because I would have done them.
- 7 Why is it taking so long? That soufflé must have risen / should have risen by now.
- 8 It might have been / would have been an Asian dish, but I'm not sure.
- 9 You needn't have added / shouldn't have added more salt; you've ruined it now!
- 10 If you knew you were going to be late, you could have rung / would have rung me.

(___ / 10 marks)

D Complete the Exam Task.

Exam Task

For questions 1 – 5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **three** and **six** words, including the word given.

- 1 He will definitely get indigestion if he eats that huge pizza by himself.

BOUND

He _____ if he eats that huge pizza by himself.

- 2 It wasn't necessary for the residents to flee the town because the volcano didn't erupt.

FLED

The residents _____ the town because the volcano didn't erupt.

- 3 You made a lot of food, but it wasn't necessary because we have plenty.

SHOULD

You _____ food because we have plenty.

- 4 Carrying all the shopping home herself was impossible for Janet.

ABLE

Janet _____ all the shopping home herself.

- 5 Why didn't you say you were a vegetarian?

COULD

You _____ you were a vegetarian.

(___ / 10 marks)

Writing

Complete the *Exam Task*.

Exam Task

You have been asked to write a contribution to an international magazine about unhealthy eating habits, giving details of specific problems in your country. Your contribution should:

- describe a bad eating habit in your country
- explain how it affects people's health
- recommend a solution to the problem

Write your **contribution** in 220–260 words in an appropriate style.

(__ / 10 marks)

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.