

Task 2. (15 points). You are going to read an article about ancient civilizations. For questions 1-7 choose the answers (A, B, C or D) which best complete the sentences given according to the text.

ANCIENT PERU'S POWER ELITE

1. Pachacamac is famous for
 A its cultural heritage. C the length of its existence.
 B unique religion. D pilgrims' worship.
2. Archaeologists have found
 A a new residential area. C pyramids with eighteen steps.
 B a new scientific proof D monuments to famous people.
3. Pyramids were thought
 A to have attracted the locals' attention. C to have been used as museums.
 B to have been used as a living place. D to have been a holy and sacred place.
4. New findings have shown that
 A all pyramids were used for living at the same time. C all pyramids were locked.
 B each pyramid served the needs of a new king D pyramids were used by priests
5. Scientists think that
 A kings were buried in the graveyards. C a new pyramid was built by a new ruler.
 B kings' bodies were mummified. D the king was left where he died.
6. The scientific conclusion is that
 A palaces were religious centers.
 B lords and priests fought for power.
 C the latest discoveries about the role of pyramids need confirmation.
 D kings built monumental sites to show power to enemy.
7. The basic idea of the article is that
 A Peru's people can tell us a lot about their past
 B each hypothesis needs strong evidence.
 C ancient civilizations were powerful and creative.
 D pyramids attract a lot of archaeologists.

The dead are beginning to tell tales at Pachacamac, a sprawl of ruins and graves near Lima, Peru. First settled around AD. 200, Pachacamac became one of the longest continuously inhabited urban centers in the Andes, enduring and even thriving under various cultures for some 1,300 years. Named for the creator god Pachacamac, the site drew pilgrims who came to worship and to bury their dead. Overtaken by the Inca around 1470, it was one of the most sacred places in their empire until the Spanish conquest in the 1530s.

When archaeologists began exploring the site in the 1890s they found a vast complex of monumental buildings and looted burials. At its heart lies an enigma: 18 mud- brick stepped pyramids with ramps and plazas. In 1993 I began the first comprehensive excavation of one of these structures, which dates from the late 1300s to mid-1400s. After more than a decade of digging I've found evidence that is shining new light on the meaning of the pyramids - and overturning old assumptions.

For decades most scholars thought the pyramids were religious "embassies" that housed delegations from far-off communities who came to worship, bring tribute, and make offerings to Pachacamac. I expected to find evidence supporting this theory: ornate building designs suggesting religious use, the remains of plentiful offerings, nonlocal artifacts, and signs that the pyramids were occupied simultaneously by groups from across Peru and beyond.

Instead, my team and those who had previously dug at two other pyramids have uncovered buildings that in their layout and lack of adornment resemble secular Andean palaces rather than religious centers. Rooms held the remains of textiles and guinea pigs (a common food), suggesting domestic chores such as weaving and raising animals. We found few nonlocal artifacts. And the offerings we discovered (including a human baby) were clearly placed in the pyramids at the time of their construction or ritual abandonment. At that point

the floors were covered with a fine layer of sand, and selected chambers were filled with mummies and riches, then sealed off. Most important, radiocarbon dating suggests that the pyramids were not occupied at the same time, as embassies would have been, but one after another in successive periods of about 30 years—the average length of a ruler's reign.

I can only conclude that the pyramids were palaces of the Ychsma (EESH-MA) lords who ruled Pachacamac and some of its surroundings during what archaeologists call the Late Intermediate Period (A.D. 900 to 1470). At each lord's death he would have been buried with his spouse, concubines, and servants, his palace turned into a tomb where his mummy could be worshipped. His successor then built a new palace nearby.

Historical records support this conclusion. The chronicler Bias Valera reported just such a tradition in the 1580s, likely a remnant of earlier, pre-Inca customs: "After the death of the king or lord they would place the deceased in a bedroom or chamber ready-made for him, and wall up the door and windows. The halls, portals, wings, and other rooms were kept open so that people could enter and pray".

The idea that the pyramids were palaces matches a model developed independently by archaeologist William Isbell for the pre-Inca sites of Huari and Conchopata in the central highlands of Peru. Still, this interpretation remains controversial. The widely held embassy theory often has been used to explain the rise of monumental sites all over the Andes as religious centers ruled by priests. If excavations at Pachacamac show that its core was filled not with religious monuments but with the seats of secular rulers, then power in ancient Peru may have been shared by lords and priests to a far greater degree than was previously thought.

Peru's preliterate peoples cannot speak to us directly. But they've left tangible clues to their civilizations. It's up to us to listen to their voices.

For questions 8-15 use the information given in the text to complete the sentences. Find in the text words which mean the same as the underlined words below. There is an example (00).

00. It was a remote island where only birds lived.

It was a remote island inhabited only by birds.

8 The ancient tribe showed respect for God by praying long hours.

The ancient tribe _____ God by praying long hours.

9 I have known him for many years, but he remains a complete mystery to me.

I have known him for many years but he remains a complete _____ to me.

10 The local authorities should provide accommodation for homeless people.

The local authorities should _____ homeless people.

11 As the lecturer and his interpreter were speaking at the same time, nobody could understand them well. →

As the lecturer and his interpreter were speaking _____, nobody could understand them well.

12 The castle had a lot of rooms with nice paintings.

The castle had a lot of _____ with nice paintings.

13 The man was asked to fill in his wife's name and the date of birth.

The man was asked to fill in his _____ name and the date of birth.

14 Her childhood was very hard because both her parents were dead.

Her childhood was very hard because both her parents were _____.

15 The detective needed the evidence to reveal the truth in the investigation in order to identify the murderer.

The detective needed the _____ in the investigation in order to identify the murderer.

Task 1. (5 points). You are going to read a newspaper article. Five sentences have been removed from the text.

Choose from sentences A-F the one which best fits each gap (1-5). There is one extra sentence you do not need to use.

THE WORLD ECONOMY

- A. Indeed, some developing countries may be able to use the new economy to catch up with the richer countries.
- B. People without education will fail.
- C. However, more than 1.3 billion people are living on a dollar a day or less.
- D. At the same time, living standards in the big five developing economies are forecast to rise.

- E. The "weightless" products of the Knowledge Economy will become as important in wealth creation as manufacturing and raw material production.
- F. In the 21st century the wealthiest part of the world will have to work in partnership with strong competitors among the developing countries.

The big economic issue for the world in this new century will be the huge gap between rich and poor. About 16% of humanity in the richer countries are better off than at any time in history. 1. _____. Consequently, the UN has set a target to reduce the number of people living in absolute poverty by half by 2015. Indeed, economists think there is a good chance that absolute poverty will be eliminated within a generation.

Today, the countries of the OECD account for more than 60% of global wealth. However within 20 years, the OECD's own forecasts show that its share will be only 30%. The OECD countries will be richer than they are today, but their share of global wealth will have fallen. 2. _____. This means that, by 2020, China, India, Brazil, Indonesia and Russia will between them account for 30% of global GDP.

The change will bring an important shift in the global balance of economic power. 3. _____. However, a big question mark remains; over the prospects for sub-Saharan Africa. Some countries in this region could see dramatic improvements in living standards but, for others, the living standards may drop even more.

The Information Age, and especially the role of the Internet, will have a major impact on economic activity in the 21st century. 4. _____. Brainpower and creativity will drive the new economy, empowering dynamic individuals to compete with major companies. 5. _____. In the 21st century, the rule of law, open markets, education and democracy will be the basis for future wealth creation.

EXAM PRACTICE TEST 6

Task 1. (5 points). Five sentences have been removed from the text. For questions 2-5 choose from the sentences A-F the one which best fits each gap. There is one extra sentence you do not need.

THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER

- A By the end of 2006 it will be much stronger, though fingers may still need crossing in case of tornadoes or earthquakes.
- B If this is a problem for future generations to grapple with, the decommissioning of the other three reactors at Chernobyl is one for today.
- C The Chernobyl ghost will not be laid to rest until the plant has been transformed into an "ecologically safe system", as Ukrainian officials put it, and that will not be for a very long time.
- D Both people and scientists have lost hope to improve the situation.
- E The arch is a vast project - "the largest movable structure to be built in the history of mankind", as one of those involved has called it.
- F To Mykhailo Khodorivsky, a member of a consortium which in the 1990s investigated ways of removing the fuel, this seems like storing up problems for the future.

The Chernobyl disaster was not over when the sarcophagus took shape above the ruins of reactor number four in the summer and autumn of 1986. Nor will it be over when a new giant arch - as tall as St Paul's cathedral or the Statue of Liberty - slides over the top of the sarcophagus three or four years from now. 1. _____. There are currently three main obstacles on the path towards this goal: the lava-like remains of the melted-down reactor, the spent fuel from the other three reactors, hundreds of leaking nuclear waste dumps.

For the last decade, the main concern has been that the hastily built sarcophagus might collapse, blowing tonnes of highly radioactive dust into the surrounding forests and waterways. But work is now under way to shore up badly leaning walls, secure unsteady beams, and strengthen tilting supports under the plant's giant red and white chimney. 2. _____. It's a measure of the urgency of these stabilization tasks, that they are being carried out despite plans to undo them again - and dismantle most of the sarcophagus - once the new arch is in place, some time after 2008.

3. _____. But critics argue it is a little more than a carpet to sweep the main problem under, because the fuel within the wrecked reactor will simply be left as it is. "The new, stable and environmentally safe structure will contain the remains of the reactor for at least 100 years", says a press release from the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, which will disburse the 840 million euros (\$1bn) the arch is expected to cost. "During (this) time an even longer-lasting solution to the Chernobyl problem must be found". 4. _____. The arch will last for 100 to 300 years, while the fuel will remain deadly for thousands. "A new confinement is necessary, but it does not tackle the root of the problem", Mr. Khodorivsky says. "Our conclusion was that in 100 years the problem will not get simpler".

For one thing, some of the plutonium will be decaying into americium, which is even more hazardous for health. "If nothing is done with the fuel, and the arch is contaminated from the inside, what do you do when it gets old?" he asks. "Build an even bigger one on top?"

5. _____.

(Adapted from BBC NEWS)