

ENGLISH EXAM

UNIT 4

Reading 1

1. Read the text. Choose the best option to complete the sentences.

Hidden life?

Is there undiscovered life hidden on our very own planet? It could be. For the past 15 years, scientists have been planning to explore a lake in Antarctica, called Lake Ellsworth. This doesn't sound very radical, but the lake lies deep under a cap of frozen ice and has never been reached by man. It is only recently that the technology has been developed to be able to explore this part of our world.

British scientists will travel to Antarctica this month in the hope of finding life forms trapped beneath three kilometres of solid ice. They believe a lake such as Lake Ellsworth, which they think has been buried under ice for up to a million years, may contain unique microbes that could provide clues to how life evolved on earth. The team from the British Antarctic Survey will prepare a site in the hostile environment above Lake Ellsworth that they will return to next year, when they will begin drilling a hole through the ice. They will then take small quantities of water and sediment, which they hope will unlock the secrets of the lake.

The scientists will live in tents, spending around three months working in temperatures of minus 25 degrees Celsius. They will use a special hot-water drill to reach the lake. A titanium probe, five metres long, will collect 24 separate quantities of water, taken from different points in the lake, and three metres of sediment. The titanium probe has been created with "clean technology" developed by the space industry, to avoid contamination of the lake during the investigations.

Lake Ellsworth, which is on the West Antarctic ice sheet, will be the first of the continent's 387 known sub-glacial lakes to be investigated. What will be discovered in this place where the hand of man has never entered?

1. The project is organised by...

- a. a team of scientists who have studied life in the lake for 15 years.
- b. British scientists living in Antarctica.
- c. the British Antarctic Survey.

2. Lake Ellsworth...

- a. has a unique ecosystem of marine life unknown to man.
- b. may contain life forms unknown to man that could help us understand our origins.
- c. contains microbes that don't exist in other environments.

3. Scientists plan to...

- a. visit the site this year and then return when the environment is less hostile.
- b. prepare the site this year, before returning next year to carry out the main work.
- c. visit the site this month to see if drilling is possible.

4. Technology developed by the space industry means that scientists can...
 - a. take quantities of water and sediment at the same time.
 - b. drill through three metres of ice in hostile conditions.
 - c. drill through the ice and enter the lake without polluting it.
5. The project is important because...
 - a. it may tell us about the evolution of life on our planet.
 - b. it may contain microbes that prove the evolution of life.
 - c. the scientists may be able to find life in the lake that is a million years old.

Reading 2

2. Read the text. Select True or False.

Gransby, 73

I've always been a creative person and I like to be different. For many years, I was a secretary at a big multinational company. When I retired, I decided that I needed to do something exciting - something to keep me young. I wanted to do something with art and I wanted people to look at my work and say, 'Wow! That's different'. So, I became a graffiti artist and I love it. I leave images of cats everywhere - on buses, train stations, old walls... It's a great way to meet young people and to keep fit. It's not easy to paint a cat on a bridge or on a tall building in the middle of the night! My children don't know about my new hobby. My grandchildren don't know, either, although my work is all over town! Everyone is asking, who is Gransby? They don't realise it is just an innocent old granny!

Simon, 14

I'm a young golfer. My father is a professional golfer. I want to become a professional, too. I'm 14, but I have already won the county under-16s golf championship. Next year, I want to enter a national competition. I have to practise every day. Luckily, my school is flexible. I have lessons in the afternoon after a few hours of practice on the golf course. Some people say that golf is an old man's game, but I don't agree. I'd much rather play golf than other sports, like football or rugby. Studies have shown that golf is good for stress levels, too. There isn't another other sport that allows you to relax and enjoy the countryside in the same way. Some of my friends have asked me why I don't do something more adventurous, like skydiving or paragliding. They sound OK, but golf is my number one passion.

1. Gransby is a retired grandfather who is a secret graffiti artist. True False
2. Gransby has painted on public buildings at night. True False
3. Gransby meets young people through her hobby, but her relatives don't know about her activities. True False
4. Simon has won the national competition for young golfers. True False
5. Simon thinks skydiving and paragliding are too adventurous. True False

Listening

1. Listen to the speaker. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. Merryearth...

- a. provides relaxing and healthy holidays in beautiful places around the world.
- b. promotes cultural exchanges as a type of alternative holiday.
- c. asks people for money for micro-credit projects.

2. Merryearth trips are suitable for people who...

- a. would like a quiet holiday in an indigenous village and do something for the environment.
- b. would like to fully mix with people from other cultures, sharing skills.
- c. would like to go on full-day excursions every day for a fortnight.

3. The camps are in...

- a. rural areas in the United States of America.
- b. desert, forest and mountain areas in the Americas.
- c. rural areas in the Americas.

4. Visitors sleep in...

- a. tents on the outskirts of the village.
- b. private single rooms in the camp.
- c. double rooms in the camp.

5. Activities at the camp include...

- a. visiting natural beauty spots, and food and craft production.
- b. cooking, helping local projects and teaching English.
- c. helping in local projects and teaching English.

Writing

- 1. Write 3 paragraphs about a natural disaster.**

Grammar - Present perfect simple (1)

I. Write **have** or **has**.

1. I _____ answered the question.
2. She _____ opened the window.
3. They _____ called us.
4. You _____ carried a box.
5. It _____ rained a lot.
6. We _____ washed the car.
7. He _____ closed the window.
8. Jenny _____ locked the door.
9. The girls _____ visited the museum.
10. John and Sophie _____ helped in the garden.

Grammar - Present perfect simple (2)

II. Put the verbs into the correct form in **Present Perfect**.

1. I _____ (not / work) today.
2. We _____ (buy) a new lamp.
3. We _____ (not / plan) our holiday yet.
4. Where _____ (be / you)?
5. He _____ (write) five letters.
6. She _____ (not / see) him for a long time.
7. _____ (be / you) at school?
8. School _____ (not / start) yet.
9. _____ (speak / he) to his boss?
10. No, he _____ (not / have) the time yet.

Grammar - Present perfect continuous (1)

1. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. I _____ for 20 years.
a. have been live b. have live c. have been living
2. She _____ languages.
a. has always liked b. has always been liking c. always has liked
3. We _____ the people affected by the drought.
a. have been helped b. have been helping c. have being helped
4. _____ in the UK?
a. Have you always lived b. Have you always been living c. Have you lived always
5. He's been working as a teacher _____
a. 2005 b. for 2005. c. since 2005.

Grammar - Present perfect continuous (2)

1. Complete the sentences with the present perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

1. We _____ in Madrid for two years. (live)
2. People _____ wheat for thousands of years. (grow)
3. She _____ English since she was six. (study)
4. I _____ this book since I got up this morning! (read)
5. Rob _____ art his whole life. (teach)

Vocabulary - Man-made and natural disasters

1. Read the sentences. Select True or False.

1. A desert is a man-made landscape. True False
2. A path is a man-made landscape. True False
3. A resort is a natural landscape. True False
4. A forest is a natural landscape. True False
5. A farm is a natural landscape. True False

Vocabulary - Natural disasters and extreme weather

1. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. When there is too much rain, there may be a...
a. drought. b. flood. c. forest fire.
2. When there isn't enough food, it is called...

- a. an earthquake. b. a famine. c. a tsunami.
3. When the earth moves, it can cause...
- a. a hurricane. b. a drought. c. an earthquake.
4. Very strong winds may be caused by a...
- a. hurricane. b. flood. c. famine.
5. An uncontrolled area of fire is called...
- a. a tsunami. b. an earthquake. c. a forest fire.

Vocabulary - Natural world collocations

1. Match the parts of the collocations.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. wind | a. flood |
| 2. torrential | b. attack |
| 3. water | c. level |
| 4. flash | d. rain |
| 5. fatal | e. direction |