

Practice Task: (Assessment)

Answer the following questions based on the previous reading:

The desire for **knowledge** about our world pushes explorers into the smallest caves, the deepest oceans and even outer space. People have been exploring for centuries. But any explorer will tell you that the more they **investigate**, the more they realise there's still so much to learn.

Explorer Sylvia Earle is a deep-sea **pioneer** with a long list of achievements. She has engaged in 7,000 hours of underwater study and written nearly 200 scientific articles on her findings. In 1970, she and a team of women 'aquanauts' were required to live underwater for weeks at a time to **research** marine life. The fact that so much of the ocean remains undiscovered **has driven** Sylvia's work. In fact, even though explorers have been studying the world's oceans for years, they've only seen about five per cent of them! Sylvia's **purpose** in life has been to protect the sea, and she encourages others to do so as well.

Palaeoanthropologist Lee Berger has been searching for ancient remains in **remote** parts of Africa for over two decades. He is **curious** about the origins of human beings. Lee has made some **exciting**

discoveries over time, but his most important discovery came in 2014 when he led an expedition at the Rising Star cave system, near Johannesburg, South Africa. To explore one of the caves, researchers had to squeeze through an opening less than 25 cm. (10 in.) wide. Lee wasn't small enough to do it himself, so he gathered an **expert** team of female researchers who made it inside. There they found over 1,550 bones, representing at least 15 individuals.

The bones were brought to the lab where skeletons were assembled. Lee used 3D scanning to identify an entirely new species. Creating the skeleton was just the first step in understanding the new species. 'The discoveries we're now making show that, in some ways, the age of exploration is still just beginning,' says Lee.

Engineer and inventor Corey Jaskolski not only explores, but also creates **high-tech** tools that allow people to **look into** the past without harming its artefacts. Corey wants explorers to protect what they **encounter** so that future generations can learn from them, too. 'When we discover things, we have a responsibility to preserve them as well,' he says.

Statements	True	False
1. Sylvia Earle has written nearly 200 scientific articles on her findings.		
2. The team of women 'aquanauts' lived underwater for months at a time.		
3. Explorers have seen about fifty percent of the world's oceans.		
4. Lee Berger used 3D scanning to identify an entirely new species.		