CIVILISATIONS AND SCIENCE

INDEPENDENT WORK – GRADE 12

Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension

TASK 1. VOCABULARY – COMPLETE THE SENTENCES (8 points)

Complete each sentence with the correct word from the box. Use each item only once.

massive · aligned · disbelief · remote · exceed · worshipped · flourished · unsolved

1. The ancient city of Machu Picchu is situated in a rather _____ area of Peru.
2. The archaeologists stared in _____ when they discovered the underground chamber.
3. The ancient Egyptians _____ many different gods.
4. The corners of the Great Pyramid are perfectly _____ with the points of the compass.
5. The Roman Empire _____ for several centuries.
6. The discovery of a _____ stone structure surprised scientists.
7. The mystery surrounding the disappearance of the civilisation remains _____.
8. The number of visitors to the historical site may _____ one million this year.

TASK 2. WORD FORMATION (8 points)

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word in brackets.

1. The discovery of the ancient ruins caused great _____ among historians. (EXCITE)
2. Scientists are still trying to find a reasonable _____ for the mysterious phenomenon. (EXPLAIN)
3. The construction of the pyramids required incredible engineering _____. (KNOW)
4. The spacecraft was successfully _____ into orbit. (LAUNCH)
5. The ancient civilisation achieved remarkable _____ in mathematics. (DEVELOP)
6. The astronaut described his first space _____ as unforgettable. (EXPLORE)
7. The machine stopped working because of a technical _____. (MALFUNCTION)
8. Some historical discoveries remain completely _____. (EXPLAIN)

TASK 3. COLLOCATIONS AND PHRASAL VERBS (8 points)

Complete the expressions using the words from the box. Use each item only once.

raise · put · come · calm · cover · in · from · with

1. _____ questions about an ancient civilisation.
2. _____ forward a scientific theory.
3. _____ across an unusual archaeological discovery.
4. _____ down after a frightening encounter.
5. _____ up the truth about an unexplained event.
6. _____ search of an ancient temple.
7. Prevent someone _____ entering the laboratory.
8. Communicate _____ extraterrestrial beings.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK 4. CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION (8 points)

Choose the correct word or expression.

1. The ancient civilisation **expanded / decomposed** its territory by conquering neighbouring lands.
2. The researchers were unable to **unlock / worship** the secrets of the ancient structure.
3. The statues were built to **guard / exceed** the entrance to the temple.
4. The scientist **admitted / taunted** that his original theory was incorrect.
5. The mysterious lights in the sky caused several UFO **sightings / carvings**.
6. The discovery of the ancient settlement **exceeded / aligned** all our expectations.
7. Some people believe that the government is hiding the truth **behind closed doors / in search of**.
8. The researchers are still **in the dark / over the moon** about the real purpose of the monument.

TASK 5. READING COMPREHENSION (18 points)

Read the text and complete the exercises.

THE SECRETS THAT TIME COULDN'T HIDE

For centuries, ancient civilisations have fascinated scientists, historians and ordinary people. Despite modern technology, some of their greatest achievements remain unsolved mysteries.

One of the most remarkable examples is the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt. This massive stone structure was built more than 4,500 years ago. Its enormous blocks are carefully aligned with the points of the compass, and its construction required extraordinary engineering skills. Some researchers admit that they still do not fully understand how ancient builders managed to transport and position such heavy stones without modern machinery. Although many theories have been put forward, the exact methods remain a subject of debate.

Another fascinating example can be found on Easter Island, a remote island in the Pacific Ocean. It is famous for its hundreds of massive stone statues known as Moai. Some historians believe that these statues were created to honour and guard the ancestors of the island's inhabitants. Others suggest that they had religious significance. The ancient civilisation that created them eventually declined, but the statues continue to raise questions about the society that once flourished there.

Science has also helped researchers investigate the mysterious Nazca Lines in Peru. These enormous drawings of animals and geometric shapes were created on the desert ground and can be clearly seen from the air. Some scientists believe that they were connected with religious ceremonies, while others suggest that they represented constellations. More unusual theories claim that extraterrestrial beings may have been involved. However, there is no concrete evidence to support such claims.

Modern technology allows scientists to explore these sites in ways that were impossible in the past. Satellite images, laser scanning and archaeological research help unlock secrets hidden beneath the ground. Nevertheless, every new discovery seems to raise further questions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Perhaps the greatest lesson is that scientific progress does not always provide immediate answers. Ancient civilisations remind us that human creativity and knowledge can achieve extraordinary things, even when the tools available are limited. Some mysteries may eventually be explained, while others may remain unsolved for generations to come.

A. Choose the correct answer. (5 points)

1. What makes the Great Pyramid particularly remarkable?

a) It was built using modern machinery.

b) Its construction demonstrates extraordinary engineering skills.

c) It was used as an astronomical observatory.

2. What is one possible purpose of the Moai statues?

a) To honour the ancestors.

b) To mark the island's borders.

c) To represent constellations.

3. What is unusual about the Nazca Lines?

a) They are hidden beneath the ocean.

b) They can only be seen clearly from the air.

c) They were discovered by astronauts.

4. What do some scientists believe about the Nazca Lines?

a) They were connected with religious ceremonies.

b) They were built to protect the pyramids.

c) They were created using laser technology.

5. What is the main message of the final paragraph?

a) Modern science has solved all ancient mysteries.

b) Ancient civilisations had no advanced knowledge.

c) Some ancient mysteries may remain unexplained.

B. Decide whether the statements are TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN. (5 points)

1. The Great Pyramid was constructed more than 4,500 years ago. _____
2. Scientists have completely discovered how the pyramid was built. _____
3. All historians agree about the purpose of the Moai statues. _____
4. There is concrete evidence that extraterrestrial beings created the Nazca Lines. _____
5. Modern technology helps researchers investigate ancient sites. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C. Find words or expressions in the text that mean: (5 points)

1. Very large – _____
2. Far away from other places – _____
3. To show honour and respect to someone – _____
4. To suggest or present an idea for consideration – _____
5. To discover or reveal something hidden – _____

D. Complete the sentences with ONE word or number from the text. (3 points)

1. The Great Pyramid was built more than _____ years ago.
2. The Moai statues were created to honour and guard the _____ of the island's inhabitants.
3. Scientists use satellite images and laser scanning to _____ secrets hidden beneath the ground.

FINAL CHECK

Before submitting your work, make sure that:

- You have completed all five tasks.
- You have checked your spelling.
- You have used the correct forms of words.
- You have answered every question.

TOTAL: 50 POINTS

LIVEWORKSHEETS