This exam consists of 6 exercises. They must be answered in English. You must do all the exercises. The marks assigned to each exercise are given between brackets at the beginning of the exercise.

Exercises 1, 2, and 3 are based on the text given below. The text you have to produce for exercise 6 can be drafted on the last sheet of the exam answer sheets, but please remember to give a clean version of it on another sheet (but first cross the draft out and insert the word "DRAFT" immediately before the draft).

TEXT

ON THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY: WHY TEENAGERS SHOULD CARE ABOUT SPACE EXPLORATION

Have you ever heard of the Apollo 11 mission? It was the spaceflight conducted from July 16 to July 24, 1969, by the United States that marked the first time humans landed on the Moon. Fifty-six years ago, the United States of America was just that—united. With excited breath and upward eyes, the nation watched with hope as Apollo 11 lifted off to put the first human on the Moon. However, July 16, 1969, represented not just progress for a country, but for all of humankind.

In fact, space exploration is one of the most exciting and important tasks of humankind today. It involves travelling beyond Earth to study planets, stars, and the universe as a whole. While it may seem like something that only scientists and astronauts care about, space exploration plays a crucial role in shaping the future of humanity, and it impacts our daily lives in ways we may not even realize, as did the Apollo 11 mission for people all over the world in 1969.

One of the biggest reasons why space exploration is important is that it helps us understand our own planet better. By studying other planets and their atmospheres, scientists can learn more about Earth's climate and how to protect it. For example, studying Mars' history of water loss helps us to understand climate change and its potential effects on our world. Another major benefit of space exploration is technological advancement. Many of the technologies we use today were originally developed for space missions. GPS systems, weather forecasting, satellite communication, and even medical advancements like magnetic resonance have roots in space research.

Additionally, space exploration is essential for the future of humanity. Earth has limited resources, and one day, we may need to explore other planets for survival. Establishing human settlements on the Moon or Mars might be necessary for the long-term survival of our species, and learning how to live and work in space prepares us for that future. It was the fulfilment of this necessity that was pioneered by Commander Neil Armstrong and Pilot Buzz Aldrin, the astronauts that landed the Apollo Lunar Module Eagle on July 20, 1969. Armstrong and Aldrin became the first persons to step onto the Moon's surface. They spent about two hours exploring a site they named Tranquility Base, and collected 21.5 kg of lunar material to bring back to Earth for scientific study into the future.

1. (*1.5 points*). Add True or False, quoting the relevant information from the text to justify your answer.

Only "T" or "F" or the full words "True" or "False" will be accepted as valid answers. Their translation into Spanish or another language will never be accepted, but if the justification is correct, 0.25 points will be awarded for each sentence. No points will be given for answers without their corresponding justification or if the justification is incorrect. Likewise, answers in which the justification is not a direct quote from the text or only consist of line numbers will not be scored. The use of quotation marks in the justification is not obligatory. Ellipses in parentheses, (…), may be used to indicate that parts of the original text have been omitted in the justification, but make sure those parts do not contain essential information for the justification.

1.1. Exploring space is among the most thrilling and significant projects of humanity today.

1.2. Scientists will never gain a deeper understanding of Earth's climate and ways to protect it by examining other planets and their atmospheres.

1.3. Tranquility Base is the name which Armstrong and Aldrin gave to the lunar site they explored after setting foot on the Moon's surface.

CONTINÚA AL DORSO

2. **(*2.4 points*). Choose THREE of the following questions and answer them according to the information given in the text. Use your own words.**
Each answer will be awarded 0.8 points. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first three answers you give will be corrected. The aim of this exercise is to evaluate both comprehension (up to 0.5 points) and linguistic accuracy (up to 0.3 points); in other words, the ability to communicate information inferred from the reading. Therefore, the literal reproduction of expressions from the text should be avoided. If the response is incomplete or includes information that does not appear in the text, an appropriate amount of points will be deducted.
   2.1. What is meant by the term "Apollo 11 mission"?
   2.2. How can space exploration help us to understand planet Earth better?
   2.3. Why is modern technology said to be dependent on space exploration?
   2.4. What is the relationship between establishing human bases on Mars and the survival of humankind?

3. ***(1 point)*. Find words or phrases in the text which mean the same as the ones below.**
0.25 points will be awarded for each answer, with four answers in total. This exercise aims to assess the comprehension of the text and the semantic value of certain terms that appear in it. Therefore, the answer can never be, for example, a hypernym, or have a different grammatical form.
   3.1. projects, responsibilities:
   3.2. building, creating:
   3.3. notable, principal:
   3.4. begun, initiated:

4. **(*0.5 points*). Fill in the gap in TWO of the following sentences using ONE of the four options (a, b, c, d) given in each.**
0.25 points will be awarded for each correct answer. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first two sentences you use for answering will be corrected. In the answer sheet you can rewrite the whole sentence with the word or phrase of the option chosen or just give the letter of the option chosen (e.g., 4.x — c).
   4.1. Teenagers should be _____ of the benefits of space exploration.
      a) familiar b) aware c) keen d) acquainted
   4.2. I really wish I _____ of the Apollo 11 mission when I worked for NASA in the early 90s.
      a) would hear b) had listened c) heard d) had heard
   4.3. Philip had met the new astronaut just before the accident, when she _____ trained in a New Mexico NASA complex.
      a) was being b) was c) did d) is being

5. **(*0.6 points*). Rewrite TWO of the following sentences using the word or phrase(s) given after each of them.**
0.30 points will be awarded for each correct answer, which must not alter the meaning of the original sentence. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first two answers you give will be corrected.
   5.1. GPS systems exist because space research became a human undertaking a long time ago.
      If space research …
   5.2. Allegedly, two people wrote the book about the first space walk.
      Allegedly, the book about the first space walk …
   5.3. The second film about the Apollo Moon landing was not as interesting as the first film.
      The first film about the Apollo Moon landing was …

6. **(*4 points*). Choose ONE of the following tasks and write between 120 and 160 words:**
Up to 1 point will be awarded to answers that comply with the genre, topic, and communicative goal requested. Although the structure of the requested genre may typically include a name or signature, you must not sign your answer or include any real or fictional name, as current PAU regulations prohibit the use of personal identifiers. The omission of such structural elements will not be considered a mistake by examiners. Up to 1.5 points will be awarded to aspects of cohesion, coherence, and quality of presentation. The remainder 1.5 points will cover aspects of lexis (form, including orthography, and variety), grammar, syntax included, and, where appropriate, variety in the linguistic repertoire. If the answer does not comply with the genre requested (email, essay, review), the answer will score 0 points.
   6.1. An e-mail to a friend recommending him or her to read biographies about scientific pioneers such as Marie Curie or Isaac Newton.
   6.2. A for-and-against essay on the following statement: "Billions of dollars are being wasted on space research. The money could be better employed if used to improve the living conditions of people on Earth".

CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

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In fact, space exploration is one of the most exciting and important tasks of humankind today. It involves travelling beyond Earth to study planets, stars, and the universe as a whole. While it may seem like something that only scientists and astronauts care about, space exploration plays a crucial role in shaping the future of humanity, and it impacts our daily lives in ways we may not even realize, as did the Apollo 11 mission for people all over the world in 1969.

One of the biggest reasons why space exploration is important is that it helps us understand our own planet better. By studying other planets and their atmospheres, scientists can learn more about Earth's climate and how to protect it. For example, studying Mars' history of water loss helps us to understand climate change and its potential effects on our world. Another major benefit of space exploration is technological advancement. Many of the technologies we use today were originally developed for space missions. GPS systems, weather forecasting, satellite communication, and even medical advancements like magnetic resonance have roots in space research.

Additionally, space exploration is essential for the future of humanity. Earth has limited resources, and one day, we may need to explore other planets for survival. Establishing human settlements on the Moon or Mars might be necessary for the long-term survival of our species, and learning how to live and work in space prepares us for that future. It was the fulfilment of this necessity that was pioneered by Commander Neil Armstrong and Pilot Buzz Aldrin, the astronauts that landed the Apollo Lunar Module Eagle on July 20, 1969. Armstrong and Aldrin became the first persons to step onto the Moon's surface. They spent about two hours exploring a site they named Tranquility Base, and collected 21.5 kg of lunar material to bring back to Earth for scientific study into the future.

1. (*1.5 points*). Add True or False, quoting the relevant information from the text to justify your answer.
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1.1. Exploring space is among the most thrilling and significant projects of humanity today.
True: "space exploration is one of the most exciting and important tasks of humankind today".

1.2. Scientists will never gain a deeper understanding of Earth's climate and ways to protect it by examining other planets and their atmospheres.
False: "By studying other planets and their atmospheres, scientists can learn more about Earth's climate and how to protect it".

1.3. Tranquility Base is the name which Armstrong and Aldrin gave to the lunar site they explored after setting foot on the Moon's surface.
True: "Armstrong and Aldrin became the first persons to step onto the Moon's surface. They spent about two hours exploring a site they named Tranquility Base, (…)".

2. (*2.4 points*). Choose THREE of the following questions and answer them according to the information given in the text. Use your own words.

Each answer will be awarded 0.8 points. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first three answers you give will be corrected. The aim of this exercise is to evaluate both comprehension (up to 0.5 points) and linguistic accuracy (up to 0.3 points); in other words, the ability to communicate information inferred from the reading. Therefore, the literal reproduction of expressions from the text should be avoided. If the response is incomplete or includes information that does not appear in the text, an appropriate amount of points will be deducted.

2.1. What is meant by the term "Apollo 11 mission"?

2.2. How can space exploration help us to understand planet Earth better?

2.3. Why is modern technology said to be dependent on space exploration?

2.4. What is the relationship between establishing human bases on Mars and the survival of humankind?

3. *(1 point)*. Find words or phrases in the text which mean the same as the ones below.

0.25 points will be awarded for each answer, with four answers in total. This exercise aims to assess the comprehension of the text and the semantic value of certain terms that appear in it. Therefore, the answer can never be, for example, a hypernym, or have a different grammatical form.

3.1. projects, responsibilities: **tasks**

3.2. building, creating: **shaping**

3.3. notable, principal: **major**

3.4. begun, initiated: **pioneered**

4. (*0.5 points*). Fill in the gap in TWO of the following sentences using ONE of the four options (a, b, c, d) given in each.

0.25 points will be awarded for each correct answer. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first two sentences you use for answering will be corrected. In the answer sheet you can rewrite the whole sentence with the word or phrase of the option chosen or just give the letter of the option chosen (e.g., 4.x — c).

4.1. Teenagers should be _____ of the benefits of space exploration.

a) familiar b) aware c) keen d) acquainted

4.2. I really wish I _____ of the Apollo 11 mission when I worked for NASA in the early 90s.

a) would hear b) had listened c) heard d) had heard

4.3. Philip had met the new astronaut just before the accident, when she _____ trained in a New Mexico NASA complex.

a) was being b) was c) did d) is being

5. (*0.6 points*). Rewrite TWO of the following sentences using the word or phrase(s) given after each of them.

0.30 points will be awarded for each correct answer, which must not alter the meaning of the original sentence. Provide only the number of answers requested; if you don't, only the first two answers you give will be corrected.

5.1. GPS systems exist because space research became a human undertaking a long time ago.

If space research HADN'T become a human undertaking a long time ago/before, GPS systems WOULDN'T exist.

5.2. Allegedly, two people wrote the book about the first space walk.

Allegedly, the book about the first space walk WAS WRITTEN BY TWO PEOPLE.

5.3. The second film about the Apollo Moon landing was not as interesting as the first film.

The first film about the Apollo Moon landing was MORE INTERESTING THAN the SECOND.

6. (*4 points*). Choose ONE of the following tasks and write between 120 and 160 words:

Up to 1 point will be awarded to answers that comply with the genre, topic, and communicative goal requested. Although the structure of the requested genre may typically include a name or signature, you must not sign your answer or include any real or fictional name, as current PAU regulations prohibit the use of personal identifiers. The omission of such structural elements will not be considered a mistake by examiners. Up to 1.5 points will be awarded to aspects of cohesion, coherence, and quality of presentation. The remainder 1.5 points will cover aspects of lexis (form, including orthography, and variety), grammar, syntax included, and, where appropriate, variety in the linguistic repertoire. If the answer does not comply with the genre requested (email, essay, review), the answer will score 0 points.

6.1. An e-mail to a friend recommending him or her to read biographies about scientific pioneers such as Marie Curie or Isaac Newton.

Subject: A Book Recommendation You'll Love!

Hey,

I hope you're doing great! I wanted to share something with you that I think you'd really enjoy—biographies of amazing scientific pioneers like Marie Curie and Isaac Newton.

These books aren't just about science; they tell the incredible life stories of people who changed the world with their discoveries. Marie Curie, for example, was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize (twice!), and her work with radioactivity led to breakthroughs in medicine. Isaac Newton, on the other hand, literally shaped how we understand the universe with his laws of motion and gravity.

Reading about their struggles, experiments, and achievements is super inspiring. It shows how curiosity and determination can lead to world-changing discoveries. Moreover, their stories can be surprisingly exciting—full of challenges, rivalries, and moments of genius!

Let me know if you're interested, and I can recommend a good book to start with. I'd love to hear what you think!

Take care,

6.2. A for-and-against essay on the following statement: "Billions of dollars are being wasted on space research. The money could be better employed if used to improve the living conditions of people on Earth".

Is Space Research a Waste of Money?

Some people think spending billions on space research is pointless when there are so many problems on Earth. With poverty, hunger, and climate change, shouldn't that money go towards helping people instead? After all, we don't need to explore Mars when millions don't even have clean water.

On the other hand, space research isn't just about discovering new planets—it helps us here too! GPS, weather forecasts, and even medical advancements come from space technology. Plus, space exploration pushes science forward and inspires new generations. What if we find new resources or even a backup planet for humanity?

Sure, we should fix problems on Earth, but stopping space research wouldn't magically solve them. Instead, we should balance spending on both. Exploring space could be the key to a better future—on Earth and beyond!

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