**Sci- Fi TV series**

**Part One: Reading                                                                                ( / 15pts)**

**Comprehension:                                                                                     ( / 7pts)**

**Read the text carefully then do the tasks.**

**The ashes\* of James Doohan, star of the 1960s sci-fi TV series Star Trek, are to be sent into space. Mr. Doohan died on July 20 at his home in Washington. His last wish was for his remains to be scattered in space. Doohan, who was 85, played the engineer Scotty in the three Star Trek series and seven Hollywood movies. Being in space forever is a suitable end for Mr. Doohan. He was associated with space travel throughout his 40-year career. He leaves on Earth nine children from his three marriages, the youngest of whom is five.**

**The ashes are to be carried into space by a Texas based company called Space Services Inc. Doohan’s ashes are not the first to be scattered in space. The ashes of Star Trek writer John Meredyth Lucas, who died in 2002, may be on the same rocket. The creator of Star Trek, Gene Roddenberry, had his ashes put into orbit in 1997. Mr. Doohan’s ashes will be sealed in an airtight aluminum capsule, which will burn up when it re-enters Earth’s atmosphere.**

**Adapted from** [**www.BerakingNewsEnglish.com**](http://www.berakingnewsenglish.com/)**, 22nd  July, 2005**

**\*ashes = What is left of a human dead body after its burning.**

***1/ Are the following statements true or false?***

**a) James Doohan is the director of Star Trek series.**

**b) Mr. Doohan is still alive.**

**c) The engineer Scotty is the role Doohan played in his series and movies.**

**d) The youngest of Doohan’s children is forty years old.**

***2/ Read the text and answer the following questions.***

**a. Who is James Doohan?**

**b. What was his last wish before he died?**

**c. Is he the first man whose ashes are to be sent into space?**

***3/  In which paragraph it is mentioned that “other artists’ ashes were scattered in  space”?***

***4/  Reorder the following sentences according to their occurrence in the text.***

**a. Mr. Doohan got married three times.**

**b. Star Trek writer’s ashes may also be sent with Doohan’s ashes.**

**c. Space Services will take charge of carrying the ashes into space.**

**d. James Doohan died in Whashington.**

***3/ Which of the following headlines is best suitable to the reading passage?***

**a. Star Trek Best Seller Series.**

**b. Actor’s Ashes to Be Scattered in Space.**

**c. Science Fiction Actor Died.**

**Text Exploration:                                                                                           ( /8pts)**

***1/  Match words and their synonyms.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Synonym** |
| **1. ashes**  **2. star**  **3. movie**  **4. launched** | **a. sent**  **b. film**  **c. remains**  **d. act** |

***2/ Make four compound words out of the following list of words.***

**saucer—best—space—finger—shuttle—flying—seller—print**

***3/ Combine the following pairs of sentences using “If” and the right form of verbs in brackets.***

**a. I (be) James Doohan.**

**b. I wouldn’t ask people to scatter my ashes in space.**

**a. James Doohan ( not be ) a sci-fi actor.**

**b. He wouldn’t have wished to be in space forever.**

***4/ Underline the stressed part in the following words.***

**spokesperson- burn up - space-age - spacecraft**

***5/ This is a conversation between A and B. Complete what B says.***

**A: Have you watched Star Trek series?**

**B: ………………………………………….**

**A: Who played the hero’s role?**

**B: ………………………………..**

**A: Is he still alive?**

**B: …………………..**

**A: Where was he buried?**

**B: ………………………….**

**Part Two: Writing                                                                             ( /5pts)**

***Choose one of the following topics.***

**Topic I: You have been asked to make a survey in your school about fans of sci-fi movies and stories. Write the interview you had with one of your informants.**

**You: ………………………………………..............................................….?**

**Informant: Hello, you are welcome.**

**You: ……………………………………….............................................…..?**

**Informant: I usually watch action and science fiction movies and I particularly like sci-fi stories.**

**You: ………………………………….......................................……………?**

**Informant: Well. I like them because I want to be up to date with the latest technologies and inventions. You know, science fiction stories are generally written on the basis of these scientific innovations.**

**You: ………………………………………………………………………..?**

**Informant: …………………………………………………………………**

**You: ……………………………………………………………………….?**

**Informant: …………………………………………………………………**

**Topic II:How would you live if you were given the opportunity to  travel to space  and  meet other creatures in different planets? Write an “If story” describing what you would see and do in your space journey.**

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**Space Tourism**

**Part One: Reading                                                                                ( / 14pts)**

**Comprehension:                                                                                     ( / 7pts)**

**Read the text carefully then do the tasks.**

**The age of space tourism came a step closer with the announcement of plans to build the world’s first spaceport. The company Space Adventures Ltd. announced in a press release its plans to develop a commercial spaceport in the United Arab Emirates. This will be the first of many locations. Other possible sites for spaceports include Singapore and various secret locations in North America. The first point of departure for a holiday in the heavens is the city of Ras-Al-Khaimah, an hour by car from Dubai. The Sheikh there has put his full financial and political backing behind the ambitious project.**

**The press report states that the “total estimated cost of the global spaceport development project is at least US $265 million”. Space Adventures Ltd. and a team of UAE financiers will provide the funds. The UAE’s civil aviation authorities have already given their green light  for spaceflights to operate in their airspace. Crown Prince Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi of Ras Al-Khaimah expressed pride in his city hosting “the site where suborbital commercial space travel will begin and flourish”. He added: “We are most excited about spearheading this multi-billion dollar industry.”**

**Adapted from** [**www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com**](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/)**, 19th Feb, 2006**

**1)  What type of text is the reading passage?**

**2)  Are the following statements true or false? Correct the false ones.**

**a. A project to build the first space station is launched in  UAE.**

**b. The aim behind building a spaceport is to start space tourism.**

**c. The first spaceport to be built is located in Singapore.**

**d. Spaceflights have already been given permission to operate.**

**3) Read the text and fill in the following table.**

**4) Read the text again and answer the following questions.**

**a. How did the age of space tourism come close to reality?**

**b. What does the expression “a holiday in the heavens” mean in the text?**

**c. Choose the right answer.**

**a) a holiday in paradise        b) a holiday on Earth         c) a holiday in space**

**c. Which country hosts the first spaceport plan?**

**d. Who are the financers of this project?**

**5) Which of the following headlines is best suitable to reading passage?**

**a.  World’s First Spaceport Announced.**

**b.  New Spacecrafts Launched in Space.**

**c.  Space Exploration Supplied With the Latest Technologies.**

**Text Exploration:                                                                                 ( / 7pts)**

**1/ a) Find in the text words closest in meaning to the following.**

**projects = ……………. (1§)                           universal = ……………..  (2§)**

**b) Find in the text words opposite in meaning to the following.**

**further ≠ ………………(1§)                        arrival ≠ …………….. (1§)**

**2/ Match words in column (A) with their corresponding words in column (B) to make compound words.**

**3/ Combine the following sentences using the connector between brackets.**

**· There would have been so many spaceflights to be launched.**

**· Many countries had benefited from this project.                                     (If )**

**4/ Rewrite sentence (b) so that it means the same as sentence (a).**

**(a) I wish I could travel to space, but I don’t have enough money.**

**(b) If ……………………………………………………………………..**

**(a)  I didn’t  enroll to one of these touristic spaceflights because I didn’t see the  advert before. I regret now.**

**(b)  If ………………………………………………………………………………..**

**5/ Classify the  words in the table according to their stressed part.**

**Spaceport—space age—spaceflight—space walk**

**5/ This is a conversation between A and B. Complete what A says.**

**A: ………………………………………….?**

**B: Hello, I’m from Dubai.**

**A: …………………………………….?**

**B: Yes, I heard about it.**

**A: ……………………………………..?**

**B: Well, it seemed to me like something of science fiction. In the beginning I didn’t believe anyone can go in one of these spaceflights.**

**A: ………………………………………..?**

**B: If I were given this chance to travel to space I would think of a way to live there.**

**Part Two: Writing                                                                             ( / 6pts)**

**Topic I: You are the financer of spaceport project of Ras Al-Khaimah city in Dubai. You made a speech to tell people that space tourism will become a reality in the Arab World soon. Write the speech using the notes below.**

**· Space travel / reality / possible / feasible / no more science fiction.**

**· Ordinary people / can go / specific family spaceflights.**

**· Every state / have a spaceport.**

**· Space tourism / space exploration / will flourish and prosper .**

**· Multi-billion dollar industry / will develop / change the Arab World.**

**Topic II:  You are one of the journalists who interviewed Crown Prince Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi of Ras Al-Khaimah city in Dubai, the financer of the world’s first spaceport project. Write the interview.**

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