



## **GRADUATE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION**

### **OPEN TEST**

## **COMMUNICATION SKILLS: ENGLISH**

**NOVEMBER 2017**

**SURNAMES AND NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:**

## HOLIDAYS IN SPACE



Make your reservation now!!!!

Astronauts are not the only people travelling to space anymore. Everyone can buy a ticket and spend their holidays in space, as long as they have the money!

The space tourism industry is officially open for business and tickets cost at least \$20 million for a one-week stay in space. Russia made American businessman Denis Tito the world's first space tourist when he sent him to the *International Space Station* on April 30, 2001.

Russia's *Mir* space station was supposed to be the first destination for space tourists. But in March 2001, the *Russian Aerospace Agency* brought *Mir* down into the Pacific Ocean and this temporarily delayed tourist trips into space.

Space tourism will be one of the most lucrative industries in the 21st century. There are already several space tourism companies planning to build suborbital vehicles and orbital cities within the next two decades. These companies have invested millions, believing that the space tourism industry is about to take off.

However, there seem to be big difficulties. How will ordinary people react to life in space? Today's astronauts spend months training before going into space. They have to be in top form too. Holidays in space will not be for tomorrow, that is certain; but will they finally become true in the more distant future?

Adapted from: <http://science.howstuffworks.com/space-tourism.htm>



## 1. Reading Comprehension (2 points)

### 1. - Are the following statements TRUE or FALSE according to the text? (2 points)

1. - Astronauts are still the only people travelling to space: .....
2. - Mir space station was the first destination for space tourists: .....
3. - The Russian Aerospace Agency brought Mir down in March 2001: .....
4. - Some companies have already spent a lot of money in space tourism: .....

### 2. - Answer the following questions using information from the text and your own words, in full sentences. (2 points)

1. - Who was the first tourist in space?

.....  
.....  
.....

2. - Where was Russia's Mir Station brought down?

.....  
.....  
.....

### 3. - Vocabulary. Find words in the text meaning the following: (1 point)

space explorer .....

any longer .....

for a limited time .....

profitable .....

#### 4. Read the text and choose the correct answer. (2 points)

### Space Tourism



It is true that money can't buy you happiness, but it can certainly buy you a (1)..... to the International Space Station. Until now, space tourism has been limited to the rich: just seven (2)..... have paid millions of (3)..... each for a trip to that station aboard a Russian spaceship.

But that could (4)..... this year, when Virgin Galactic company organises flights to space on a special spacecraft it has (5)..... At \$200,000 a seat, this will open space travelling to many more people. *"Hopefully soon, myself, my daughter, and my son will be the first people to go up into space on a (6)..... craft"*, Richard Branson, the owner of Virgin Galactic said in an interview in (7).....

However, space tourism now is only a real possibility for the super-rich and there (8)..... still millions of people worldwide who won't be able to afford it. And although it could be an enriching experience, there are some (9)..... to space tourism. Many critics have commented that a huge growth in this industry could speed up the process of (10)..... warming. The ozone layer could be damaged further, and the polar regions could suffer.

#### Underline the correct answer:

- |      |             |            |               |               |
|------|-------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| (1)  | ticket      | something  | note          | bill          |
| (2)  | person      | people     | astronaut     | businessman   |
| (3)  | money       | planes     | dollars       | travel        |
| (4)  | spend       | pass       | open          | change        |
| (5)  | built       | rob        | create        | did           |
| (6)  | publication | commercial | advertisement | material      |
| (7)  | year        | last       | November      | month         |
| (8)  | is          | are        | be            | will          |
| (9)  | bad         | worse      | malicious     | disadvantages |
| (10) | global      | worldwide  | international | local         |



