



Section 1

Read the following article about the city of Dubai, in the Middle East. Identify which paragraphs (A to G) contain the information listed in questions 1 to 10 by marking (X) for the correct answer. Paragraphs may be used more than once. If you change your mind, put a line through the box (X) and then indicate your new answer with a (X).

**How to spend 48 Hours in Dubai**

*Shop for spices, gold and perfume in the atmospheric souks<sup>1</sup> or just lie back on the white beaches*

**A Why go now?**

This city promises sun, sand and shopping, of course, but there is much more. A city of the future, it also has a fascinating past – and combines a rich heritage with modern style.

**B Touch Down**

The contenders from London Heathrow to Dubai are British Airways and Virgin Atlantic. Emirates Airlines also have flights to Dubai. Indirect flights are often cheaper: the lowest return fares through [www.opodo.co.uk](http://www.opodo.co.uk) start at £158. The airport is only 4km from the city centre; numerous buses serve various parts of the country while a taxi for the city centre takes 15 minutes.

**C Check in**

The old wooden doors have just opened at the Orient Guest House, a restored courtyard house and one of only two hotels in the historic quarter. There is nothing like hearing the call-to-prayer echo through the narrow streets from your bed in a traditionally decorated room.

**D Take a Hike**

Stroll through the lanes of Bastakiya. The area's elegant courtyard houses were built by Persian merchants early in the 20th century; the wind-towers served as their air-conditioning. Today some are home to small museums and galleries. Knowledgeable staff at the Centre for Cultural Understanding offer guided walks through the quarter, sharing the little-documented history and pointing out architectural details you might otherwise miss.

**E Window Shopping**

Take your pick from the restored wooden arcades of Bur Dubai souk where you can shop for alarm clocks, Bollywood films and have a suit made. This is best visited early evening. You can find anything from perfume to kitchenware.

**F Dining with the Locals**

Eat Arabic at Bastakiah Nights on the edge of the city. This century-old mansion has breathtaking interior rooms set around a courtyard, with water views from the roof terrace. Feast on Middle Eastern meze, served with grace and attention.

**G Cultural Afternoon**

The wonderful Dubai Museum has exhibits on the city's development from fishing village to post-modern metropolis. You should also visit the elegant House of Sheikh Saeed al Maktoum, once the headquarters of Dubai's rulers and former home to the grandfather of Dubai's ruler.

<sup>1</sup> souk = marketplace

(Taken and adapted from the Independent Traveller Magazine, pages 12 & 13, 17 February 2007, [http://travel.independent.co.uk/middle\\_east/article2275687.ece](http://travel.independent.co.uk/middle_east/article2275687.ece))



Questions	Answers							Leave blank
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
1. the companies which fly to Dubai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. places where you can get souvenirs and presents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. the place where you can learn about the royal family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. how far the airport is from Dubai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. how people in Dubai kept their houses cool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. the local food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. cheap tickets to Dubai	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. someone who can show you the most interesting houses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. the way the city has changed through time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. places where you can stay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>(Total 10 marks)</b>							Section 1	



## Section 2

Read the following leaflet from a UK water company to its customers and answer the questions which follow.

### Water Efficiency

#### The picture in the UK

Water is not just a necessity, it is also a home and a haven for wildlife. In the UK, changes in lifestyle, among other things, have caused demand for water to double over the last 50 years – that is a rate of growth that is unsustainable in the long term. The south east of England is one of the driest areas in the UK and within this region the average customer now uses 16% more water per day than the national average. Climate change is also playing its part. Average temperatures have risen over the last 100 years and some predictions suggest the average annual temperature in much of the south east will increase by up to 4.5°C by 2080. Substantial growth in new housing developments will place yet further pressure on the fine balance between managing supply and the demands of customers. There is a risk of a water shortage in the near future as there is a limited supply of water to go around. With the population in the area estimated to grow by over 12% by 2030, this represents a significant challenge for us all.

Leakage of water from the ageing mains network is a major issue for every water company in the UK. Significant investment is in progress to upgrade the ageing network of pipes, which is vulnerable to bursts and leaks. We are speeding up the rate at which we replace old pipes with those made from modern materials and are specifically targeting those areas where customers suffer from most bursts.

We have also decided to meter all properties when they are sold, when they are newly tenanted and when they are newly built. As well as being a fairer way to charge for water use, metering is proven to reduce demand, particularly at peak times during the summer months. We aim for 43% of our domestic customers to have a water meter by the year 2010 and 82% by 2030. We are constantly looking for new ways to promote water efficiency to our domestic, commercial and industrial customers.

In this leaflet we are providing advice on some of the ways that you can help. Remember – a small reduction by all of us now will make a huge difference in the future.

#### The part we play

The water supply is often taken from both rivers and underground water, where it is treated and then distributed through the water pipes. Waste water is collected in sewers and passed to waste water treatment works before being returned to rivers or the sea. In recent years, better waste water treatment has raised the quality of many rivers. This man-made part of the water cycle usually takes a few days. Lower usage will also mean less energy is used in the pumping and treatment processes, reducing carbon emissions from power stations.



**Have a water meter installed**

Customers with a water meter tend to be more careful with their water use and in fact many customers find they are financially better off. If you choose to have a meter installed and are unhappy with metered charges, you can change back to non-metered charges as long as you do this within the first 18 months. For more information visit our website [www.3valleys.co.uk](http://www.3valleys.co.uk). If you would like to apply for a water meter, complete and return the form available on the website.

**Stop running taps unnecessarily**

If you leave the tap running while you clean your teeth or shave, you can waste up to 10 litres of water. Try using a mug of water and turn the tap off so you only use what you need.

**Take a quick shower**

On average, showers use less water. Baths, on the other hand, use at least four times as much water. So, wherever possible, opt for a refreshing shower instead. But be careful with power showers, because they can use more water in five minutes than an average bath.

**Choose energy-efficient white goods**

Try to use your washing machine or dishwasher only when you have a full load. When you need to buy a new one, look for energy efficient ones that use the least amount of water. If you are not sure how water efficient it is, check with the manufacturer before making your purchase.

**The water cycle is a never-ending process.** Water travels on this continuous journey, and has done so for millions of years.

**Stage 1** As the sun beats down it warms the oceans, rivers and lakes. This causes the water to rise into the air as water vapour (known as 'evaporation'). Some of the moisture is also released from trees and plants (known as 'transpiration'). These are continual processes.

**Stage 2** As the water vapour rises in the atmosphere, it cools forming clouds. This process is called 'condensation'. It is the same process that makes you see your breath on a cold winter morning. The clouds will then produce rain or snow which returns to the Earth's surface as water. Too much rainfall (or melting snow) can cause floods through ground run-off. Too little rain causes droughts. Variations in rainfall patterns are a normal occurrence, but these may alter with climate change.

**Stage 3** Rainwater and melting snow flow into lakes and rivers or soak into the ground. Rainfall initially soaks into the ground and is often taken up by plants, although, in summer, most of it re-evaporates. In the winter, when evaporation and transpiration are low, much of the soil water seeps deeper into the ground, which can discharge to rivers or the sea, where the cycle begins again. This process is known as 'recharge'. This process can occur over a few days, but usually takes months or even years.

(Taken and adapted from Three Valley's website, [http://www.3valleys.co.uk/pdf/water\\_efficiency\\_leaflet.pdf](http://www.3valleys.co.uk/pdf/water_efficiency_leaflet.pdf))



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**Questions 11–21 Complete the sentences below with words or phrases from the text. Write no more than FOUR words for each answer.**

11. Water is essential both for humans and for .....
12. The area which gets the least amount of rain in England is the .....
13. Shortage of water is due to lifestyle changes, higher levels of water usage, rising ..... and an increase in housing development.
14. One problem is that many water pipes are old and this can lead to ..... and .....
15. Using a water meter has helped to decrease public ..... for water.
16. It is hoped that ..... of homes will have a water meter by 2030.
17. Water treatment uses electricity which leads to an increase in .....
18. If you are unhappy with your water meter, you should go to the .....
19. Brushing your teeth can use as much as .....
20. Showers are better than baths because they .....
21. You should only buy washing machines which are .....

**Questions 22–25 Complete the notes below. Write no more than TWO words taken from the text for your answers.**

**The water cycle**

- [22] ‘Evaporation’ takes place when river or lake water rises into the atmosphere as .....
- ‘Condensation’ is the process by which clouds are formed.
- Water returns to the Earth in the form of rain or snow.
- [23] An increase in rainfall can lead to .....
- [24] The amount of rainfall is always variable but ..... can have a big impact.
- [25] Water from rain and snow enters lakes or rivers or is used by plants through the .....

**(Total 15 marks)**

Section 2



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## Section 3

Read the following article and answer the questions which follow.

**WHAT LIFE WILL BE LIKE ON THE MOON**

*North American Space Agency (NASA) hopes to start building a permanent base on the moon within 20 years. So what kind of lifestyle can the first lunar residents expect? Alok Jha reports.*

**Housing**

The moonbases of science fiction tend to be airy, well-lit glass domes in which lunar residents wander around effortlessly in futuristic suits. The reality will be a little more mundane and a lot less comfortable. 'Glass domes are not very good at filtering our solar radiation,' says Professor Colin Pillinger of the Open University. 'If you have a solar storm or something like that, you don't want a nice little glass dome over you. You want something a bit more substantial.'

NASA wants its astronauts to live in six modules, shaped like large metal tubes, launched separately and then joined together on the surface of the moon. The atmosphere inside the modules would consist of breathable air, theoretically made by mining and processing oxygen-rich minerals on the lunar surface. Powering the base could best be done with solar panels spread across the south pole of the moon – at certain points in this region, there is almost continuous sunlight. 'Building large solar panels on the base should not be a problem,' says Professor Pillinger.

**Health**

There are lots of unknowns here and the biggest issue is what happens when gravity goes missing. By studying astronauts who have spent long periods in the space station, scientists know that muscles and bones start wasting away when people spend a long time in zero gravity. Whether the same thing would happen on the moon, which has only one-sixth of the Earth's gravity, is uncertain. 'We don't know if the same consequences will follow or whether some of the most harmful ones will not happen at all,' says Professor Ian Crawford of London University.

Professor Crawford also believes that the radiation from the sun is safe enough on a day-to-day basis on the moon, but no one knows what kind of dose a person might get after a long time. 'These are things we have to find out,' he says.

**Food and water**

In the short term, food would have to be brought from Earth. The dream, however, is to grow things in greenhouses. 'You'd grow things hydroponically,' says Professor Pillinger. This would involve suspending plants in a nutrient-rich solution of water. 'Soil is superfluous to plants; it's only there to keep them standing upright,' he adds.

Finding hardy plants to grow in space will also be tricky, though scientists are already working on it: Amy Grunden at North Carolina State University has been working with NASA on food crops that can be grown in harsh off-planet environments. Water is a somewhat easier prospect. One of the reasons that NASA wants to put its base at the moon's south pole is that it suspects that in the permanently shaded craters, there are large pools of frozen water. If that's true, it could easily be mined and used to drink and to create oxygen for habitats.





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### **Moving around**

Dr Harrison Schmitt, who landed on the moon in 1972, says that cross country skiing would be the best way to move around quickly and easily on the moon. 'Once you get a rhythm going it's very easy. You can move yourself forward with a push. On the moon you don't slide, you glide above the surface.' But skiing won't be a long-range solution. For the last few Apollo missions in the 1970s, NASA designed a two-seater buggy that allowed astronauts to explore. The plans now are to design a pressurised vehicle which would allow astronauts to work inside it without spacesuits.

### **Random space danger**

The moon is no place for the faint-hearted. 'The most dangerous thing is the possibility of solar flares because unprotected astronauts could be killed by them,' says Professor Crawford. Fortunately, scientists can predict when flares are on their way.

The moon and Earth are also struck regularly by meteorites. The Earth's atmosphere protects all of us from most of these rocks; the vast majority burn up before getting anywhere near the surface. But there is no protective atmosphere on the moon. Spacesuits are designed to keep astronauts protected from the tiniest rocks, but would be useless against anything bigger. Fortunately, it is rare to see any large rock, according to Professor Crawford, and the risk of getting hit by one is minimal.

So that just leaves those little green men to worry about.

(Taken and adapted from the Guardian G2 magazine, 20 February 2007, pages 14 & 15,  
[http://www.guardian.co.uk/g2/story/0,,2016864,00.html#article\\_continue](http://www.guardian.co.uk/g2/story/0,,2016864,00.html#article_continue))



**Questions 26 to 35**

Look at the statements and the list of names below. Match each statement, 26–35, with an individual or organisation (A to E in the box) according to the text.

Mark (☒) for the correct answers. If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate your new answer with a (☒).

- |          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | Dr Harrison Schmitt       |
| <b>B</b> | NASA                      |
| <b>C</b> | Professor Colin Pillinger |
| <b>D</b> | Professor Ian Crawford    |
| <b>E</b> | Amy Grunden               |

**Statements**

**Answers**

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>26.</b> A lot more research needs to be done.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>27.</b> The living quarters will consist of separate units fitted together.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>28.</b> Radiation from the sun may prove to be a problem.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>29.</b> There may be ice on the moon which can be used by astronauts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>30.</b> The moonbases will need to be strong to protect the astronauts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>31.</b> The consequences of living in a low gravity environment could be quite serious.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>32.</b> Panels used to capture the energy from the sun can be easily added to the moonbase.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>33.</b> Astronauts could move around using skis.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>34.</b> Activity on the surface of the moon could be harmful to astronauts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>35.</b> Vegetables could be grown without using any soil.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Leave blank

**Questions 36 to 40**

**Look at the statements below. Decide whether they are True, False or Not Given according to the text.**

**Mark (☒) for the correct answers. If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate your new answer with a (☒).**

**Statements**

**Answers**

	<b>True</b>	<b>False</b>	<b>Not Given</b>
<b>36.</b> Parts of the moon face the sun almost all the time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>37.</b> Current spacesuits could protect astronauts from all meteorites.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>38.</b> Water has already been found on the moon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>39.</b> Special plastics will be used to build the moonbase.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>40.</b> Current research is trying to identify plants which could be grown on the moon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 3

(Total 15 marks)

**TOTAL FOR READING: 40 MARKS**



**Section 4**

Your school is planning to organise a celebration for all the students at the end of the school year. You are the class representative and your teacher has asked you to write a report about what event your class would prefer. The choices are:

- a sports day
- an arts day
- an international day.

In your report you should:

- say which ONE event the class prefers
- give reasons for choosing this event
- describe what you think your class can do on the day.

You should write **between 100 and 150 words**.

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**Section 5**

You recently ordered some books from a bookshop near your house. However, there was a problem with your order.

Write a letter to the owner of the bookshop. You should:

- explain the situation
- say why you needed the books
- explain what the problem was
- say what you think the bookshop owner should do.

You should write **between 100 and 150 words**.

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Section 5

(Total 20 marks)



## Section 6

Your teacher has asked you to read the following information about the Open University (OU) and write a summary of it for students in your class who are thinking of studying at the Open University.

Read the following information taken from the website of the Open University (OU). Write a summary for students in your class who are thinking about studying at university. Your summary must include the following information from the text:

- the advantages of doing a distance-learning course
- advice to students who might be thinking of doing such a course.

### THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

#### Introducing the OU

Want to study in your own time, in your own home or workplace? Then the Open University is for you. It is the UK's biggest provider of distance learning.

#### What is the OU?

The OU is a distance-learning university founded to bring higher education to people who are unable to study at a conventional university. It's perfect for people with jobs, children, disabilities, or commitments that make it hard to go to a fixed place. And for most courses you don't need any previous qualifications. The OU is rated highly by employers, and OU qualifications are recognised by many professions.

#### The UK's largest university

More people study at the OU than at any other university in the UK. We have:

- 150,000 undergraduates
- 30,000 people taking postgraduate courses
- 11,000 people studying for OU higher degrees
- 10,000 students with disabilities
- 25,000 students outside the UK.

Nearly all students are studying part-time.

About 70 per cent of OU undergraduates have full-time jobs.

Over 50,000 students are sponsored by their employers.

#### How does distance learning work at the OU?

Distance learning means that you study on your own, at home or wherever suits you. The Open University's style of distance learning is called 'supported open learning'. This means you study in your own time. You read course material, work on course activities, and write assignments. 'Supported' means you have help from a tutor, the student services staff at regional centres, and centralised areas such as the OU's library.

You can also contact other students through the OU's online conferencing system, tutorials and informal study groups, and events and clubs organised by the OU's Student Union.

With each course you take, you earn credit points towards a qualification. You can decide which qualification to work towards from the start, or you can pick courses that interest you and think about the qualification to aim for later.

#### Course materials, computers and the Internet

Most courses use printed paper materials. Many courses also include some interactive materials such as a CD, DVD or video. Most students choose to write their assignments using a computer. Many courses have a web site and an online computer conference and you'll need access to a computer with internet to make use of these.





**Home study at The Open University**

Most of our students study in their homes at times that suit them. For most courses, you just need a quiet corner that you can use for activities such as writing assignments or home experiments on science courses. You'll often see OU students reading their course materials while travelling. An hour on a train, bus or plane is a good time to get ahead.

**What do you do in a course?**

Each course has a study guide explaining what you need to do. You also get a timetable for each week's activities, deadlines for your assignments and the date of your course exam if there is one. When your course starts, you'll receive course materials by post. For each course you will have a tutor to help you: someone who is an expert in the subject, and who appreciates what it is like to study at a distance. We will send you your tutor's name and contact details just before your course starts. Most courses have tutorials or residential schools. Tutorials are mostly optional and give you a chance to meet your tutor and some fellow students; and to receive guidance and feedback on your assignments. Residential or day schools are held at various locations around the UK (or abroad, for language courses). They may be a required component to pass the course.

And, you'll usually have an examination. Most OU courses end with an examination on a scheduled date. You will be given the address of the examination centre (and the examination date) when your course starts. Exams may seem daunting, but most students find that revising helps them to pull together everything they have learned. There is also the elation of passing an exam, of getting something that proves to everyone – yourself, employers, family and friends – that you can succeed.

(Taken and adapted from OU's website, [www.open.ac.uk](http://www.open.ac.uk))

You should write **between 100 and 150 words**.

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