SOCRATES

Module E — Full Practice Exam · 90 minutes · 100 points

WRITTEN RECEPTION (70 points)

(ACCESS TO INFORMATION FROM WRITTEN TEXTS)

Read the text and then answer questions 1–9. In the multiple-choice questions, circle the number of the correct answer. In the other questions, follow the instructions.

EXPLORING THE DEEP OCEAN

I In January 1960, two explorers climbed into a compact steel cabin and sank gradually into the darkness of the Pacific Ocean. After almost five hours, they reached the bottom of the Mariana Trench, nearly eleven kilometres below the surface — deeper than Mount Everest is high. For half a century after that dive, fewer people visited the deepest regions of the ocean than walked on the Moon — only recently has that begun to change. Scientists frequently say we know more about Mars than about our own seas.

II Exploring the deep is exceptionally difficult. Below two hundred metres, sunlight disappears completely and the water is close to freezing. Worse still, the weight of the ocean presses down with crushing force: at the bottom of a trench, the pressure is like an elephant standing on your thumbnail. Any vehicle that travels there must be constructed from special materials, and a single tiny crack could be fatal. For numerous decades, these considerable dangers confined most researchers near the surface.

III Contemporary technology is finally opening the door. Today, scientists deploy robotic submarines, controlled from ships far above, to film and collect specimens for hours in complete darkness. Autonomous underwater vehicles can map the seabed on their own, while new manned submersibles transport pilots safely to the deepest trenches. Thanks to these machines, researchers have discovered underwater mountain ranges, hot springs on the ocean floor and thousands of strange creatures, including fish that produce their own light.

IV Why does this exploration matter? The deep ocean influences the weather of the entire planet and conceals clues about how life on Earth began. Some newly discovered creatures produce chemicals that may lead to new medicines, and studying animals that survive extreme pressure teaches engineers how to design stronger materials. There are practical considerations too: accurate maps of the seabed make shipping safer and help countries prepare for earthquakes and the enormous waves they can cause.

V The great age of ocean discovery may be just beginning. An international project aims to map the entire ocean floor by the end of the decade, and engineers are designing more affordable robots that schools and universities will be able to operate. More than eighty per cent of the deep sea remains unexplored, so the next generation of scientists still has an

entire hidden world to uncover. As one renowned oceanographer put it, the best way to explore another planet is to start with our own.

QUESTIONS — PART I (70 points)

1. What happened in January 1960?

i. Two explorers walked on the Moon for the first time.

ii. Two explorers reached the deepest point of the ocean.

iii. Scientists finished mapping the Pacific Ocean.

iv. A steel cabin was lost near Mount Everest.

(7 points)

2. Deep-ocean vehicles must be built very carefully from special materials. COMPLETE: This is because a single tiny crack

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(8 points)

3. Give TWO reasons why exploring the deep ocean is difficult, according to paragraph II.

(1)

.....

(2)

.....

(8 points)

4. What have researchers discovered thanks to the new machines? Give ONE example. (paragraph III)

ANSWER:

.....

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(8 points)

5. Studying deep-sea animals can be useful on land. COMPLETE: Animals that survive extreme pressure teach engineers how to

.....

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(8 points)

6. According to paragraph IV, how can accurate maps of the seabed help countries?

i. They make shipping safer and help countries prepare for earthquakes.

ii. They help fishermen catch more fish every year.

iii. They show scientists where to find new medicines.

iv. They teach students how to swim safely in deep water.

(7 points)

7. Why are scientists interested in some newly discovered deep-sea creatures?

i. The creatures can warn people about earthquakes.

ii. They can be sold to aquariums around the world.

iii. They help ships travel faster through deep water.

iv. Their chemicals may lead to new medicines.

(8 points)

8. What does the international project aim to do by the end of the decade? (paragraph V)

ANSWER:

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(8 points)

9. What is the main purpose of the text?

i. To warn readers that deep-sea diving is too dangerous.

ii. To prove that Mars is easier to study than the ocean.

iii. To describe how technology is helping people explore the deep ocean and why it matters.

iv. To explain how the Mariana Trench was formed.

(8 points)

PART II — VOCABULARY (30 points)

Answer questions 10–14. In each question, match THREE of the six words or expressions (1–6) to the definitions. Write the number of the word next to the definition.

10. *(6 points)*

1. mend	2. spoil	3. divide
4. knowledge	5. understand	6. farther/further

____ a) information, understanding, or awareness that you have about something

____ b) to calculate how many times one number goes into another

____ c) know how someone feels and why they behave that way

11. *(6 points)*

1. access	2. powder	3. can tell
4. look at sth	5. incredible	6. costume

____ a) to be able to know something from what you see or hear

____ b) special clothes worn to look like someone else

____ c) very good, surprising or difficult to believe

12. *(6 points)*

1. exception	2. crash	3. drunk
4. get in touch	5. do	6. financial

____ a) connected with money or managing money

____ b) to hit something hard, causing damage or an accident

____ c) to contact someone by phone, message, or email

13. *(6 points)*

1. cope	2. necessarily	3. bell
4. base	5. spread	6. deaf

____ a) to deal successfully with a difficult situation

____ b) a metal object that rings to make sound

____ c) to reach or affect more people or a larger area

14. *(6 points)*

1. free	2. final	3. explode
4. sit up/stand up straight	5. from	6. profession

____ a) hold the body upright and not bent

____ b) showing the place or point of starting

____ c) a type of work that needs special training and skill

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