

مسابقة في مادة اللغة الإنكليزية وأدائها  
المدة: ساعتان

الاسم:  
الرقم:

**Part One: Reading**

(Score: 12/20)

Read the following text in which the writer sheds light on the mystery of UFOs through various sightings. Answer the questions that follow when you are through with the reading.

**1** A UFO is an unidentified flying object that cannot be explained by the observer. Sightings\* of unusual flying objects date back to ancient times. Most of these objects, such as meteors\*, have been considered natural, but **others** are believed to be supernatural made by intelligent creatures that might exist elsewhere in the universe.

**2** In old times, such sightings caused a lot of fear and even panic; however, with the help of modern technology, UFOs have become more understandable than they were before. They started to be widely discussed after a sighting in the United States on June 24, 1947. While flying his private plane near Mount Rainier, Washington, an American businessman was amazed to see nine bright objects flying nearby at incredible speed. Thousands of other sightings followed later. In about 20 years, a total of 12,618 cases were reported, of which 701 were listed as unexplained.

**3** A similar happening was documented in Lebanon on August 4, 1972. A Lebanese professor of art was one of those who witnessed the sighting of a UFO over a valley in Mount Lebanon. He, his wife, and two of his cousins were sitting out on the terrace of their house, enjoying an early clear-sky evening, when one of his cousins cried out, "Look at that beautiful red light!" They all looked directly overhead and observed a very bright red object. As they were astonished, it emitted a big puff of black smoke and began to move off into the southwest. **He** described the object seen through the binoculars\* as two flying saucers placed on top of each other with a chain of windows all around. There was a yellow light inside that looked like house lights at night. On top of the craft, there was a dome\* also lit up in the same way as the windows. The object proceeded steadily at high speed, and then it disappeared.

**4** Throughout the last sixty years, UFOs have become a universal cultural phenomenon. Folklorist Thomas Bullard writes, "**They** have invaded modern mind, and endless streams of books, articles, movies, cartoons, etc. confirm their popularity." Yet, no matter how popular they have become, they still cause a lot of disagreement whether they really exist or not. Until now, not any sighting has been scientifically proved. But is science really able to explain all unusual phenomena in our world?

The following defined words might be of some help to you.

- \***sighting**: an act of catching sight of something unusual  
\***meteor**: a piece of rock or metal that makes a bright line in the night sky when it falls down towards the Earth  
\***binoculars**: a pair of special glasses that you hold up to your eyes to look at objects that are a long distance away  
\***dome**: a round roof

**Questions**

**A.** Use your own words to answer each of the following questions in a complete sentence.

1. What are the jobs of the people who sighted the UFOs? (Score: 0.5)
2. Why did UFOs cause a lot of fear in old times? ((Score: 01)
3. What two common characteristics of a UFO are there in the two reported sightings? (Score: 01)

**B.** What does each of the underlined words in the text refer to? (Score: 1.5)

1. Others (Paragraph 1)
2. He (Paragraph 3)
3. They (Paragraph 4)

- C.** Complete the following sentences, referring to the information stated in the text. (Score: 3)
1. Out of 12618 reported cases in about 20 years, 11917 .... .
  2. There is no agreement on the nature of UFOs because .... .
  3. The writer ends the text with a question to suggest that.... .
- D.** Pick one word from the text that can replace each of the underlined expressions in the following sentences. (Score: 2)
1. A huge two-head snake appeared from the cave, causing a sudden strong feeling of fear among the explorers. (Paragraph 2)
  2. I find it almost too strange to be believed that a UFO can be in the form of two saucers. (Paragraph 2)
  3. We all stood watching the monster sailing out to sea until it became impossible to be seen any longer over the horizon. (Paragraph 3)
  4. We were very surprised to find the temple still in its original condition. (Paragraph 3)
- E.** Each of the following sentences contains ONE grammatical error. Identify the error and correct it. (Score: 1.5)
1. The man was confusing by the strange sighting of aliens coming from another planet.
  2. Scientists are discussing this mysterious case for two months before they found the solution.
  3. Either the staff or the chief officer are investigating the disappearance of the corpse.
- F.** Rewrite each of the following sentences, starting it as indicated, without changing the meaning. (Score: 1.5)
1. He said, "Many other similar cases were explained in the last few years."  
He explained that many..... .
  2. The scientist discovered interesting facts. His findings were very important.  
The scientist .....discovered interesting facts
  3. A similar happening was documented by a Lebanese professor in Lebanon on August 4.  
A Lebanese professor ..... .

**Part Two: Writing**

**(Score: 8/20)**

Write an account about something mysterious, other than UFOs, you have experienced or heard about, such as strange events, dreams, ghosts, superstitions, etc. Describe what exactly happened.

Copy and fill in the following graphic organizer into your booklet. Provide your composition with a title, and use the ideas that you have filled to develop a well-organized essay of about 150-200 words.

Title	
Setting (time and place)	
Characters involved	
Events	
Your impressions	

(Score: 02 for **Graphic Organizer** and **Title**, 03 for **Ideas**, and 03 for **Language**)

**Intermediate Certificate Exam**  
**English Language**  
**Session of July 2006**

**Answer Key**

- A. 1. The American is a *businessman* and the Lebanese is a *professor of art*. **0.5 pt.**  
2. They caused a lot of fear because of *lack of technology (they were not understandable)*. **1 pt.**  
3. The first is *brightness* and the second is *speed* (bright and fast). **1 pt.**
- B. 1. *Others* 1 refers to *objects*. **0.5 pt.**  
2. *He* refers to a Lebanese *professor*. **0.5 pt.**  
3. *They* refers to *UFOs*. **0.5 pt.**
- C. 1. Out of 12618 reported cases in about 20 years, 11917 *were explained or identified*. **1 pt.**  
2. There is no agreement on the nature of UFOs because *many people disagree or are not certain whether UFOs exist or not*. **1 pt.**  
*because not any sighting of UFOs has been scientifically proved*  
3. The writer ends the text with a question to suggest that *science is still unable to explain such mysterious events/all unusual phenomena*. **1 pt.**
- D. 1. panic **0.5 pt**  
2. incredible **0.5 pt**  
3. disappeared **0.5 pt**  
4. astonished **0.5 pt**
- E. 1. confusing → *confused* **0.5 pt**  
2. are discussing → *had been discussing / had discussed* **0.5 pt**  
3. are → is / officer → *officers* **0.5 pt**
- F. 1. He explained that many *other similar cases had been explained in the previous / last few years*. **0.5 pt**  
2. The scientist *whose findings were very important* discovered interesting facts. **0.5 pt**  
3. A Lebanese professor *documented a similar happening in Lebanon on August 4*. **0.5 pt**

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أسس التصحيحIntermediate Certificate Exam  
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## Answer Key

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2. They caused a lot of fear because of *lack of technology* (*they were not understandable*). **1 pt.**  
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- C. 1. Out of 12618 reported cases in about 20 years, 11917 *were explained or identified*. **1 pt.**  
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