

TEST 1

1. VOCABULARY

- A.
- advertisement
 - donation
 - endangered
 - compilation
 - requirements
 - priceless
 - creative
 - artists
- B.
- b
 - b
 - c
 - d
 - a
 - b
 - a
 - c
- C.
- reputable
 - portrait
 - familiar
 - shape
 - stunning
 - bound
 - work
 - knowledge

- D.
- onlookers
 - heirloom
 - dedicated
 - accessible
 - definitions
 - meantime
 - primitive
 - published

2. GRAMMAR

- E.
- who Jessica was talking to / who was talking to Jessica bought the house next to hers.
 - which they were attending was destroyed by the fire.
 - whose car I am driving, is away on holiday.
 - most of whom have studied abroad, live in London.

- where the 2010 World Cup was held, is a fascinating country.
- whose cottage is near the beach, is 75 years old.
- which was built in the Middle Ages, was bought by a duke / which was bought by a duke, was built in the Middle Ages.
- which is a state in the southern US, is often hit by tropical storms.

- F.
- to win
 - Gardening
 - trying
 - cleaning
 - to see
 - to buy
 - having
 - to pay

- to learn
- to see
- to afford
- drinking

- G.
- lie
 - be
 - have taken
 - have said
 - have brought
 - have left
 - have let
 - be

3. READING

- H.
- b
 - d
 - c
 - d
 - c
 - d

4. LISTENING

- I.
- b
 - b
 - b
 - a
 - b

Listening Transcript

William: Hey, Richard, what are you up to?

Richard: I'm just looking at this magazine. It's got all the art and culture news.

William: Anything interesting?

Richard: Look at this article about that boy, Freddie Taylor. He was discovered by a Spanish artist while he was on holiday in Ibiza. He was doodling on a tablecloth. Now, he has his own exhibition of paintings at the Winchester gallery. He's only 13! He's three years younger than me.

William: Oh yes. I've heard of him. He does detailed paintings of towns and villages. My dad really likes his pictures as they remind him of the place he grew up.

Richard: Really? Let's read more about him. It says he's a painter in the classical sense, creating realist works of art. It's really good young people like Freddie are making art more popular. I wish I could get discovered by an art dealer and become rich and famous.

William: Maybe you should enter this art competition, where is it now... Here it is. They're looking for exciting new talented artists.

Richard: Do you have to be a painter?

William: No, you can do just about anything; they even allow installation art. I really like installation art, it's so interesting. I loved those slides in the Tate Modern by that Belgian artist, Carsten

Höller, I think his name was.

Richard: Yes, I remember that. It's great that art can make you think and you can have fun at the same time.

William: Look, here's an advert for the Tate Modern. I wonder what exhibition they have at the moment.

Richard: Is there any installation art?

William: Not at the moment. But there is a big Picasso show, that could be interesting.

Richard: I'm not really a big fan of Picasso.

William: No? Anyway, what kind of work are you going to enter into the art competition? I think you should enter some of your photographs, you are really talented and you won an award a few years ago, didn't you?

Richard: Not exactly, I came third. And it was only a school competition, this is a national competition. I'd be a bit nervous showing my work to the whole country. What if people thought it was rubbish?

William: Don't be silly. Anyway, it's only natural, you're not a well-known artist yet. But you'll have to get used to it if you want to be famous. Listen, you should just send some stuff. You've got nothing to lose.

Richard: I suppose you're right. Maybe I will.

William: I'll come to your first big exhibition.

Richard: Thanks.

TEST 2

1. VOCABULARY

- A.
1. admittance / admission
 2. applicants
 3. contestants
 4. beneficial
 5. economical
 6. location
 7. comparison
 8. curiosity

- B.
1. going through
 2. turned out
 3. come into
 4. came round
 5. turned down
 6. go over
 7. come up with
 8. turned up

- C.
1. a
 2. b
 3. b
 4. c
 5. a
 6. c
 7. c
 8. c

- D.
1. For instance
 2. in need of
 3. On behalf of
 4. on account of
 5. in reply
 6. with regard to
 7. In fact
 8. As a result

2. GRAMMAR

- E.
1. on top of the hill is thought to be in danger of collapsing.
 2. about the new metro lines are currently being discussed.
 3. is said to have been very brave.

4. was believed to have stolen the money.
- F.
1. are bought, have become
 2. was asked
 3. expected
 4. be reached
 5. was held
 6. belong, be returned

- G.
1. in case of an headache
 2. had such a terrible headache
 3. is not close enough to
 4. such a lot of rain
 5. despite his parents'

- H.
1. have my plants watered
ask your brother
get Paul to feed / have Paul feed

2. has his hair cut
trim beards
trims his beard
3. is having her computer updated
do

3. READING

- I.
1. H
 2. E
 3. B
 4. D
 5. A
 6. G
 7. C

4. LISTENING

- J.
1. b
 2. c
 3. b
 4. c
 5. b
 6. a
 7. c
 8. c
 9. b
 10. b

Listening Transcript

Interviewer: With us today on the show is Professor Jeb Holmes who is going to talk to us about urbanisation or in other words, the making of cities. Welcome, Professor Holmes.

Professor: Thank you.

Interviewer: So, Professor, tell us when did all this begin?

Professor: With the Romans and the Ancient Greeks, of course. In ancient Greece they had city states which were called 'polis', while the word city actually comes from the Latin word civitas which meant an organised community.

Interviewer: Can you tell us, Professor, what is it that actually makes a city?

Professor: Well, in the old days it was walls and, in fact, in many cities you can still see the ruins of those walls. However, these days, walls don't mean anything. So, how do we define a city these days? That is a very tricky question. Do you include all the suburbs or outlying area or do you just include the city centre? For example, depending on which boundaries you use, Tokyo in Japan can have a population ranging from eight million up to forty million. No matter how you define a city, there is no getting away from the fact that cities play a very important part in our lives today and will do in the years that lie ahead. And that leads us to the question of

what roles modern cities need to fulfil. In an attempt to answer that question very briefly, I would say that first of all a city should cover people's needs as far as accommodation and other basic necessities are concerned. But it is also important that a city should also be able to provide entertainment and other outlets for people to spend their free time constructively. Because, as the old saying goes, 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. People are much happier and as a result, more motivated and accomplish more when they lead well-rounded lives.

1. Nowadays, how can we understand where a city starts and finishes?
2. What is the population of Tokyo?
3. What's the most important thing a city should provide its inhabitants with?
4. Why is it important that people should be able to enjoy their leisure time?

Interviewer: Now Professor, how about telling us a bit about how cities evolved in the first place?

Professor: Why not? And of course, I think most of you probably know that cities have existed for millennia and their success or lack of it depended on the civilisation which built them. The first city civilisations were river valley civilisations and they began over six thousand years ago. In fact, some of those

settlements still exist today; for example, Cairo on the Nile in Egypt and Babylon or modern day Baghdad on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. These forerunners to present day cities were located on fertile plains next to large rivers. They were also in parts of the world with a warm climate. This, in combination with a plentiful supply of water, made it ideal for growing crops and raising animals to provide food for the populations of the first cities. Over time these small settlements grew.

in the world with a population of over one million and then just a hundred years ago, there were only three cities with a million plus population. Whereas today, there are almost three hundred. In 1950, fewer than 30% of the people on the planet lived in cities but in the first few years of the twenty first century, urban dwellers outnumber rural ones for the first time in history and by 2025 the inhabitants of our world's cities will number five billion, which means 86% of the entire population. In fact, this move has been called the biggest migration in human history.

5. What ensured an ancient city's success ?
6. When were the first cities built ?
7. Where were the first cities always located ?

Interviewer: What makes a city continue to grow the way we have seen in recent years?

Professor: Cities certainly have grown. You know, two hundred years ago there was only one city

8. How many cities had a population of over a million one hundred years ago?
9. When did city dwellers first outnumber rural dwellers?
10. How many people will occupy cities by 2025?

TEST 3

1. VOCABULARY

A.

1. reasonable
2. happiness
3. unemployed
4. impractical
5. endurance
6. frustration
7. illness
8. exhaustion

B.

1. to light
2. on my nerves
3. a stop
4. in handy
5. even with
6. to terms with

C.

1. taking down
2. brought about

3. brought back

4. take on

5. took over

6. take up

7. bringing in

8. brought up

9. takes after

10. bring round

D.

1. having second thoughts

2. interrupted his train of

3. with food for thought

4. to be seen to be

5. penny for your

2. GRAMMAR

E.

1. The decorator suggested combining earthy colours and wooden furniture.

2. Linda apologised for

forgetting/having

forgotten to call me the

night before/the previous

night.

3. Mrs Robinson accused

that man of having

robbed the bank that

morning.

4. I wondered what the

artist had been trying to

represent in that work.

5. Ken admitted to being

responsible for the car

accident.

6. Neal begged Ryan not to

tell Dad who had broken

the window.

F.

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. b

G.

1. he had become a Maths teacher.

2. we left; it's getting late.

3. I weren't on a diet /

I could have some cheesecake.

4. people didn't enter his room.

5. if he were superior to everyone else.

6. you hadn't borrowed my car without asking.

3. READING

H.

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. a

5. c 6. d

4. LISTENING

I.

1. d 2. b 3. f

4. a 5. c

Listening Transcript

Speaker 1: I used to play football for a Sunday League team. It was hard getting up in the morning after a night out, but it was only when I stopped playing that I realised the benefits. With no sport in my life, I started feeling tired all the time, and it was affecting my work because I couldn't concentrate. So, I took up tennis and everything changed. My mind became clear again and I was full of energy. It's definitely true that sport is not only about staying physically fit.

Speaker 2: I work as a graphic designer for a small company. After being there for a couple of years, I seemed to lose my enthusiasm for work and I even started getting into arguments with my colleagues for no reason. To put an end to this negativity, I came up with an idea. I started up a company basketball team. Most people were really enthusiastic and although we aren't very good individually, we came together as a team and played really well. Also, it improved the atmosphere at work so much.

Speaker 3: I played a lot of sports at school, but the only one I really liked was tennis. I had a great doubles partner, Lee, and we won the school tournament almost every year. Lee wanted to continue playing after we left school but I found it difficult to find the time. In the end, he convinced me to enter a few tournaments with him, but we had to travel to the other end of the country. And when we got there, we'd

get beaten heavily. Lee said we needed more practice if we wanted to succeed. He suggested getting up at six in the morning every day! But I just wanted to relax and hang out with friends. It wasn't worth it for me, so I just quit. Lee wasn't happy, but I didn't want tennis to control my life.

Speaker 4: I have three sons and they all play volleyball. They're quite good and they really enjoy playing, so I don't mind giving them lifts all the time to practice and matches. The thing is, it affects my free time dramatically. I used to love sport, too. Golf was my game. I'd get up early in the morning and play a round of golf before breakfast. Not any more. I'm on such a tight schedule that I had to cut it out. I still need to exercise, so I bought an exercise bike for the garage. It's not as exciting as sport, obviously, but if I haven't got the time, what can I do?

Speaker 5: Sport is very important to me. I play cricket for a local team. I'm always competitive and I really hate losing. I get that from my father. He sometimes plays for our team when we don't have enough players. He's getting old now, but he can still play. It's very good for him. My eldest son also plays now. He's not quite old enough for the team yet, but he's getting there. I think it's important for teenagers to get involved in sports. It keeps them off the streets and gives their lives some focus.

TEST 4

1. VOCABULARY

- A.
1. b 2. c 3. a 4. b
5. d 6. c 7. b 8. b
9. c 10. a

- B.
1. unqualified
2. unprecedented
3. instalments
4. allowance
5. incomprehensible
6. inconceivable
7. compensation
8. countless

- C.
1. market value
2. concern
3. promptly
4. bulk
5. grant
6. on
7. premonition
8. severance
9. fruition
10. annual income

2. GRAMMAR

- D.
1. c 2. d 3. c 4. c
5. a 6. a 7. b 8. d
9. a 10. a

- E.
1. have been studying
French for three years
2. were in your position, I
would seriously consider
3. first restaurant was better
than the second
4. it is / would be a good
idea to speak
5. you change your eating
habits
6. is not able to come

- F.
1. best 2. most
3. better 4. much
5. more 6. so

3. READING

- G.
1. c 2. a 3. d 4. d
5. b 6. d 7. c 8. b

4. LISTENING

- H.
1. fulfilment
2. services
3. brand
4. writing skills-marketing
experience
5. plans
6. public relations
7. easy to use
8. entrepreneurs
9. cost-effective

Listening Transcript

The world has changed dramatically in the last decade, and, as a consequence, so has the job market. Technological advancements, changes in environmental policies and the global recession have all contributed to the creation of new jobs that didn't exist a few years ago. Brand new job descriptions mean brand new opportunities for job-seekers, and, potentially, greater career fulfilment in the long run.

Let's examine the changes in the media industry first. Social networking sites have changed the way in which we communicate with one another, and they have also changed the way in which companies do business. Many organisations are now using social networking sites to advertise their services and to interact with customers. This has led to the creation of two new jobs in the media industry: social media manager and blogger. Social media managers use social media tools to provide information to customers and promote awareness of a brand. They also keep an eye on social networking sites to track trends and anticipate their customers' future needs and interests. If you are familiar with social media tools, have good communication skills and a marketing background, this could be the job for you.

Bloggers are writers who post their ideas, comments or opinions online on a daily basis. Bloggers either work for themselves, or for large corporations. Companies often employ bloggers to help promote new products or to create an awareness of the company's objectives. Strong writing skills and marketing experience are required for this position.

Rapid technological advancements have also created new job opportunities in the business sector. IT professionals are becoming more specialised; for example, companies are now seeking to employ 'business continuity planners' – these individuals are responsible for creating plans to protect companies from cyber attacks.

And there's another interesting business trend worth mentioning: the rise of telecommuters. Telecommuters are people who work for companies from their homes. Much of the work they do is conducted on the phone and on the Internet. Some telecommuters own their own companies, and they call themselves 'virtual business service providers'. They provide large companies with a range of services, including customer service and public relations.

Let's move on to the interactive entertainment industry, specifically video game manufacture. Does the idea of playing video games all day appeal to any of you? Well, you're in luck, because those of you with design and computer skills can now apply for a job as a 'user experience designer'. User experience designers are employed by video game manufacturers to ensure that the video games they produce are easy to use. Essentially, the user experience designer's job is to ensure that the customer enjoys using the games. Nice job, if you can get it!

We're all aware that the recession has had a significant impact on global economies. As a result, more and more people have been forced to tighten their belts and this is actually good news for some entrepreneurs. We've all heard of interior designers, but have you heard of 'interior redesigners'? I see you shaking your heads! Well, interior redesigners are people who redecorate your home using your existing furniture and belongings. Often, they'll move pieces of furniture into different rooms, or give items a fresh coat of paint. It's certainly a cost-effective way to give your home an exciting new look! If you have a flair for design and decorating, this type of work could appeal to you.

Today, I've listed just some of the exciting new job opportunities that have emerged in recent years; there are many more, and it would be worth your while to conduct some of your own research – you might just find the job of your dreams!

TEST 5

1. VOCABULARY

- A.
1. c 2. a 3. b 4. b
5. d 6. a 7. c 8. b
9. c 10. c

- B.
1. wouldn't be caught dead
2. on my/the way to school
3. jumped out of my skin
4. has been feeling down in the dumps
5. has been on cloud nine
6. makes my blood boil

- C.
1. interred
2. disorientated
3. disarm

4. brim
5. refrain
6. orbit
7. lurched
8. immense
9. halted
10. reign

- D.
1. within 2. in 3. on
4. off 5. on 6. at/on
7. On 8. in

2. GRAMMAR

- E.
1. c 2. b 3. a 4. d
5. d 6. b 7. c 8. c
9. a 10. b

- F.
1. Not having his telephone number, I was unable to call him to invite him over.
2. Shocked after seeing the destruction caused by the earthquake, the residents couldn't make any comment.
3. Having finished my work, I was ready to leave.
4. Located on a beautiful beach, the hotel is a perfect holiday choice.
5. Standing in the centre of the city, the skyscraper attracts many sightseers.

6. Used regularly, this sunscreen will protect you from the dangerous rays of the sun.

3. READING

- G.
1. T 2. NM 3. T 4. NM
5. T 6. T 7. T 8. F

4. LISTENING

- H.
1. b 2. c 3. c
4. c 5. a 6. b

Listening Transcripts

1.

Man 1: Hi Fred, welcome back! How was your holiday?

Man 2: It was fantastic, Henry! Sweden is a wonderful place! And the best part was the hotel we stayed in... it was made of ice!

Man 1: You stayed at the Ice Hotel? How was it?

Man 2: Cold! The temperature inside the hotel was minus five degrees, so we had to dress very warmly!

Man 1: Minus five degrees? That is cold! I heard that they build the hotel from scratch each winter, is that true?

Man 2: Yes, it's true. Each November, scores of builders and ice architects work tirelessly to turn tons of ice and snow into a functional hotel. Once the basic structure has been built, ice artists are enlisted to add the finishing touches. The artists are also responsible for crafting the magnificent ice sculptures that are displayed throughout the hotel. Unfortunately, the hotel melts in the spring, and all that hard work disappears in a matter of days.

Man 1: Well I hope you took some photos!

Man 2: Of course I did.

Man 1: So what else did you do while you were in Sweden?

Man 2: We went cross-country skiing and snowboarding. It was lots of fun!

Man 1: It sounds great! Would you mind giving me your travel agent's details, Fred? I think it's time to book my next trip!

2.

Calling all adventure-seekers! For a holiday with a difference, why not stay at the Jules Undersea Lodge? Located at the bottom of the Emerald Lagoon in Key Largo, Florida, the Jules Undersea Lodge is the world's first underwater hotel. Yes, you heard correctly, this hotel is underwater, and the only way to enter it is to dive down into it!

Not a certified diver? No problem! We have expert diving instructors on hand who'll give beginner divers a three-hour diving crash course. It's easier than you think! Still not convinced? Well, here's the best part: all the guest rooms at Jules Undersea Lodge have enormous windows which allow you to admire the wonders of the ocean from the comfort of your bed! It's truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

And now, this incredible experience can be yours... for free! That's right, we're offering you the chance to win a free holiday at Jules Undersea Lodge. For more details on this amazing offer, buy this month's Travel Now magazine... on sale now!

Jules Undersea Lodge: underwater and out of this world!

3.

Presenter: Good morning, everyone, and welcome to another instalment of You Won't Believe Where I Work! We're very lucky to have Ronald Desmond in the studio with us today; Ronald is a manager at the Ariau Amazon Towers Hotel in fabulous Brazil! Welcome, Ronald!

Ronald: Thanks, Steve!

Presenter: Ronald, tell us about your unusual place of work.

Ronald: As you just mentioned, Steve, I work at the Arianu Amazon Towers Hotel, which is located northwest of the city of Manaus, in the heart of the Amazon rain forest. The hotel is built on stilts, and consists of eight towers that are linked to each other by a series of wooden catwalks.

Presenter: So the hotel is above the rain forest?

Ronald: Yes. Amazing, isn't it?

Presenter: What was the inspiration for this very unusual design?

Ronald: Well, Steve, the indigenous peoples of the Amazon have been building their houses on

stilts for centuries. They did this in order to protect the forest's fragile ecosystem. The architects of the hotel decided that it would be a great idea to follow suit.

Presenter: Incredible! How many rooms does the hotel have?

Ronald: There are 291 rooms and suites.

Presenter: Are there any amenities?

Ronald: Yes, there are three swimming pools, an observation tower and two restaurants – and they're all above the trees!

Presenter: The views must be spectacular!

Ronald: They certainly are – I think I have the best job in the world!

FINAL TEST

(MODULES 1-3)

1. VOCABULARY

A.

1. c 2. d 3. b 4. a
5. c 6. c 7. d 8. c
9. b 10. a 11. a 12. d
13. a 14. c 15. a

B.

1. immigrants
2. correspondent
3. pointless
4. endurance
5. representatives
6. unconvinced

7. leadership

8. informative

2. GRAMMAR

C.

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d
5. b 6. c 7. b 8. c
9. a 10. d 11. d 12. a
13. c 14. d 15. a

D.

1. five of which
2. is said to have been invented by

3. I would fail the test unless I studied

4. should have your car serviced (by the mechanic)

5. no circumstances should the parcel be given

3. READING

E.

1. a 2. b 3. b 4. c
5. a 6. a 7. c

4. LISTENING

F.

1. tsunami
2. (geological) studies
3. ancient legend / legend of Atlantis
4. fantasy
5. recorded history / Solon
6. (proposed) sites
7. (historical) event
8. (great) eruption
9. flooding

Listening Transcript

When the disaster struck, it did so with terrifying swiftness. First came a huge earthquake, followed by a tsunami which engulfed the whole island. Those who survived lived only long enough to witness an even greater horror. Unable to withstand the titanic forces unleashed against it, the island began to break apart and sink beneath the sea.

Such was the fate of the fabled island of Atlantis - at least, according to the Greek philosopher Plato. Even today, almost 2400 years after his retelling of a legend already circulating in Ancient Egypt, the story of Atlantis has lost none of its drama. Yet until recently, few academics regarded it as anything more than a myth.

But now astonishing new evidence is emerging that backs Plato's account. In 2005, the findings of geological studies performed just west of the Straits of Gibraltar - usually taken to be the 'Pillars of Hercules' referred to by Plato - were presented at an international meeting of scientists and historians. They appeared to show that an island did indeed once exist there, and that it was struck by an

earthquake and a tsunami at the very time Plato claimed.

The scientists behind the latest discoveries, Dr Marc-André Gutscher of the European Institute for Marine Studies in Plouzané, stresses that there are still many questions to answer. Even so, he says the fit between the ancient legend and the geological reality is striking. To him the occurrence of this type of earthquake and tsunami in the geographic region chosen by Plato for his narrative appears to be more than just lucky. Dr Gutscher's findings are the latest twist in a story that has come full circle, from a supposedly accurate account of a real event, through ridicule and revision and back to respectability again.

Even in Plato's time, the story of Atlantis was regarded as incredible - in every sense of the word. His account of a grand city-state built on an island that met a sudden and terrible end was dismissed as fantasy by some - including his most famous student, Aristotle. But far more have been fascinated by the story, whose roots seem to run very deep indeed. Robert Sarmast, the author of *Discovery of Atlantis*, and a leading figure in the search for the

lost city, says that Plato himself clearly stated that even the Egyptians - who gave the story of Atlantis to the Greeks - did not have the original testimony, and had themselves translated the text to their own tongue from an even earlier, unknown language. Plato dates the events he describes at 'Nine thousand years before Solon', a reference to the ancient Athenian statesman. That places the destruction of Atlantis at around 11,600 years ago - a period before recorded history. Small wonder then, that Plato's description of an advanced race living within a huge metropolis with walls of gold has caused such scepticism. It has also led most serious researchers to the conclusion that some elements of Plato's account - the location of Atlantis, the sophistication of its culture, the date of its destruction - must be wrong.

For centuries, it was Plato's vision of an advanced culture that met a terrible end that proved more compelling to scholars than the precise details of its location. Proposed sites for Atlantis, based on a variety of arguments, stretched across the globe. In 1882, the American statesman and writer Ignatius Donnelly made perhaps the most determined attempt to retain most of the original story by placing Atlantis right in the middle of the Atlantic, its people inventing everything from gunpowder to agriculture.

Such grand claims fascinated the public, but ensured that scholars avoided the subject. That changed in 1939, when the distinguished Greek archaeologist Spyridon Marinatos put forward what until recently was regarded as the most credible explanation for the legend. Marinatos suggested that Atlantis has its origins in a genuine historical event: the destruction of an island in a huge volcanic event that took place long before the time of Plato.

Plato's story had been brought into the archaeological mainstream, but only at a price. First, Marinatos proposed that the location of the disaster was Thera - a real island, but one in the Mediterranean, far from the 'Pillars of Hercules'. Second, a great eruption certainly took place there, but about 900 years before the time of Solon, not 9000 as claimed by Plato. Marinatos did give some credibility to the idea of an advanced civilisation being lost in the disaster, by linking the Thera eruption to the destruction of the famous Minoan civilisation on nearby Crete.

The Thera theory met a mixed response. Some archaeologists claimed that features of Atlantis mentioned by Plato coincide with those now attributed to the Minoans. But attempts to explain away the huge difference between Plato's chronology and the destruction of Thera have won few supporters.

However, the idea that Atlantis was in the Mediterranean still has its adherents. Since the 1990s, Robert Sarmast has argued for Atlantis having been located around 80km south-east of Cyprus, until its destruction during the flooding of the Mediterranean basin around 12,000 years ago. In 2004, he released images of curious structures found by his expeditions at a depth of 1500 metres. He believes that these images show what are the oldest man-made structures ever seen by human eyes.

Sarmast is the first to admit there are many gaps in his theory. Geologists insist the Mediterranean basin has been flooded for over five million years, and that the 'man-made structures' are entirely natural. Even so, Sarmast hopes to have compelling evidence in the near future...
(fade out)

FINAL TEST (MODULES 1-5)

1. VOCABULARY

- A.
1. b 2. d 3. b 4. a
5. c 6. c 7. d 8. c
9. b 10. a 11. a 12. d
13. a 14. c 15. a

- B.
1. immigrants
2. correspondent
3. pointless
4. endurance
5. incapable
6. unconvinced

7. unpredictable
8. informative

2. GRAMMAR

- C.
1. b 2. c 3. b 4. d
5. b 6. c 7. b 8. c
9. a 10. d 11. d 12. a
13. c 14. d 15. a

- D.
1. five of which
2. is said to have been
invented by

3. I would fail the test
unless I studied
4. should have your
car serviced (by the
mechanic)
5. no circumstances
should the parcel be
given

3. READING

- E.
1. a 2. b 3. b 4. c
5. a 6. a 7. c

4. LISTENING

- F.
1. tsunami
2. (geological) studies
3. ancient legend / legend
of Atlantis
4. fantasy
5. recorded history / Solon
6. (proposed) sites
7. (historical) event
8. (great) eruption
9. flooding

Listening Transcript

When the disaster struck, it did so with terrifying swiftness. First came a huge earthquake, followed by a tsunami which engulfed the whole island. Those who survived lived only long enough to witness an even greater horror. Unable to withstand the titanic forces unleashed against it, the island began to break apart and sink beneath the sea.

Such was the fate of the fabled island of Atlantis - at least, according to the Greek philosopher Plato. Even today, almost 2400 years after his retelling of a legend already circulating in Ancient Egypt, the story of Atlantis has lost none of its drama. Yet until recently, few academics regarded it as anything more than a myth.

But now astonishing new evidence is emerging that backs Plato's account. In 2005, the findings of geological studies performed just west of the Straits of Gibraltar - usually taken to be the 'Pillars of Hercules' referred to by Plato - were presented at an international meeting of scientists and historians. They appeared to show that an island did indeed once exist there, and that it was struck by an earthquake and a tsunami at the very time Plato claimed.

The scientists behind the latest discoveries, Dr Marc-André Gutscher of the European Institute for Marine Studies in Plouzané, stresses that there are still many questions to answer. Even so, he says the fit between the ancient legend and the geological reality is striking. To him the occurrence of this type of earthquake and tsunami in the geographic region chosen by Plato for his narrative appears to be more than just lucky. Dr Gutscher's findings are the latest twist in a story that has come full circle, from a supposedly accurate account of a real event, through ridicule and revision and back to respectability again.

Even in Plato's time, the story of Atlantis was regarded as incredible - in every sense of the word. His account of a grand city-state built on an island that met a sudden and terrible end was dismissed as fantasy by some - including his most famous student, Aristotle. But far more have been fascinated by the story, whose roots seem to run very deep indeed. Robert Sarmast, the author of *Discovery of Atlantis*, and a leading figure in the search for the lost city, says that Plato himself clearly stated that even the Egyptians - who gave the story of Atlantis to the Greeks - did not have the original testimony, and had themselves translated the text to their own tongue from an even earlier, unknown language. Plato dates the events he describes at 'Nine thousand years before Solon', a reference to the ancient Athenian statesman. That places the destruction of Atlantis at around 11,600 years ago - a period before recorded history. Small wonder then, that Plato's description of an advanced race living within a huge metropolis with walls of gold has caused such scepticism. It has also led most serious researchers to the conclusion that some elements of Plato's account - the location of Atlantis, the sophistication of its culture, the date of its destruction - must be wrong.

For centuries, it was Plato's vision of an advanced culture that met a terrible end that proved more compelling to scholars than the precise details of its location. Proposed sites for Atlantis, based on a variety of arguments, stretched across the globe. In 1882, the American statesman and writer Ignatius Donnelly made perhaps the most determined attempt to retain most of the original story by placing Atlantis right in the middle of the Atlantic, its people inventing everything from gunpowder to agriculture.

Such grand claims fascinated the public, but ensured that scholars avoided the subject. That changed in 1939, when the distinguished Greek archaeologist Spyridon Marinatos put forward what until recently was regarded as the most credible explanation for the legend. Marinatos suggested that Atlantis has its origins in a genuine historical event: the destruction of an island in a huge volcanic event that took place long before the time of Plato.

Plato's story had been brought into the archaeological mainstream, but only at a price. First, Marinatos proposed that the location of the disaster was Thera - a real island, but one in the Mediterranean, far from the 'Pillars of Hercules'. Second, a great eruption certainly took place there, but about 900 years before the time of Solon, not 9000 as claimed by Plato. Marinatos did give some credibility to the idea of an advanced civilisation being lost in the disaster, by linking the Thera eruption to the destruction of the famous Minoan civilisation on nearby Crete.

The Thera theory met a mixed response. Some archaeologists claimed that features of Atlantis mentioned by Plato coincide with those now attributed to the Minoans. But attempts to explain away the huge difference between Plato's chronology and the destruction of Thera have won few supporters.

However, the idea that Atlantis was in the Mediterranean still has its adherents. Since the 1990s, Robert Sarmast has argued for Atlantis having been located around 80km south-east of Cyprus, until its destruction during the flooding of the Mediterranean basin around 12,000 years ago. In 2004, he released images of curious structures found by his expeditions at a depth of 1500 metres. He believes that these images show what are the oldest man-made structures ever seen by human eyes.

Sarmast is the first to admit there are many gaps in his theory. Geologists insist the Mediterranean basin has been flooded for over five million years, and that the 'man-made structures' are entirely natural. Even so, Sarmast hopes to have compelling evidence in the near future...
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