

# Skills test 4A

## READING

### Men on the moon

What is your biggest ambition? For some young men in the 1960s, it was to become an astronaut and walk on the moon. But what do you wish for if you have already walked on the moon? Very few people have ever been able to ask themselves that question.

Reaching the moon was perhaps humankind's greatest achievement. On 20 July 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first person in recorded history to set foot on another planet. Many believed at the time that many similar successes were just around the corner. They turned out to be wrong.

Altogether, 24 astronauts have travelled to the moon, and only half of them have had a chance to step outside. All of them were American. All of them were men. And they all visited the moon in a brief interval from 1969 to 1972. Since then, nobody has travelled there. Some engineers claim today it would take us another ten to fifteen years to ever do that again. Now ask yourself this: how many moonwalkers could you name? People remember the names of pop stars, presidents, even racing car drivers long after they disappeared from the public eye. But very few of us could name a handful of people that walked on the moon.

What kind of people were they? One of them, Jack Swigert, whose only trip to the moon was the near-disaster of Apollo 13, once said it was not surprising astronauts never said anything interesting about the most momentous experience in their lives. For example, when Pete Conrad, commander of Apollo 12, stepped on the moon, he didn't make a speech. He only said, 'Whoopee!'

Astronauts were strong people: psychologically as well as physically. They were selected by NASA for their ability to survive in extreme conditions. They were usually patient, focused and very calm. They were not poets or artists, they were Air Force pilots. But they could never have achieved what they did if they had been less determined. They all knew that if they made just one mistake, they could die at any moment. They all came home safely. And now, when the era of the space shuttle ends with the return of the Atlantis on the 42nd anniversary of the first moon landing, we can all remember their achievement, which was just one small step for them, but one giant step for humankind.

### 1 Read the article. Match sentence beginnings 1–11 with endings a–l. There is one extra ending.

- 1 The first astronaut who walked on the moon d
  - 2 Twenty-four American astronauts \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 During the time between 1969 and 1972 \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4 According to experts, these days \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5 Very few people today \_\_\_\_\_
  - 6 Astronaut Jack Swigert \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7 Astronaut Pete Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
  - 8 NASA selected astronauts \_\_\_\_\_
  - 9 If astronauts makes a mistake in space, \_\_\_\_\_
  - 10 All the moon astronauts \_\_\_\_\_
  - 11 The space shuttle *Atlantis* returned from its final journey \_\_\_\_\_
- a who had a chance to walk on another planet.
  - b we would not be able to travel to the moon.
  - c only said one word when he arrived on the moon.
  - d ~~arrived there on 20 July 1969.~~
  - e who would be able to work in difficult conditions.
  - f remember the names of the moon astronauts.
  - g returned from their expeditions safely.
  - h forty-two years after the first trip to the moon.
  - i have made a journey to the moon.
  - j took part in an unsuccessful trip to the moon.
  - k they risk death.
  - l there were several expeditions to the moon.

2 points for each correct answer 20

### 2 Match the underlined words or phrases in the text with the definitions.

- 1 all the people in the world humankind
- 2 appearing in newspapers or the media \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 a period of history when an important event or events took place \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 in the very near future \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 amazing \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 period of time between two events \_\_\_\_\_

1 point for each correct answer 5

Reading total 25

## Skills test 4A Continued

**WRITING****1 Fill in the form for you.****FRIENDSHIP.NET**

First name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Surname (write in capital letters): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gender (circle as applicable): M / F  
 Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Marital status: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Languages spoken (indicate level):  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (elementary / intermediate / fluent / native speaker)  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (elementary / intermediate / fluent / native speaker)  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (elementary / intermediate / fluent / native speaker)  
 Hobbies, interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Looking for (delete where not applicable): friends / online gaming  
 partners / serious relationship / husband / wife

Shorter writing task  **2 Write a review of a film you have seen and didn't like.****Write about:**

- the director, actors, any other people involved.
- the type of film.
- the story.
- the visual style, special effects, music, etc.
- anything that was good about it.
- what you didn't like about it, and why you wouldn't recommend it.

Write your review in 150–180 words.

Longer writing task  Writing total  **LISTENING****1 Listen to five short extracts. Write the number of the correct extract (1–5) for the summaries. There is one extra summary.**

- an interview with a musician \_\_\_\_\_  
 two school friends meeting after a long time \_\_\_\_\_  
 someone phoning a friend at work \_\_\_\_\_  
 friends talking about some family news \_\_\_\_\_  
 someone phoning a friend on holiday \_\_\_\_\_  
 someone trying to contact a travel agency \_\_\_\_\_

1 point for each correct answer  **2 Listen again. Read two statements about each extract. Write true (T) or false (F).**

- 1 Mr Wilson is on holiday at the moment. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 The caller leaves a message for Mr Wilson. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Sean's wife had to go to hospital. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Nick buys their drinks. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 The caller talks to two operators at the call centre. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 The caller already knows one of the phone numbers he's given. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 Neither of the two friends has got any children. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Patricks asks Kelly to go with him to the wedding. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 The tour is starting in May. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 They are going to play their own songs at the festival in August. \_\_\_\_\_

2 points for each correct answer  Listening total

**Skills test 4A Continued**

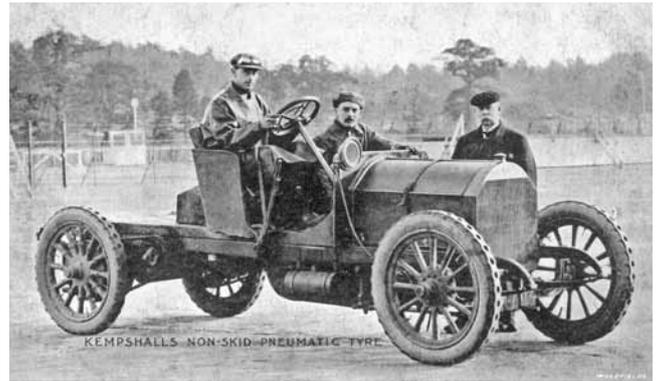
**SPEAKING**

**1 Ask and answer the questions with a partner.**

- 1 Who's your favourite writer? Which of his/her books has impressed you the most? Why?
- 2 What scares you? What makes you angry? What makes you happy?
- 3 What gadget would you find the most difficult to live without? Why?
- 4 What's your biggest ambition in life? Do you think you'll achieve it? Why?/Why not?
- 5 If you could live as anyone else, whose life would you live? Why?

max. 1 point for each topic

**2 Look at the photos. Compare the different discoveries or inventions. Talk about how they have changed our lives for the better or for the worse. In your opinion, which invention has changed our world the most?**



max. 10 points

**3 A Look at the information. Use the words to make five questions.**

**Jane Austen**

1775 Steventon (Hampshire, England) – 1817 Winchester (Hampshire, England)

English novelist, one of the most popular writers in English literature  
Educated at home by her father and brothers

Most famous works: *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Emma*, and *Persuasion* – many successful film adaptations of her novels

Stories about the place of women in 19th century society

Seriously ill from 1816, died of unknown causes in 1817

- 1 when and where / be born / die ?
- 2 why / famous ?
- 3 who / taught by ?
- 4 what / write ?
- 5 why / die ?

1 point for each correct question

**B Answer the questions.**

1 point for each correct answer

Speaking total

Skills test 4 total