

Humour, the tendency to provoke laughter and provide amusement, affects how we perceive and respond to life. It improves the quality of life and may relieve the body from so many health problems. In fact, humans are the only creatures on earth that are endowed with the ability to laugh.

The majority of people are able to experience humour, i.e., to be amused, to laugh or smile at something funny, and thus they are considered to have a sense of humour. Though ultimately decided by personal taste, the extent to which a person will find something humorous depends upon a host of variables, including geographical location, culture, maturity, level of education, intelligence and context.

Regular laughter sessions can have important effects on our health and wellbeing. For instance, laughter is considered to be a stress-buster and researchers found a direct link between laughter and healthy function of blood vessels. It also has been shown to lead to reductions in stress hormones such as cortisol and epinephrine. When laughing, the brain also releases endorphins that can relieve some physical pain. Laughter also boosts the number of antibody-producing cells and enhances the effectiveness of T-cells, a type of cells that lead to a stronger immune system.

Since laughter affects the body, mind and spirit the only thing you have to do to lead a happy life is LAUGH, as simple as that. <https://en.wikipedia.org>

1. Circle the letter that corresponds to the right answer.

The text is taken from: a- a magazine b- the internet c- a newspaper

2. Are these statements true or false? Write T or F next to the letter corresponding to the statement.

- a- Humour is beneficial to our health.
- b- Laughter is a gift to all creatures.
- c- Response to something humorous is different from one to another.
- d- Laughter has the same impact on our health as stress.

3. Answer the following questions according to the text.

- a- What are the factors that influence sense of humour?
- b- How can laughter improve our immunity?

4. In which paragraph is it mentioned that laughing relieve stress?

5. Copy the title you think the most appropriate.

- a- Black Humour b- The Effects of Stress c- The Benefits of Laughter

B. Text Exploration :

1. Find in the text words near to meaning to the following.

- a- gifted (§1) b- improves (§3)

2. Divide the following words into root and affixes.

Words	prefix	root	suffix
Immaturity			
Wellbeing			
Effectiveness			
Humorous			

3. Rewrite sentence B so as it means the same as sentence A.

- a- Laughter is considered to be a stress-buster.
 b- Researchers
- a- Since laughter affects us positively, we have to laugh to lead a happy life.
 b- Laughter
- Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of final “s”.**
 releases - vessels - ages – affects -

/ s/	/ z/	/ ɪs/

4. Fill in the gaps with words from the list.

disappointments - optimistic - humour - makes

Laughteryou feel good. And the good feeling that you get when you laugh remains with you even after the laughter subsides.helps you keep a positive, outlook through difficult situations, , and loss.

Part two: Written Expression 05points

Choose only ONE of the topics:

Topic one: “If I had no sense of humor, I would long ago have committed suicide.”

Mahatma Gandhi. Write an article to your school magazine in which you show how laughter reduces stress and helps us to overcome it.

You may use the following cues.

- Laughter; best medicine.
- Strong medicine for mind and body/ protects the heart,
- Strengthens social relations/ combats depression/ relieves pain ...

Topic Two:

Write a composition of about 80 to 100 lines about the following topic:

Write a public statement in which you present a programme to fight corruption in your country.

Start like this:

Ladies and gentlemen,

الموضوع الثاني

NASA has successfully launched a rocket carrying a planet-hunting telescope. The powerful Kepler telescope will search for planets similar to the Earth. Scientists believe there are good chances of finding a planet like ours somewhere out there in the galaxy. There are billions and billions of stars in the heavens. If one planet is the right distance from one of these stars, then conditions might be right to support life. The planet's atmosphere should neither be too hot nor too cold. The planet would also need water. The telescope is named after the German 17th-Century astronomer Johannes Kepler. It will spend more than three years looking for dark specks against the brightness of a hundred-thousand stars. These specks could be Earth-like planets.

The manager of the \$600-million project Jim Fanson said: "We have a feeling like we're about to set sail across an ocean to discover a new world." NASA's space science boss Ed Weiler agreed that the mission was a "historical" landmark in space exploration. However, he couldn't say whether or not the telescope would find another Earth. "It very possibly could tell us that Earths are very, very common...or that Earths are really, really, really rare - perhaps we're the only Earth," he said. He told reporters how important Kepler's journey was, saying: "It really attacks some basic human questions that have been asked since that first man or woman looked up at the sky and asked, 'Are we alone?'"

Adapted from: www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

1. **What type of text is the reading passage? Choose the right answer.**
 - a) an article
 - b) a letter
 - c) an advert
2. **Are these statements true or false? Write T or F next to the letter corresponding to the statement.**
 - a- NASA has launched a rocket in order to look for other planets similar to the Earth.
 - b- One of the conditions of life in these planets is being distant from stars.
 - c- This project requires a budget of \$600 million.
 - d- Ed Weiler confirmed that the telescope would find another Earth.
3. **Answer the following questions according to the text.**
 - a- Why has NASA launched the Kepler telescope?
 - b- How long will the mission last?
 - c- Is NASA's space science boss certain about finding another Earth? Quote from the text to justify your answer.
 - d- What does he think about Kepler's journey?
4. **Reorder the following ideas according to their occurrence in the text.**
 - a- Experts' point of view about the mission.
 - b- Conditions to make life possible in other planets.
 - c- NASA launching a rocket handling Kepler telescope.
 - d- The period required for the mission.
5. **Choose an appropriate title to the text.**
 - a- NASA
 - b- Space Exploration
 - c- Looking for Other Planets

B. Text Exploration:

1. Find in the text words opposite in meaning to the following:

- a- different from (§1)
- b- less (§1)

2. Complete the chart as shown in the example.

Verb	Noun	Adjective
Example: to explore	exploration	exploratory
to believe
.....	support
to invent

3. Rewrite sentence (b) so that it means the same as sentence (a).

- 1/ (a) Astronomers are carrying out new researches.
- (b) New researches.....
- 2/ (a) “ The mission will last three years,” the reporter said.
- (b) The reporter said

4. Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of their final “ed”.

adapted – launched – looked – named

/ t /	/ d /	/ɪd/

5. Fill in the gaps with only four words from the list below.

be – away – planet – alone – astronomy – universe

Are we.....1.....? Probably not, just the size of the2..... makes it unlikely. Alien life forms might not3..... too far away, either. This year, American astronomers discovered a4..... capable of sustain life just 50 light-years away.

PART TWO: WRITING

(5pts)

Choose only one topic.

Topic 01:

You are a member of the latest NASA space mission. Many people urge you to exploit the money allotted to space exploration in helping the poor countries and developing education in the world. Use the notes below to write a speech in which you convince them about the importance of space exploration.

- Help / developing new technologies.
- Solving further problems / overpopulation / pollution
- Predicting catastrophes / natural disasters
- Space engineering / deviating collisions

Topic 02:

Write an expository article developing the statement below.

Food safety has become one of the major worries for the mankind, go through the causes and effects?

Corrigé :

Topic One: Humour

Part one: Reading (15 points)

A. Comprehension: (08 points)

- 1- b(1)
 2- a-T b- F c- T d- F (0.5 x4)
 3- a- The factors that influence sense of humour are: geographical location, culture, maturity, level of education, intelligence and context. (1.5)
 b- It boosts the number of antibody-producing cells and enhances the effectiveness of T-cells. (1.5)
 4- in §3 (1)
 5- c (1)

B. Text Exploration: (07 points)

1. a- gifted (§1) = endowed(0.5)
 b- improves (§3) = enhances(0.5)
 2. (0.5 x 4)

Words	prefix	root	suffix
Immaturity	Im-	Mature	ity
Wellbeing	Well	be	ing
Effectiveness	////////	effect	tive-ness
Humorous	////////	humour	ous

3. a- Researchers **consider stress to stress-buster.** (0.5)
 5. b- Laughter affects us positively so, we have to laugh to lead a happy life. (any conjunction that express result) (0.5)
 6. (0.25 x4)

/ s/	/ z/	/ Is/
affects	Vessels	Releases ages

7. 1- makes 2- Humour (0.5 x4)
 3- optimistic 4- disappointments

Part two: (05points)

Topic one: form 3/5 content 2/5

Topic Two: form 2.5/5 content 2.5/5

Topic Two:

Part one: Reading (15 points)

A. Comprehension: (08 points)

- 1-a (1)
 2. a-T b- F c- T d- F(0.5 x4)
 3. a- To search for planets similar to the Earth. (0.5)
 b- More than three years. (0.5)
 c- No, he isn't. "he couldn't say whether or not the telescope would find another Earth." "It very possibly could tell us that Earths are very, very common...or that Earths are really, really, really rare - perhaps we're the only Earth," (0.5)
 d- He told reporters how important Kepler's journey was. (0.5)
 4. c- b - d- a (0.5 x4)
 5- c (1)

B. Text Exploration: (07 points)

1. a- different from ≠similar to(0.5)
 b- less (§1) ≠ more(0.5)
 2. (0.5 x 3)

Verb	Noun	Adjective
to believe	belief	believable
to support	support	supportable/ ed
to invent	invention	inventive/ inventable

3. a- New researchers **are being carried by astronomers.** (0.75)
 b- The reporter said **that** the mission **would** last three years. (0.75)
 4. (0.25 x4)

/ t/	/ d/	/Id/
Looked	named	adapted
launched		

8.
 1- alone 2- universe 3- be
 4- planet (0.5 x4)

Part two: (05points)

Topic one: form 3/5 content 2/5

Topic Two: form 2.5/5 content 2.5/5