

***Read through the following article, which highlights and elaborates on some key areas in which the Moon has both directly and indirectly influenced the emergence and change of life on the Earth.***

1. The Earth is unique amongst the terrestrial planets in having a large satellite, the Moon. Numerous pieces of evidence indicate that the Moon was derived from the Earth as the result of a singular impact event soon after the initial formation of the Earth. As a result, the subsequent changes of the Earth and the emergence and development of life have been strongly influenced by the presence of the Moon.
2. Perhaps the most obvious influence of the Moon on the Earth are the ocean tides. The regular rise and fall of sea level creates a unique environment in the Solar System, where life is exposed to both immersion in water and exposure to air in the space of a few hours. This is an environment in which organisms can experience the stresses of an alien world before safely returning to their aquatic habitat; such changes possibly cause the migration of organisms from one environment to the other.
3. One of the least obvious but most significant contributions from the Moon to life on earth may have been the gift of workable metals at the surface of the planet. Ever since the first samples of lunar rocks and geochemical data were made available by the Apollo astronauts, scientists' interests and curiosity have been aroused by the relatively high abundance of metals in the Earth compared with the Moon. Current theory suggests that if the earth had once been entirely molten, then these metals should have been locked up in the Earth's metallic core as the Earth cooled.
4. The Moon has also encouraged the development of intelligence in less quantifiable ways. Certainly the earliest astronomers observed and calculated calendars based on their observations of the space and planned their agriculture accordingly. Galileo's telescope observation of the Moon and his recognition of mountains and craters caused human kind to think about the "Plurality of Worlds". In a more direct fashion, the Moon has caused technological development. Clearly the "Race to the Moon" which inspired and gave rise to rapid advances in electronics and high technological industries couldn't have happened without the Moon.
5. The conclusion reached is that the Moon itself, born in a unique and random event, has been essential for the emergence of intelligent life on Earth, and as a result much intelligence is probably a very rare occurrence itself.

**Part One: Reading (12 pts.)**

**A. Answer the following questions in complete sentences. (5.25 pts.)**

1. Scan paragraphs 1 and 2 to identify the thesis statement of the article, then show how this statement functions. (0.75)
2. The writer mentions three key areas in which the Moon has influenced life on the Earth. State these areas. (1)
3. Point out a piece of evidence presented by the writer to show that the Moon has indirectly caused the technological development man has made. (0.75)
4. Suggest a suitable title to the article. (0.75)
5. In no more than three sentences, summarize the fourth paragraph of the article. (1.25)
6. What purpose does the article convey? (0.75)

**B. The following statements are false. Rewrite them so that they agree with what the writer says or implies in the article. (1.5 pts.)**

1. Observing the Moon has become useful to man recently.
2. It is only man who is affected by the tides caused by the Moon.

**C. For each definition below, pick from paragraphs 1 and 2 the word that best matches with it. ( 2 pts.)**

- 1- being the only one of its kind
- 2- appearance; coming into existence
- 3- unfamiliar; not one's own
- 4- movement from one place to another

**D. Find the grammatical error in each sentence below and correct it. (1 pt.)**

1. By the time man started exploring Mars, he already finished exploring the Moon.
2. While Galileo was observing the Moon, he was noticing how different it is from the Earth.
3. Space exploration had always been an interesting topic to man.
4. When man will land on Mars in 2020, he will have finished exploring the Moon fully.

**E. Rewrite the following sentences, beginning with the words given, without changing their meanings. (2.25 pts.)**

1. The changes of the Earth and the development of life have been strongly influenced by the presence of the Moon.  
The presence of the Moon .....
2. "These are environments in which organisms can experience the stresses of an alien world," said the writer.  
The writer said that .....
3. "Did this not cause human kind to think about the Plurality of Worlds?" asked the writer.  
The writer wondered .....

**Part Two: Writing (8 pts.)**

You are a news reporter, and you have just heard of a high tide and overflow of the sea water into a populated area, causing great damage and hundreds of deaths.

In a well-organized essay, write about the effects this natural disaster had on that area. First, outline your ideas before developing them into an essay provided with a title.

Score: **2** for the outline, **3** for ideas and organization, and **3** for form and grammar

*Best Wishes*

**Subject:** Answer Key of the Second Common English Exam

**Grade:** Nine

**A.**

1. The last sentence of the first paragraph is the thesis statement. This statement sums up the central idea of the text which is about the Moon's influence on the Earth.

**Score: 0.25 for identifying the thesis statement**

**0.25 for explaining its function**

**0.25 for sentence structure**

- 2- Oceans, metal deposits, and technological industries (human intelligence) are the three key areas in which the Moon has influenced life on the Earth.

**Score: 0.75 for listing the three key areas**

**0.25 for correct sentence structure**

- 3- The "Race to the Moon" has caused human kind to think about these remote areas and prompt rapid advances in electronics and high technological industries.

**Score: 0.5 for identifying the piece of evidence**

**0.25 for correct sentence structure**

- 4- A suitable title could be "How the Earth and the Moon Interact".

**Score: 0.5 for suggesting a suitable and relevant title**

**0.25 for correct sentence structure**

- 5- In his summary, the student should include the main idea and the major supporting detail(s). He may summarize it as follows: The development of human intelligence is caused by the Moon. Man's curiosity to get information about that remote outer space has driven him to invent highly advanced electronic and technological means to hit his target.

**Score: 0.5 for the main idea**

**0.25 for the supporting detail**

**0.5 for using own words**

- 6- The writer is informing readers about / explaining the key areas in which the Moon has influenced life on Earth.

**Score: 0.5 for identifying the purpose**

**0.25 for correct sentence structure**

**B.**

1. A long time ago, people planned their agriculture based on their observations of the space.
2. Man and some other organisms such as the aquatic ones are also affected by the tides caused by the Moon.

**Score: 0.75 for correcting each false statement**

**C.**

1. unique
2. emergence

3. alien
4. migration

**Score: 0.5 for each correct item**

**D.**

1. already finished ..... had already finished
2. was noticing ..... noticed
3. had always been ..... has always been
4. will land ..... lands

**Score: 0.25 for correcting every error**

**E.**

1. The presence of the Moon has strongly influenced the changes of the Earth and the development of life.

**Score: 0.5 for the verb form**

**0.25 for word order**

2. The writer said that those were environments in which organisms could experience the stresses of an alien world.

**Score: 0.25 for each underlined item**

3. The writer wondered whether/ if that had caused human kind to think about the Plurality of Worlds (or not).

**Score: 0.25 for each underlined item**