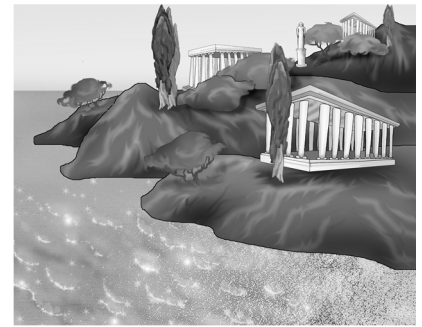


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark: \_\_\_\_\_ / 80 marks

## Reading

**A** Read the articles about two legendary lost cities.

## Atlantis: True Story or Cautionary Tale? By Willie Drye

If the writing of the ancient Greek philosopher Plato had not contained so much truth about the human condition, his name would have been forgotten centuries ago. But one of his most famous stories—the cataclysmic destruction of the ancient civilisation of Atlantis—is almost certainly false. So why is this story still repeated more than 2,300 years after Plato's death? 'It's a story that captures the imagination,' says James Romm, a professor of classics at Bard College in Annandale, New York. 'It's a great myth. It has a lot of elements that people love to fantasise about.'

Plato told the story of Atlantis around 360 B.C. The founders of Atlantis, he said, were half god and half human. They created a utopian civilisation and became a great naval power. There are many theories about where Atlantis was; in the Mediterranean, off the coast of Spain, even under what is now Antarctica. 'Pick a spot on the map, and someone has said that Atlantis was there,' says Charles Orser, curator of history at the New York State Museum in Albany.

Plato said Atlantis existed about 9,000 years before his own time, and that its story had been passed down by poets, priests, and others. But Plato's writings about Atlantis are the only known records of its existence.

Few, if any, scientists think that Atlantis actually existed. Ocean explorer Robert Ballard, the National Geographic explorer-in-residence who discovered the wreck of the *Titanic* in 1985, notes that, 'no Nobel laureates' have said that what Plato wrote about Atlantis is true.

Still, Ballard says, the legend of Atlantis is a 'logical' one since cataclysmic floods and volcanic explosions have happened throughout history, including one event that had some similarities to the story of the destruction of Atlantis.

About 3,600 years ago, a massive volcanic eruption devastated the island of Santorini in the Aegean Sea near Greece. At the time, a highly advanced society of Minoans lived on Santorini. The Minoan civilisation disappeared suddenly at about the same time as the volcanic eruption.

But Ballard doesn't think Santorini was Atlantis, because the time of the eruption on that island doesn't coincide with when Plato said Atlantis was destroyed.

Romm believes Plato created the story of Atlantis to convey some of his philosophical theories. 'He was dealing with a number of issues, themes that run throughout his work,' Romm says. 'His ideas about divine versus human nature, ideal societies, the gradual corruption of human society—these ideas are all found in many of his works. Atlantis was a different vehicle to get at some of his favorite themes.'

The legend of Atlantis is a story about a moral, spiritual people who lived in a highly advanced, utopian civilisation. But they became greedy, petty, and 'morally bankrupt', and the gods 'became angry because the people had lost their way and turned to immoral pursuits,' Orser adds. As punishment, he says, the gods sent 'one terrible night of fire and earthquakes' that caused Atlantis to sink into the sea.

Adapted from: <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/archaeology/atlantis/>

# The Legend of El Dorado: The Lost City of Gold

By Willie Drye

The lust for gold spans all eras, races, and nationalities. To possess any amount of gold seems to ignite an insatiable desire to obtain more.

Through the centuries, this passion gave rise to the enduring tale of a city of gold. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Europeans believed that somewhere in the New World there was a place of immense wealth, known as El Dorado. Their searches for this treasured land wasted countless lives.

'El Dorado shifted geographical locations until finally it simply meant a source of untold riches somewhere in the Americas,' says Jim Griffith, a folklorist in Tucson, Arizona. But this place of immeasurable riches hasn't ever been found.

The origins of El Dorado lie deep in South America. And like all enduring legends, the tale of El Dorado contains some scraps of truth. When Spanish explorers reached South America in the early sixteenth century, they heard stories about a tribe of natives that had lived high in the Andes mountains in what is now Colombia. When a new chieftain rose to power, his rule had begun with a ceremony at Lake Guatavita.

Accounts of the ceremony vary, but they consistently say the new ruler was covered with gold dust, and that gold and precious jewels were thrown into the lake to appease a god that lived underwater.

The Spaniards started calling this golden chief, El Dorado, 'the gilded one'. In the late fifteenth century El Dorado and his subjects were conquered by another tribe. But the Spaniards and other Europeans had found so much gold among the natives along the continent's northern coast that they believed there had to be a place of great wealth somewhere in the interior.

The Spaniards didn't find El Dorado, but they did find Lake Guatavita and tried to drain it in 1545. They lowered its level enough to find hundreds of pieces of gold along the lake's edge. But the presumed fabulous treasure in the deeper water was beyond their reach.

The legend of El Dorado endures because, 'you want it to be true,' says Jose Oliver, a lecturer at the Institute of Archaeology at University College London. 'I don't think we've ever stopped seeking El Dorado.'

So where is this lost city of gold? In his 1849 poem, *El Dorado*, writer Edgar Allan Poe offers an eerie and eloquent suggestion: *Over the Mountains of the Moon, down the Valley of the Shadow, ride, boldly ride ... if you seek for El Dorado.*

Adapted from: <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/archaeology/el-dorado/>

## B Now complete the Exam Task.

## Exam Task

Read the two articles about lost cities, then answer the questions according to the information given.

- 1 Which lost city, Atlantis or El Dorado, is most likely to have existed and why?
  - a El Dorado because there is proof that it was on the shores of a lake high up in the Andes.
  - b Atlantis because there is a great deal of literature to prove it and evidence that it was in fact the island of Santorini.
  - c Neither, because there is no evidence that they are more than alluring fabrications which eventually became legends.
  - d Both, because many natural phenomena have mirrored historical descriptions of the cities over the centuries.
- 2 What do some experts think was Plato's principle reason for creating the legend of Atlantis?
  - a He wanted to record the stories about Atlantis, which had been passed down orally over the centuries.
  - b He wanted to convey some of his beliefs by writing a moral tale about what happens to a civilisation once it becomes corrupt.
  - c He knew about the destruction of the Minoan civilisation and he wanted to record its existence for posterity.
  - d He wanted to write a religious thesis about greed and bankruptcy which would inspire people to lead a better life.
- 3 According to Plato, Atlantis
  - a was destroyed 9,000 years before our time.
  - b couldn't have been a real place because it was created by gods.
  - c had been written about before his time.
  - d was most likely to be in the Mediterranean.
- 4 According to the text, what is the origin of the name 'El Dorado'?
  - a The Spanish heard that when the new ruler of a particular Andean tribe came to power he was covered in gold dust, so they referred to him as 'El Dorado'.
  - b The Spanish had been told that there was a place in South America where gold was in abundance, so they called it 'El Dorado'.
  - c El Dorado means 'the gilded one' in Spanish, and it refers to a city literally covered in gold.
  - d El Dorado refers to an imaginary place where gold and riches are in abundance.
- 5 The fact that a lot of gold was found around the edges of Lake Guatavita
  - a implies that the city of El Dorado might have been nearby.
  - b encourages us to believe in the legend of El Dorado.
  - c is of little historical significance in the search for El Dorado.
  - d suggests that the story of the gilded chief might be true.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

# Vocabulary and Use your English

## A Circle the correct words.

- 1 The princess was **hounded** / stalked by the press from the day her engagement went public.
- 2 What started out as a bit of political gossip ended up as the **column** / scoop of the year.
- 3 The minister is a popular dinner party guest because he's so good at telling amusing **anecdotes** / gossip.
- 4 As a journalist, she was **notoriously** / scandalously good at uncovering lies wherever she went.
- 5 I believe the **obscure** / reclusive actor has decided to come out of his self-imposed seclusion.
- 6 What we **value** / honour most about our community is openness, tolerance and a complete lack of prejudice.
- 7 Our aim is to make sure all the new girls **integrate** / diversify smoothly into our school community.
- 8 The **clash** / dispute over university fees is likely to continue for some time.
- 9 The students have **defied** / condemned the curfew and gone out into the streets after dark to protest against the new government.
- 10 Mario's **irreverence** / defiance wasn't intentional. He didn't mean to be disrespectful.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

## B Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words.

assume   circulate   diverse   gossip   install   lampoon   manner   obscure   renew   report

- 1 They spend all their time \_\_\_\_\_ about everyone else at work. Be careful what you say.
- 2 Andy's dental treatment was so expensive, he decided to pay for it in \_\_\_\_\_ rather than in one go.
- 3 She had been a famous celebrity in her time, but ended her life in poverty and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 As soon as he'd said those words, he knew he'd be savagely \_\_\_\_\_ by the press.
- 5 The magazine is out of \_\_\_\_\_, but you might be able to get hold of some back copies in second hand shops or online.
- 6 When the newspaper closed, all the \_\_\_\_\_ were made redundant.
- 7 You mustn't make any \_\_\_\_\_ regarding your position. It's best to wait and see.
- 8 She's developed some unusual \_\_\_\_\_ which are probably connected to her spending so much time with Jake.
- 9 I love the fact that there is so much cultural \_\_\_\_\_ at the school. Our kids will be growing up with children from all over the world.
- 10 The \_\_\_\_\_ of my grandparents' vows is taking place in the church where they were married 40 years ago.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

## C Match 1 – 10 with a – j to make complete sentences.

- |   |                          |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 1 It was getting late and things were getting a little out of               | <input type="checkbox"/> | a has been lost in the mists of time.                                       |
| 2 I think this dress might be a bit over the                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | b in the name of science.   |
| 3 Terrible experiments have been done                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | c heirloom which they inherited after her father died.                      |
| 4 I think as a movie actress she has reached the peak                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | d hand at the party, so we decided to tell everyone it was time to go home. |
| 5 After a decade away from the  | <input type="checkbox"/> | e limelight, she has made a magnificent comeback.                           |
| 6 Everybody is relying on you. You can't turn your                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | f top for this evening. Most people will be wearing jeans.                  |
| 7 They had yet to learn about writing, so they relied entirely on an oral   | <input type="checkbox"/> | g by conforming to its cultural norms.                                      |
| 8 We've been in the country so long that how my family actually got here    | <input type="checkbox"/> | h of stardom. I'm not sure how well she'll do in the theatre, though.       |
| 9 You show your respect for a society                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | i tradition to pass down stories from one generation to another.            |
| 10 Have you seen that painting in their living room? I'm sure it's a family | <input type="checkbox"/> | j back on your responsibilities like that.                                  |

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

# Grammar

## A Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 They've had a really successful year, but still all they do is moan. There's really no \_\_\_\_\_ (please) some people.
- 2 I regret \_\_\_\_\_ (inform) you that your application has not been successful this time.
- 3 Well, we'll soon see if you're right about it. The proof of the pudding is in the \_\_\_\_\_ (eat).
- 4 It doesn't matter that you didn't come first. It's not the \_\_\_\_\_ (win), but the \_\_\_\_\_ (take) part that counts.
- 5 We were on our way to the restaurant, but we bumped into Lidia and of course, we stopped \_\_\_\_\_ (chat) to her for a bit. That's why we're late.
- 6 I've decided to stop \_\_\_\_\_ (nag) everybody about the state of the house and see what happens.
- 7 Joshua finally admitted \_\_\_\_\_ (break) the coffee machine. He's going to buy a new one.
- 8 They weren't allowed \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) out any later than 11 p.m.
- 9 Our parents didn't let us \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to a music festival until we were 16.
- 10 How strange. I don't remember \_\_\_\_\_ (lend) you my blue dress, but if you say I did, I must have.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

## B Circle the correct words.

- 1 Marilyn would rather not **work / to work** than get a job in that factory.
- 2 **To be / Being** famous is all she ever wanted.
- 3 Unfortunately, he wasn't fast enough **to join / joining** the running team.
- 4 I wonder if we can afford **buy / to buy** that car? I think it might be too expensive.
- 5 They've been **to ski / skiing** in Italy every year until now.
- 6 Gill had no option but **leaving / to leave** all her belongings behind when she escaped from the city.
- 7 What the kids enjoyed most about the holiday **is / was** the pool in the hotel.
- 8 All we're thinking about now is **to get / getting** back in time to see them.
- 9 I'm afraid it was the bad weather that forced us **coming / to come** back early.
- 10 All they needed **doing / to do** a good job was a bit of support from their managers.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

## C Now complete the Exam Task.

### Exam Task

For questions 1 – 5, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **three** and **eight** words, including the word given.

- 1 Tomatoes were probably first cultivated in Mexico roughly 2,500 years ago.

#### AROUND

It \_\_\_\_\_ tomatoes were first cultivated in Mexico.

- 2 The conquistadors may have first brought the tomato back to Spain.

#### WHO

It \_\_\_\_\_ first brought the tomato back to Spain.

- 3 The tomato wasn't used widely in cooking in Europe until the seventeenth century.

#### ONLY

It \_\_\_\_\_ the tomato began to be widely used in cooking in Europe.

- 4 Garlic, olive oil, and tomatoes are the perfect ingredients for a good pasta sauce.

#### NEED

All \_\_\_\_\_ is some garlic, olive oil, and tomatoes.

- 5 Tomatoes are much more delicious when they are grown in sunny countries in the Mediterranean.

#### MAKES

What \_\_\_\_\_ in sunny countries in the Mediterranean.

( \_\_\_ / 10 marks)

## Writing

**Complete the Writing Task.**

# Exam Task

An art fair was recently held in your town to showcase high quality, handmade, original and affordable work by local artists. You have been asked to write a report on the art fair for your school website. You should briefly describe the event and identify two or three artists or works of particular interest. You should also evaluate the extent to which such events can open people's minds to artists, and the art being created in their area.

Write your **report** in 280–320 words.

(\_\_\_\_ / 10 marks)

[illegible]