



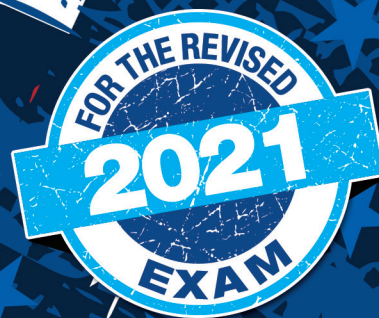
**NEW**

# Stars & Stripes

for the **MICHIGAN ECPE**



Jenny Dooley



**STUDENT BOOK**



Express Publishing



# Progress into the Stars

## Lead-in

- **THINK!** Why do you believe scientists and astronomers have tried for many years to find life and resources such as water on other planets?
- **THINK!** Would you ever leave Earth and venture to another planet? Why do you think you would do it?



## Reading

Read the passage below, and answer the questions. Explain the words in bold. Then use each word in a sentence.



An environmental history of mankind would have to be a history of the exploitation of abundant natural resources, the **spiraling** demand for these resources, and their inevitable depletion. As humanity spread across the globe, leaving colonies in its wake, essential resources such as coal, oil, and even fresh water were extracted through industrial mining and manufacturing operations. Their impact on the Earth has been massive. What was once a plethora of riches has **inexorably declined**, and entrepreneurs are now looking beyond the limits of land, sea, and sky; the new target is the stars and, more specifically, asteroids.

**Spinning** around the Sun are tens of thousands of asteroids, and scientists are convinced that these mountain-like formations contain a treasure trove of minerals and metals. The asteroid 16 Psyche has enough iron-nickel ore to sustain the Earth for several million years. Even a comparatively small asteroid could contain more than 2,000 million **metric tons** of serviceable mineral-metal reserves. In addition, some asteroids have a high ice content which means that they could be an economically viable source of fresh water. **Large-scale** mining of asteroids is possibly the key to solving many of our escalating environmental problems.

Any mining venture contains an element of risk, however. Asteroids have traditionally been considered deadly perils lurking out in the dark depths of space, **biding their time** before smashing headlong into our insignificant planet. In order to transplant mining operations from the Earth to the stars, we need to find solutions to extensive safety and **logistical** problems. **Stabilizing** a spinning rock the size of a small city is no mean feat and would need a huge investment of manpower and equipment. For the moment, the Earth that has catered to our every need and received precious little in return will have to suffer a few more years of **relentless** exploitation.

## Exam Tip

### Main Purpose

- Some questions may ask you about the main purpose of a text i.e., why the writer is writing the text (e.g. to inform, to compare, to promote, to discuss, etc.). To answer the question, read the topic sentences of each paragraph carefully in order to understand what the paragraph is about and what the main idea of the text is.
- Look for answer options that include the author's reason for writing the text as a whole as some distractors may refer to only one aspect of the text.

- 1 What is the main purpose of this passage?
  - a to examine environmental exploitation and its effects
  - b to advocate further research into space exploration
  - c to present the pros and cons of asteroid mining
  - d to encourage increased investment in asteroid mining
- 2 In the third sentence of paragraph 1, what does *their* refer to?
  - a essential resources
  - b human colonies
  - c entrepreneurs
  - d mining and manufacturing operations
- 3 According to the passage, who is interested in mining asteroids?
  - a environmentalists who want to protect the Earth
  - b scientists who want to carry out research
  - c businessmen who want to make a profit
  - d manufacturers who need unlimited resources
- 4 Why does the article mention 16 Psyche asteroid?
  - a to compare asteroid resources with that of Earth's
  - b to illustrate how resource rich asteroids can be
  - c to analyze the composition of asteroids
  - d to explain how to calculate the metals' content of asteroids



5 According to the passage, why haven't asteroids been mined yet?

- a They still pose a threat to life on Earth.
- b Recruiting willing personnel is difficult.
- c The necessary technology does not exist.
- d There are numerous difficulties to overcome.

6 What does the writer suggest about the mining of the Earth?

- a In the past, it caused less damage.
- b It will still be necessary in the near future.
- c In the future, it will not be profitable.
- d It is expensive and requires investment.

## Vocabulary

1 Fill in: *sustain, cater, depletion, entrepreneurs, exploitation, insignificant, perils, plethora.*

- 1 The ..... of natural resources ultimately threatens the way modern civilization has become accustomed to living.
- 2 Scientists are constantly in search of a planet that will ..... life.
- 3 American and Russian space centers may ..... in the future to the desire of wealthy people to travel into space.
- 4 Having been an astronaut on many dangerous missions, Frank is aware of the ..... of the universe.
- 5 Many believe that space exploration is ..... when compared to the problem of poverty in the world.
- 6 There are many free online courses for everyone ranging from artists to business .....
- 7 The constant ..... of fossil fuels has caused severe damage to the environment.
- 8 Space travel will provide humanity with a ..... of possible solutions to the problems of energy resources and overpopulation.

2 Circle the correct answer.

- 1 *Star Trek* was a science-fiction TV series in which a spaceship ..... into unknown galaxies.
  - a transcended                      c transited
  - b ventured                         d commenced
- 2 Space observatories provide scientists with the essential equipment to make ..... observations of the stars.
  - a extravagant                      c extreme
  - b generous                         d extensive
- 3 Fossil fuels such as oil must be ..... from the Earth and refined to become usable.
  - a explored                         c extracted
  - b exploded                         d excavated

4 Modern medicine has reached the point where vital organs can be ..... from one person to another.

- a transpired                      c transmitted
- b transplanted                      d transposed

5 Harnessing the Sun's heat and transforming it into energy is a ..... solution to the energy crisis.

- a viable                              c perpetual
- b recurrent                         d substantial

6 Marine biologists often discover new species of creatures that ..... in the depths of our oceans.

- a lurk                                 c perk
- b irk                                 d smirk

7 The French, English, and Spanish formed ..... on new land they discovered during their explorations.

- a satellites                         c terrains
- b colonies                         d possessions

8 World population growth is leading to ..... demand for energy.

- a an expending                      c an interacting
- b an escalating                      d a widening

9 In the past, people believed that there was a(n) ..... supply of drinking water to cover all of our needs; today we know this is no longer the case.

- a absolute                         c exuberant
- b lavish                             d abundant

10 A constellation is ..... of a group of stars that makes up a particular pattern.

- a consisted                         c formulated
- b established                         d comprised



## Speaking & Writing



• Read the text on p. 6 and make notes under the headings:

- Which natural resources on Earth have declined and how
- What asteroids are
- Why asteroids are important/Their relevance to natural resource depletion
- What the problems/risks are in attempting to extract resources from asteroids

Use your notes to give the class a short talk about the text in your own words.

• **THINK!** In pairs write a paragraph about:

- our energy resource problem
- a possible solution

• **IT** In groups, collect information about renewable energy. Prepare a digital presentation for the class.

## Verb Tenses

*see pp. GR158-GR163*



We use the present perfect with the superlative degree (*hardest, worst, etc.*) and ordinal numbers (*first, second, etc.*) It's **the first time I've been to Paris**.

**1** Put the verbs in parentheses in the correct *present tense*. Give reasons.

- 1 A: I gather you ..... **(not/like)** your meal.  
B: No. It's the worst pasta I .....  
**(ever/eat)**!
- 2 A: You ..... **(look)** well James! What's your secret?  
B: Well, you know what they say, an apple a day .....  
**(keep)** the doctor away!
- 3 A: ..... **(you/book)** any accommodation yet?  
B: Actually, I ..... **(hope)** to find a room at a local hotel when I get to the village.
- 4 A: Oh! There you ..... **(be)** Fred. Where .....  
**(you/be)**?  
B: I ..... **(fix)** my motorbike in the garage since noon and I .....  
**(not/finish)** yet!
- 5 A: My sister ..... **(think)** of getting an SUV.  
B: That's great! I ..... **(own)** one myself. They're fantastic vehicles.



When there are **two past progressive forms** in a sentence with the same subject, we can avoid repetition by using the present participle (**-ing form**) and leave out the subject and the verb **was/were** of the second verb form. *They were traveling across Europe and they **were visiting** lots of amazing places.* = *They were traveling across Europe and **visiting** lots of amazing places.*

**2 Underline the correct past tense. Give reasons**

- 1 Jason was celebrating his birthday and **were having/having** a great time!
- 2 The author Charles Dickens **had been writing/wrote** over fifteen novels.
- 3 My neighbors **were continually demanding/have been continually demanding** me to cut down the tree in my garden, even though I told them I wouldn't!
- 4 Mark **wished/had wished** to visit the Colosseum while in Rome, but it was closed when he was there.
- 5 Mrs. Stephens **has been working/had been working** for twenty years when she took early retirement.
- 6 It took a while, but Helen **was used to/got used to** working from home.
- 7 Frank **had been decorating/was decorating** the house for hours and felt exhausted.
- 8 The man **had opened/opened** the door, stepped inside and looked at Mrs. Harris.



- We normally use ***be going to*** to talk about something we intend to do, and ***will*** to give details or make comments about what we have already mentioned. *"I'm going to wash the car this morning. I'll polish it after."* *"That'll look lovely."*
- We normally use the present progressive, rather than ***be going to***, with verbs which express movement, especially the verbs ***go*** and ***come***. *I'm going to Anne's house after 9 pm.*

**3 Choose the correct future form. Give reasons.**

- 1 I ..... with Laura later on today to discuss our presentation.

a will have met                      c going to meet

b will be meeting                  d meet
- 2 The faculty advisor's signature indicates that the student ..... all degree requirements by the end of the semester.

a will have had completed

b will have been completing

c will have completed

d has completed
- 3 By the time she finishes her course, she ..... French for two years.

a will have had studied

b is going to be studying

c will study

d will have been studying
- 4 Terry ..... a new job offer when he was given a promotion at the firm.

a was on the brink of accepting

b was on the brink to accept

c was to have accepted

d was on the brink to have accepted
- 5 The corporation's drive to promote sustainable energy ..... important in our rapidly changing world.

a is being increasingly

b has become increased

c has been increasing in

d is becoming increasingly
- 6 Company policy states that employees ..... projects with competitors or the media.

a are not to disclose

b are to be not disclosing

c are not going to disclose

d will not be disclosing
- 7 ..... me carry this luggage upstairs, please?

a Shall you help

b Will you help

c Will you be helping

d Are you about to help
- 8 I ..... to finish the final details for the client tonight.

a am going to mean                  c am meaning

b will mean                            d mean

## Subject – Object Pronouns

see p. GR163



A pronoun can be used as a subject or an object in a sentence. It is wrong to use a noun and a personal pronoun together.

*Jogging ~~it~~ is good exercise.*

### 4 Circle the incorrect item in each sentence and then correct it.

- Unlike most large cities in the U.S.A., Philadelphia  
A  
it is a residential city which consists of a  
B C  
considerable variety of neighborhoods, each with  
its own charm.  
D
- Margaret doesn't have a job yet, but I am sure she  
A B C  
will find it soon.  
D
- On April 30th, George Washington he took his oath  
A B  
of office as the first President of the U.S.A.  
C D

## Singular – Plural Nouns

see pp. GR163-GR165



- Certain words in English are singular even though they have a plural meaning, e.g., **everybody**, **every**, **news**, **information**, **measles**, **mumps**, **luggage**, **baggage**, **math**, **physics**, etc. *Everybody is going to the performance.*
- Other nouns are always in the plural, such as:  
**Clothes** → jeans, pants, shorts, slacks;  
**Tools** → shears, tweezers, scissors, pliers;  
**Accessories** → gloves, sunglasses;  
**Other** → means, thanks, police

### 5 Circle the subject of the sentences which the missing verb must agree with. Then, choose the correct verb form (a or b).

- Even though their financial means ..... limited, they are content with their lifestyle and never complain.  
a are b is
- The number of payments ..... the same for the entire term of this loan.  
a remains b remain
- Although it has a tendency of being mild among children, the mumps ..... quite dangerous for adults.  
a are b is

- Civics ..... a subject dealing with the rights and duties of citizens.  
a is b are
- Formal slacks ..... part of the everyday work attire of white-collar workers.  
a are b is
- A pair of pliers ..... generally found in every home's shed or toolbox.  
a are b is

### Exam Tip

- Try to determine the correct grammatical structure that's being tested before deciding on your answer.

## ★ Review

### 6 Choose the correct answer.

- Mr. Evans ..... be a researcher for an advertising company in Baltimore.  
a used to c use to  
b would d got used to
- Universal remote controls, unlike earlier models, ..... easier to access multiple devices simultaneously.  
a they make it c they are making it  
b make them d make it
- They ..... the scale of the problem and the difficulties it poses.  
a see c are seeing  
b had been seeing d are always seeing
- Organic beauty products ..... more and more popular these days.  
a become c are becoming  
b have become d have been becoming
- The recycling scheme ..... to be implemented this month. However, there were serious financial setbacks.  
a is going c is certain  
b was going d were
- If neither option ..... available, you may contact the Human Resources office.  
a is c isn't  
b are d aren't
- Come and visit me whenever you ..... in the area.  
a will be c are  
b would be d have been
- It is projected that 80% of the world's population ..... in urban centers by the year 2070.  
a will be residing  
b would be residing  
c would have been residing  
d will have been residing

## LISTENING Part 1

In this part, you will hear short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question about it. You will hear each conversation and question once. The answer choices are printed in the test booklet. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D. Do you have any questions?



- 1 What is the man worried about?
  - A. the viability of space mining
  - B. the depletion of Earth's resources
  - C. the concerns raised in a documentary
  - D. the development of renewable energy
- 2 What are the speakers discussing?
  - A. a difficult client at work
  - B. a presentation the man will give
  - C. data the woman needs to see
  - D. a meeting the woman is attending
- 3 What will the woman probably do?
  - A. have cupboards installed
  - B. build some cupboards herself
  - C. go and look for furnishings
  - D. ask the man to take her to a store
- 4 What ingredient does the woman need?
  - A. yeast
  - B. flour
  - C. molasses
  - D. honey
- 5 What does the man say about his job?
  - A. He is underqualified.
  - B. It probably isn't going to suit him.
  - C. It's better than he expected it to be.
  - D. He thought he was better prepared.
- 6 Why does the woman mention North State?
  - A. to explore her options
  - B. to offer the man an alternative
  - C. to inquire about an accident
  - D. to question the length of the delay
- 7 What does the girl say about her group?
  - A. They couldn't get along.
  - B. They made an error.
  - C. There was a shared consensus.
  - D. There was contention.

## Exam Tip

### Predicting content

- In Part 1 of the listening exam, you will hear short conversations once. The question and answer choices will be printed in the test booklet. Before you listen, read the questions and four possible answers to prepare for what you will be listening to. Underline the keywords and think about the context in which the speakers are talking and what might be mentioned during the conversation. This will help you identify the important information while you listen.

- 8 What will the boy probably do next?
  - A. continue studying
  - B. watch the basketball game
  - C. go to the basketball court with his friend
  - D. compete in a basketball tournament
- 9 What does the girl imply about Joanna?
  - A. She's not necessarily on the right track.
  - B. She's very conscious of her image.
  - C. She's not trying to pressure others.
  - D. She's highly persuasive.
- 10 What does the man think of the accommodations?
  - A. It is too hard to get to.
  - B. It is not worth the price.
  - C. It is more than satisfactory.
  - D. It is adequate for their needs.
- 11 What will the man do for the woman?
  - A. house sit for her
  - B. keep her cat at his house
  - C. visit her cat every day
  - D. take her cat to the vet
- 12 What does the woman think of the man's point of view?
  - A. It's not very realistic.
  - B. It's wrong because it's unfair.
  - C. It's surprising and unexpected.
  - D. It's likely to be unpopular.
- 13 How does the man feel?
  - A. He regrets saying something foolish.
  - B. He feels defensive about his opinion.
  - C. He is worried he came across as aggressive.
  - D. He is upset that the woman disagrees with him.
- 14 Why is the man asking the woman for advice?
  - A. He thought she liked the beach.
  - B. He thought she was from the area.
  - C. He thought she worked in a tourist office.
  - D. He doesn't know who to call to ask.
- 15 What is the meeting about?
  - A. the company's goals for the year
  - B. ways to improve the company's email system
  - C. addressing complaints and suggestions from staff
  - D. becoming more environmentally responsible
- 16 What are the speakers discussing?
  - A. the value of a degree
  - B. the importance of being cautious
  - C. career prospects in the arts
  - D. the difficulty of getting into art college



## Part 3

In this part, you will hear two segments from a radio program. After each segment, you will hear six questions about it. Before each segment begins, you will have time to preview the questions that are printed in the test booklet.

You will hear each segment twice. Then you will hear the questions once. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, or C.

Do you have any questions?

**Look at the questions. Then listen to the first segment.**

- 1 According to Dr. Lipton, what happens in the Arctic annually?
  - A. A mass of compressed snow is formed.
  - B. Ice separates forming icebergs.
  - C. The glaciers flow into the Gulf Stream.
- 2 What plays a significant role in regulating the world's climate?
  - A. the movement of currents with different temperatures
  - B. the flow of warm Gulf Stream currents
  - C. the formation of icebergs in the North Atlantic
- 3 What does Dr. Lipton imply about the loss of the Arctic ice sheets?
  - A. The majority of areas have lost all ice.
  - B. The Alaskan coastline will bear the brunt of change.
  - C. The scope of loss is more than anyone predicted.
- 4 According to Dr. Lipton, what effect can salt concentration have on the oceans?
  - A. It can reduce the frequency of devastating storms.
  - B. It can lower the oceans' temperature.
  - C. It can disrupt marine biomes in numerous ways.
- 5 What does the reporter suggest about international agreements on CO<sub>2</sub>?
  - A. They must still be able to have some positive results.
  - B. They don't have a strict enough threshold.
  - C. They're useless as governments didn't act fast enough.
- 6 What is the main purpose of this report?
  - A. to explain international agreements on global warming
  - B. to announce predictions from new climate models
  - C. to educate listeners about melting ice in the Arctic



## Exam Tip

### Note taking

- In part 3 of the listening exam, you will hear segments of a radio program twice. There are six questions for each segment
- each with three options. Before you listen, you will be given some time to read the questions and possible options. In this time, underline the keywords and think about what you may be listening to. While you listen, you may wish to take notes the first time the segment is played to help you answer the questions. Use your notes to rule out the wrong options and then confirm your answer when the segment is replayed. However, make sure you don't miss any of the conversation in favor of taking notes.

**Look at the questions. Then listen to the second segment.**

- 7 What does the first speaker imply about the issue of fracking?
  - A. It's not as straightforward as it may appear.
  - B. Many people don't know where it's taking place.
  - C. A lot of rumors are circulating about it.
- 8 What does Roberta Jackson say about the process of extracting gas?
  - A. Shale rock is turned into sand.
  - B. Water is extracted from rock.
  - C. Substances are shot into the ground.
- 9 What does Michael Allen suggest about chemical use in fracking?
  - A. Their regulation is only satisfactory.
  - B. Their composition is deliberately withheld.
  - C. Their impacts on health are still uncertain.
- 10 What does Roberta Jackson say about the benefits of fracking?
  - A. They are felt across multiple parts of society.
  - B. They apply mostly to international politics.
  - C. They offer a permanent solution to the fuel crisis.
- 11 Why does Michael Allen mention the cost of medical care?
  - A. to propose improvements to the healthcare system
  - B. to suggest energy is not people's biggest expense
  - C. to counterargue the economic benefits of fracking
- 12 What is the purpose of this report?
  - A. to describe how the process of fracking works
  - B. to examine the issue of fracking from different angles
  - C. to reveal the dangers associated with fracking





**New Stars & Stripes for the Michigan ECPE Book** is intended for Proficiency learners taking the ECPE Michigan exam. The course follows the principles of CEFR level C2.

#### **Key Features**

- authentic theme-based reading & listening texts, followed by exam-type tasks
- lexical exercises practicing and activating vocabulary, as well as collocations, prepositions, and phrasal verbs
- a variety of listening and speaking tasks reinforcing skills needed for the exam
- grammar sections covering all major grammatical areas, plus a Grammar Reference Section
- Exam Practice sections, serving to practice vocabulary and grammar throughout the book
- detailed composition analysis and models for all types of writing tasks set for the ECPE exam

#### **Components**

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