



The National Air and Space Museum.

The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, opened in 1976, offers its visitors a dazzling array of flying machines and spacecraft never before assembled in one place. More than 9 million people visit the Museum each year. Twenty-three exhibit areas house artifacts ranging from the Wright brothers' original 1903 Flyer and Lindbergh's "Spirit of St Louis" to a touchable moon rock and a Skylab Orbital Workshop which visitors may enter. Also included are dozens of airplanes and spacecraft, missiles and rockets, engines, propellers, models, uniforms, instruments, flight equipment, medals and insignia. These items document most of the major achievements –both historical and technological– of air and space flight. The Smithsonian's interest in aeronautics dates back to its early years. In 1861, the first Secretary of the Smithsonian, Joseph Henry, recommended to President Lincoln that balloonist Thaddeus Lowe be permitted to demonstrate the potential of the balloon for military observation. The third Secretary of the Smithsonian, Samuel P. Lanley, constructed and tested a number of heavier-than-air craft from 1887-1903. Two of these unmanned models succeeded in flying under steam power over the Potomac River for more than a half-mile (1 Km). Interest in rocket research was prompted by Charles Abbot, later the fifth Secretary of the institution, when he supported the early work of the American rocket pioneer Robert H. Goddard. Goddard was one of the first to recognize the potential of the rocket for propelling vehicles through space.

Feature attractions:

-Albert Einstein Planetarium: "State of the Universe" offers a trip to the world beyond the solar system using the sophisticated eye of the telescope. Watch a supernova explode, discover the planet Uranus with 18th-century astronomer William Herschel, travel through the Milky Way to distant galaxies and even get a glimpse of what the universe might have looked like in the first few seconds after the "Big Bang". "State of the Universe" will be shown every 40 minutes, seven days a week (except Tuesday and Thursday, when the three midday shows are replaced by "Noontime with the Stars" lectures).

-Langley Theater: Special films related to flight, projected on a screen five stories high and seven stories wide, may be seen in the Langley Theater. Several films are offered each day: "The Dream is Alive", an inside look at American space shuttle program; "To fly!", a bird's eye view of America and "On the Wing", a depiction of flight in all its forms –from birds and insects to kites and aircraft. Also featured are "Flyers," the exploits of a fictional American aviator, and "Living Planet", an aerial travelog that takes the viewer across five continents.

1.- Answer the following questions according to the text but using your own words: (2 points)

- Which was Joseph Henry's interest in 1861?
- Which are the differences between Albert Einstein Planetarium and Langley Theater?

2.- Do the following exercises according to the instructions given: (2 points)

A. Fill in the blank with the correct relative pronoun:

- This book documents the achievements and frustrated hopes of a remarkable group of Astronaut Trainees ... desire to serve their country fell victim to hostility toward such aspirations.

B. Complete the following sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets:

- If you ... Einstein Planetarium you would have felt the power of the new digital dome. (To visit)

C. Change the sentence into the passive voice.

- They offer free tours daily to the general public at 10:15 a.m. and 1 p.m.

D. Fill in the gap with the appropriate preposition:

- Smoking is permitted in the rest rooms ... the third floor.

3.- Give a synonym, a definition, or write a sentence showing that you understand the meanings for each word in ONE of the following sections: (1 point)

a) dazzling, to house, glimpse, beyond

b) array, balloon, to support, kite

4.- Summarise the text in no more than 40 words using as many of your own words as possible: (2 points)

5.- Write a composition of about 100-120 words on ONE of the following topics: (3 points)

a) Have you ever flown?

b) A museum you like.



CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

OBSERVACIONES

- I) La prueba tiene una duración de hora y media
- II) No se permiten diccionarios ni otros materiales didácticos
- III) Escriban en tinta negra o azul
- IV) Lean las preguntas con atención antes de responder

CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN.

Pregunta 1. Las dos cuestiones de esta sección pretenden evaluar la comprensión global del texto y la habilidad de comentarlo coherentemente. Esta pregunta se evaluará con un máximo de 2 puntos.

Pregunta 2. La valoración de 2 puntos tiene como objetivo medir los conocimientos morfosintácticos del alumno/a.

Pregunta 3. La calificación de 1 punto (0'25 por palabra) pretende medir la riqueza léxica del estudiante y su capacidad de deducir significados en un contexto donde aparece el término requerido.

Pregunta 4. En este apartado se valorará preferentemente la capacidad del alumno para sintetizar y extraer las ideas más importantes del texto. Esta pregunta tendrá una valoración máxima de 2 puntos.

Pregunta 5. El apartado de la composición se calificará con un máximo de 3 puntos. Se valorarán especialmente los siguientes aspectos:

- A. La corrección morfosintáctica de la producción escrita.
- B. Variedad y propiedad en las estructuras gramaticales utilizadas
- C. La riqueza léxica
- D. Registro apropiado
- E. Propiedad y corrección ortográfica
- F. La coherencia y cohesión del texto (empleo de conectores, organización del texto, etc.)
- G. La aportación de ideas.
- H. Claridad y eficacia en la presentación de ideas.