London Underground

The London Underground is a public transport network. A metro system that runs underground in tunnels in central London and above ground in the city's suburbs. The oldest metropolitan underground network in the world, first operating in 1863, the London Underground is usually referred to as either simply "the Underground" by Londoners, or as "the Tube".

Since 2003, the Tube has been part of Transport for London (TfL), which also schedules and lets contracts for the famous red double-decker buses. Previously London Transport was the holding company for London Underground. There are currently 275 open stations and over 253 miles (408 km) of active lines, with three million passenger journeys made each day.

Lines on the Underground can be classified into two types: sub-surface and deep level. The sub-surface lines were dug by the cut-and-cover method, with the tracks running about 5 metres below the surface. Trains on the sub-surface lines have the same loading gauge as British mainline trains.

The deep-level or "tube" lines run about 20 metres below the surface (although this varies considerably), with each track running in a separate tunnel lined with cast-iron rings. These tunnels can have a diameter as small as 3.56m and the loading gauge is thus considerably smaller than on the sub-surface lines, though standard gauge track is used.

Lines of both types usually emerge onto the surface outside the central area, the exceptions being the Victoria Line which is in tunnel for its entire length save for a maintenance depot, and the Waterloo & City Line which, being very short, has no non-central part and no surface line.

Each station displays the Underground logo containing the station's name in place of the word "Underground", both at entrances to the station and repeatedly along the station walls so that they can easily be seen by passengers on arriving trains. In addition, many stations' walls are decorated in tile motifs that are unique to the station, such as profiles of Sherlock Holmes' head at the Baker Street station or a cross containing a crown at the King's Cross station.

1. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. DO NOT COPY LITERALLY FROM THE TEXT (2 points, 1 each)

a. What is the London Underground?
b. Where can you see Sherlock Holmes' head?

c. CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER (1 point):
The sub-surface lines run about
a.   five metres below the surface
b.   fifteen metres below the surface
c.   twenty metres below the surface

D. ANSWER TRUE OR FALSE AND COPY A SENTENCE FROM THE TEXT THAT SUPPORTS OR CONTRADICTS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT (1 point):
Logos containing the names of the stations cannot be identified by passengers on arriving trains.

2. FIND WORDS IN THE TEXT FOR THESE DEFINITIONS (1 point)
1. Open to everybody.
2. An underground passage.
3. A person travelling in the underground.
4. Show, exhibit.

3. COMPLETE THE SECOND SENTENCE SO THAT IT MEANS THE SAME AS THE FIRST ONE (2 points, 0.5 each).
a. The Tube has been part of the Transport of London. It also lets contracts for the famous double-decker buses.
The Tube has been part of the Transport of London .... famous double-decker buses.
b. We can classify lines on the underground into two types: sub-surface and deep level lines.

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Lines on the underground can ……………………………………….. into two types: sub-surface and deep level lines.

c. The loading gauge is smaller on tube lines than on sub-surface lines.

The load gauge on sub-surface lines ……………………………… on tube lines.

d. Can I have a return ticket to King's Cross Station, please? The woman said

The woman ……………………………………….. to King's Cross Station.

4. WRITE A TEXT ABOUT ONE OF THESE TOPICS (80-100 WORDS) (3 points)
1. Describe your favourite means of transport.
2. Write an e–mail to a friend to tell him/her about your last holiday.

CRITERIOS ESPECÍFICOS DE CORRECCIÓN

En los ejercicios en general se valorará la capacidad del alumno para comprender globalmente las ideas contenidas en el texto.
De manera específica en cada apartado se valorarán los siguientes aspectos:

Pregunta 1 – En este apartado se valorará especialmente la comprensión global del texto.
Pregunta 2– En este apartado se valorarán los conocimientos léxicos del alumno.
Pregunta 3- En este apartado se valorará el conocimiento y uso de la lengua.
Pregunta 4 – En este apartado se valorarán los siguientes aspectos:
• Corrección morfosintáctica.
• Riqueza léxica.
• Coherencia y cohesión del texto (empleo de conectores y organización del texto).
• Aportación de ideas.

La puntuación de las respuestas será la siguiente:
Pregunta 1 – Se valorará con un máximo de 4 puntos.
Pregunta 2– Se valorará con un máximo de 1 punto (0,25 cada respuesta correcta).
Pregunta 3- Se valorará con un máximo de 2 puntos (0,5 cada respuesta correcta).
Pregunta 4 – Se valorará con un máximo de 3 puntos.