2014 English exam

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| PGT | Exploring our dreams  Language examples | Off the planet  Language examples |
| Space exploration/space | ‘inspiring’  ‘it’s not as far as you might think’  ‘the thrill of discovery’  ‘valuable products’  Second visual - linking space travel to products  ‘the value about a trillion dollars’  ‘spectacular’  ‘unlimited resources’  ‘the next big thing’  ‘era of collaboration’  ‘useful knowledge’  ‘bravery’  ‘different perspective’  ‘huge amount of money’  ‘answers to our problems’  ‘mining boom waiting to happen’  ‘recharge our scientific batteries’ | ‘lifeless rocks’  ‘infinitely precious blue planet’  ‘illusion’  “the next big thing”  ‘spend a few trillion’  ‘finding somewhere better’ |
| Kolombus-21 group | ‘international co-operation’  ‘international group’  ‘influential thinkers’  ‘peace’  ‘era of collaboration’  ‘big dreamers’  ‘it’s in honour of Columbus’ |  |
| Government | ‘cooperation’  ‘across the globe’  ‘era of collaboration’  ‘pool resources and collaborate’  ‘we’ve got to invest’  ‘inspire the next generation’ | ‘when did governments…fund exploration for peaceful purposes of the good of the world?’  ‘wasting our time’  ‘inspiring?’  ‘keep working together’  ‘our real problems’ |
| Christopher Columbus | ‘great explorer’  ‘pretty inspiring’  ‘skill and courage’  ‘encounter the unexpected’ | ‘powered more by greed than by wind’  ‘The ‘dreams’ involved were of more and more wealth’ |
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**Introduction**

Following an exhibition by Kolombus-21, an international group promoting space exploration, Yvette Yergon wrote an opinion piece in a daily newspaper supporting Kolombus-21 and their idea of increasing space exploration. Her piece, “Exploring our dreams” enthusiastically discussed the benefits of space travel. She also used two images to support her argument. In response Dr Peter Laikis’ sarcastic letter to the editor argued that we should not spend more money space exploration.

**Kolumbus-21 group**

Yergon uses a variety positive language to describe space exploration. She refers to space travel as ‘inspiring’ and ‘spectacular’ encouraging the reader to feel enthusiastic about space travel. By linking the idea of space travel to our ‘dreams’, she creates a sense of longing and desire for space exploration. Yergon also encourages the reader to see the financial benefits of space travel, by referring to the ‘unlimited resources’ to the ‘value of about a trillion dollars’ and suggesting that space exploration could be the ‘mining boom waiting to happen’. By linking space exploration to possible financial benefits, Yergon appeals to people’s inherent greed and their longing for financial success and security. By highlighting the positive aspects of space exploration, Yergon is aiming to encourage the reader to support Kolombus-21’s aim. This is further highlighted when she compares space exploration with the travels of Christopher Columbus.

**Christopher Columbus**

**The government**