

**Instrucciones:** a) Duración: 1 h.30m. b) No se permite el uso de diccionario. c) La puntuación de las preguntas está indicada en las mismas. d) Los alumnos deberán realizar completa una de las dos opciones A o B, sin poder mezclar las respuestas.

**OPTION B: ZODIAC SIGNS**

- 1 If someone you know tells you they are no longer a Scorpio and they are an Ophiuchus now, they are probably not
- 2 the only one. 86% of us may not be the star sign we thought. Everything you thought you knew about astrology just
- 3 changed after NASA revealed that there are actually thirteen zodiac signs. After doing some calculations and taking
- 4 into account that the earth's axis no longer points in the same direction, NASA concluded that the horoscope signs as
- 5 we know them have completely different date ranges now. So where did we go wrong?
- 6 Some 3,000 years ago, the Babylonians thought that the changing positions of constellations throughout the year
- 7 could be linked to certain behaviours or events on Earth. And so they invented the zodiac: the circle of twelve
- 8 constellations based on the apparent path that the Sun takes across an imagined celestial sphere over the course of
- 9 the year. In fact, the thirteenth sign is not a new discovery. Even according to the Babylonians' own ancient stories,
- 10 there were thirteen constellations. It's just that the Babylonians drew up a plan for the signs of the zodiac to correspond
- 11 with their calendar, which was based on the phases of the Moon and thus only contained twelve months. So they left
- 12 out poor Ophiuchus, which takes its name from a Greek term meaning 'serpent-bearer' (this sign is commonly
- 13 represented as a man grasping a snake).
- 14 Presumably, each person has a different relationship with their sign and horoscope, but as NASA has shown, the
- 15 Babylonians cheated a bit. Astrology isn't real and can be challenged by its science counterpart, astronomy.

**I \* COMPREHENSION (4 points)**

CHOOSE AND WRITE THE CORRECT OPTION (A, B, C or D). (0.5 points each)

1. **The Babylonians invented the zodiac because they thought that...**

- |                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (a) it was scientific.  | (b) it was helpful for people.       |
| (c) it was interesting. | (d) it was related to human conduct. |

2. **The Babylonians created a twelve-sign zodiac because...**

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| (a) twelve was enough.                    | (b) twelve was the number of harmony. |
| (c) number twelve matched their calendar. | (d) they had twelve gods.             |

ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH THE PRECISE WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT, OR USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (0.5 points each)

3. **The discovery of Ophiuchus has changed the zodiac signs of many people.**

4. **The earth's axis has never changed its position.**

5. **The thirteenth constellation was discovered by NASA.**

6. **Astrology and astronomy are sciences that make the same predictions.**

7. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)

7.1. ONE SYNONYM FOR "old" (adjective).

7.2. ONE SYNONYM FOR "supposedly" (adverb).

8. FIND IN THE TEXT: (0.5 points)

8.1. ONE WORD MEANING "to hold firmly in your hands."

8.2. ONE WORD MEANING "the process of finding out something for the first time."

**II \* USE OF ENGLISH (3 points; 0.5 points each)**

9. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH A CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB IN BRACKETS:

9.1. "My brother always complains about... (do) his chores."

9.2. "I would like him... (be) more responsible."

10. FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE CORRECT WORD:

10.1. "My friend is very keen... (preposition) astronomy."

10.2. "I do not care... (preposition) horoscopes."

11. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO REPORTED SPEECH: "Do you want to come to the cinema with me?" he asked me."

12. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONAL SENTENCE: "If I could choose a profession, ..."

13. TURN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE INTO THE PASSIVE VOICE: "They offered me a good deal."

14. JOIN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING AN APPROPRIATE LINKER (DO NOT USE AND, BUT, OR BECAUSE). MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY. "All beliefs are equally valid. Everybody should respect them."

**III \* WRITING (3 points)**

15. WRITE A COMPOSITION OF APPROXIMATELY 120 WORDS ABOUT THE TOPIC PROPOSED AND FOCUS STRICTLY ON IT:

**Do you think you are a lucky person? Why?**