



Instrucciones: a) Duración: 90 minutos  
b) No está permitido el uso de diccionario

### COMING DOWN TO EARTH

A hot shower and a new wife helped two astronauts come down to earth Thursday after six months in orbit. Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko and U.S. astronaut Edward Lu landed in Kazakhstan after an unproblematic flight from the International Space Station. The crew, accompanied by Spaniard Pedro Duque, who was on a one-week mission, arrived as planned.

5 Lu said the exciting life on the 16-nation orbital platform had amply compensated for not enjoying common comforts. "It's a small price to pay not to be able to eat your favorite food or take a shower if you have the opportunity to live and work in space," he told a news conference. "But that being said, that first hot shower felt really good."

Having married his fiancée Ekaterina Dmitriev in August via a satellite video link from space, Malenchenko went straight into married life enthusiastically. "Life continues on earth and we've got lots of plans," he said.

10 The astronauts said they had been able to keep in touch with their families from the station via e-mail and video telephone. "I missed my family and fiancée, but we had very good communications on board and we were able to talk," said Lu. "I didn't feel very much separated from my loved ones on the ground."

#### (A) COMPREHENSION (4 points)

a) ANSWER QUESTIONS 1-2 ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THE TEXT. USE YOUR OWN WORDS. (1 point per answer)

- 1) How different was daily life on board the Space Station?
- 2) How did the astronauts manage not to miss their families very much? (Give two reasons)

b) ARE THESE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE? JUSTIFY YOUR ANSWERS WITH WORDS OR PHRASES FROM THE TEXT. (0.5 points per answer)

- 3) Pedro Duque was in orbit for six months.
- 4) The orbital platform was exclusively a Russian and American enterprise.
- 5) Living in the orbital platform was so stimulating that astronauts could manage without ordinary comforts.
- 6) The Russian astronaut got married while in space.

#### (B) USE OF ENGLISH (3 points)

7) Give one **opposite** for EXCITING (adjective) (line 5) (0.25 points)

8) Give one **synonym** for CONTINUE (verb) (line 9) (0.25 points)

9) Find in the text the word which has the following **definition**:  
"a group of people working on a spaceship" (noun) (0.25 points)

10) Give an adjective with the same root as ENJOY (verb) (line 5) (0.25 points)

11) Give a question for the **underlined** words: (0.5 points)

Edward Lu met his fiancée after Christmas.

12) Use the words in the boxes to make a **meaningful sentence**. Use **all** and only the words in the boxes without changing their form. (0.5 points)

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13) Turn the following sentence into **passive**:  
The astronauts are giving the journalists a lot of information (0.5 points)

14) **Complete** the following conditional sentence: If I ever went to space... (0.5 points)

#### (C) PRODUCTION (3 points)

15) Write a **composition (80-100 WORDS)** Choose **ONE** of the following options. Specify your option.

- a) Are dangerous professions attractive for young people today? Why?
- b) Do you like science fiction stories/films? Why?