



The Flat Earth Society

Kompetenzniveau: B2

Thema: Naturwissenschaft und Technik

Testformat: Zuordnen von Satzteilen (Format der standardisierten schriftlichen Reifeprüfung)

Bearbeitungszeit: 15 Minuten

Wortanzahl (Input): 495 Wörter

Anzahl der Items: 8

Kommentar:

Diese Aufgabe erfordert die korrekte Zuordnung von Satzteilen und überprüft die Fähigkeit, die Hauptaussagen des Texts wie auch spezifische Informationen richtig zu erfassen. Der Text im Stil eines populärwissenschaftlichen Magazinartikels ist sowohl sprachlich als auch inhaltlich komplex und erfordert dementsprechendes Vokabular aus dem naturwissenschaftlichen Bereich (*evidence, conduct experiments, confirm* etc.)

Lehrplanbezug:

8. Klasse, Kompetenzmodul 7, Lesen

- ein breites Spektrum an Texten (auch literarischen) auch zu weniger vertrauten Themen verstehen und die Hauptaussagen sowie spezifische Informationen und implizite Bedeutungen erfassen können
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Deskriptoren des GeR-Begleitbands:

Information und Argumentation verstehen > GeR, 2020, S. 68

(B2) Kann Artikel und Berichte zu aktuellen Fragen lesen und verstehen, in denen die Schreibenden eine bestimmte Haltung oder einen bestimmten Standpunkt einnehmen.



Read the text about a group of believers. Some parts are missing. Choose the correct part (A–K) for each gap (1–8). There are two extra parts that you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

The Flat Earth Society

“There are two ways to be fooled”, said the Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard. “One is to believe what isn’t true; the other is to refuse to believe what is true”. Perhaps the greatest contemporary example of people who (0) ____ are the members of the Flat Earth Society.

The belief that our planet is flat is not new. Many ancient cultures subscribed to that model because, after all, the Earth’s spherical shape (1) _____. However, in the 6th century BC, Pythagoras mooted the possibility, and by about 330 BC, Aristotle had provided good evidence for the roundness of the Earth. This knowledge spread throughout the world, evidence grew stronger as centuries passed, and today it is universally accepted.



Bild: Vicki Nunn (Pixabay)

Well, not quite universally. The Flat Earth Society has been enjoying a steady resurgence in membership over the past decade. On a recent post on social media, they boasted “The Flat Earth Society has members all around the globe” – much to the amusement of those of us who (2) _____.

So, what do they actually believe? The Earth is a flat disc, with the Arctic Circle in the centre, and Antarctica (which is a 50-metre wall of ice) all around the rim. This ice wall is guarded by North American Space Agency (NASA) employees, to (3) _____.

NASA is the Flat Earthers’ sworn enemy. The agency, they say, is determined to (4) _____ and fabricate data for a round earth. They achieve this by doctoring photos of the Earth from space, rigging GPS devices to make airline pilots think they’re flying in straight lines around a sphere, and other such nefarious activities.

Flat Earthers also believe that gravity is an illusion. Objects do not actually fall downwards. In fact, the Earth is constantly accelerating upwards. This is why when you drop an object it (5) _____. What is actually happening is the Earth is travelling towards the dropped object.

These hypotheses will no doubt (6) _____. What exactly is propelling this flat Earth through space? How do the sun and moon fit into the model? Can a rational adult in the 21st century really believe such incredible nonsense? Are they just stupid? The answers to the first two questions are somewhat convoluted, and beyond the scope of this short article. But the answers to the last two questions are “Yes”, and “No”, respectively.

Flat Earthers are not stupid people. Many are college-educated, and they are absolutely sincere in their beliefs. They (7) _____ in an effort to prove the “globe heads” wrong. Many of these attempts mirror historical experiments which originally demonstrated the Earth’s roundness – such as lining up poles 1 km apart along a canal and directing a laser beam through them. When the results of experiments such as these inevitably confirm the Earth’s curvature, the Flat Earth researchers (8) _____ – but never deterred. Instead, they conclude that the experiment itself must have been flawed, and try something else.

A	spend a lot of time and money designing and conducting scientific experiments
B	prevent people falling off the edge
C	convince scientists the Earth is flat
D	is not apparent from our ground-level perspective
E	appears to be travelling towards the ground
F	<i>manage to be fooled in both of those ways simultaneously</i>
G	are always disappointed
H	cover up all evidence for a flat Earth
I	believe that the Earth is, in fact, a globe
J	raise several questions in a curious reader's mind
K	seems to come up naturally

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>F</i>								

Lösung

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>F</i>	D	I	B	H	E	J	A	G