A. COMPRENSIÓN LECTORA. (4 puntos)

The Origin of the Universe

In one of his lectures famous scientist Stephen Hawking wrote that according to the Boshongo people of central Africa, in the beginning there was only darkness, water and the great god Bumba. One day Bumba, in pain from a stomach ache, vomited up the Sun. The Sun dried up some of the water, leaving land. Still in pain, Bumba vomited the Moon, the stars and then some animals: the leopard, the crocodile, the turtle, and finally, man.

With this creation myth, like with many others, we try to answer the questions we all ask, “why are we here?” or “where did we come from?” The answer generally given is that we depend on what happened before with the laws of nature, the laws of physics that created an ideal atmosphere for humans to appear. What happened next was determined by will, our will to develop. The human race is still improving in knowledge and technology in a constant search for a better future.

Several theories have been developed throughout history to try to explain the origin of the universe. In 1915 Einstein introduced his revolutionary General Theory of Relativity. In this, space and time were no longer absolute or fixed. But for Stephen Hawking our understanding of time locates it in another dimension, like space. And it does not have a beginning in time. For him, the notion of an expanded moving universe does not need a God to be created.

“Spontaneous creation is the reason why there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we are here”, he says.

Texto adaptado de www.hawking.org.uk

1. Escribe cada palabra junto a su definición:
(2 puntos; 0,5 por apartado)

Lecture – Spontaneous – Darkness – Myth

A. Absence or deficiency of light: darkness

B. A talk delivered before an audience or a class: lecture

C. Resulting from a natural impulse or tendency: spontaneous

D. A traditional story involving gods and heroes: myth

2. Indica si las siguientes afirmaciones son verdaderas (V) o falsas (F) según la información que aporta el texto y justifica tu respuesta:
(2 puntos; 0,5 por apartado)

[F] The Boshongo people think that the Sun created the God Bumba. Line(s).

Lines 2-3: “One day Bumba, in pain from a stomach ache, vomited up the Sun.”

[V] The evolution of the human race happened because we had the perfect ground for it. Line(s).
Lines 7-8: “[…] we depend on what happened before with the laws of nature, the laws of physics that created an ideal atmosphere for humans to appear.”

[F] One hundred years ago, Albert Einstein had not contributed with any study of space or time yet. Line(s).

Line 12: “In 1915 Einstein introduced his revolutionary General Theory of Relativity.”

[V] Stephen Hawking did not believe that a God was the creator of the universe. Line(s).

Lines 14-16. “For him, the notion of an expanding moving universe does not need a God to be created. Spontaneous creation is the reason why there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists […]”

B. GRAMÁTICA. (2 puntos)

3. Responde a las siguientes cuestiones:
   (2 puntos; 0,5 por apartado)
   A. Find in the text a synonym for hurt.
      pain
   B. Turn this sentence into Present Simple Negative: The human race is improving in knowledge and technology.
      The human race does not improve in knowledge and technology.
   C. Link the two sentences with a relative (use commas if necessary): Albert Einstein said that space and time were not fixed. He introduced his General Theory of Relativity.
      Albert Einstein, who introduced his General Theory of Relativity, said that space and time were not fixed.
   D. Complete the conditional clause with the appropriate tense:
      “What …………………………………………… (happen) if the human race disappeared?”
      What would happen if the human race disappeared?

C. EXPRESIÓN ESCRITA. (4 puntos)

4. Escribe un texto de entre 70 y 120 palabras sobre uno de los siguientes temas:
   • In your opinion, what is the most important discovery of our times? Why?
   • Invent your own story or legend about the origin of the universe.
   Respuesta libre.