



## **12 Million Americans Believe Lizard People Run Our Country Answer Sheet**

For these questions, there is no correct answer. I'd like you to think about the questions, and answer with your own opinions. After you've answered the questions, use Google search to gather more information about two or three of the questions (you can do more if you wish, but two or three should be enough). The purpose here is to practice thinking about different topics and forming your own opinions, then backing your opinions up with facts and information (which is what you need to do in an Academic English test).

1. Why do you think PPP conducted this poll?
2. Does the author think that PPP was surprised (and maybe a little disturbed) by the poll's findings?
3. What is the difference between a controversial topic and a conspiracy theory?  
*A controversial topic is usually one where there are facts and information supporting both sides of the argument, and people are evenly divided in their opinions. A conspiracy theory is when there is little or no facts or information supporting the theory, but people believe the theory anyway (without proof).*
4. Why do you think people believe in conspiracy theories?
5. Choose three conspiracy theories from the list, and try to find information on the Internet that supports the theories. Why do you people believe these theories (is there another reason)?
6. Why do you think the JFK conspiracy is the most widely believed? (JFK stands for John F Kennedy)
7. Why do you think the Bush/Iraq WMDs conspiracy is the second most widely believed? (WMDs means "Weapons of Mass Destruction")
8. As a continuation of question #3, read the daily news and find a controversial topic that is in the news. Now, try to create a conspiracy theory about that topic.

These questions might be best answered by working on them with a friend. If you know someone who is also studying English, ask them to read this article and answer the questions, then share your answers and talk about how you came up with the answers. *Note: the theory "McCartney died in 1966" is a reference to Paul McCartney of the Beatles.*