

For questions 17–24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: 0 M O T I V A T E D

Training for a long-distance running race

The secret of success when preparing to run in a long-distance race is to remain extremely (0) , to train sensibly, and to focus on proper nutrition. It takes more than willpower alone to run several kilometres. There is some (17) over the best way of training, however, and studies have not reached any universal conclusions.

Nevertheless, successful (18) tend to approach their training in similar ways. They focus on staying healthy and, (19) , you may think, are careful not to overtrain. It is (20) to train slightly less, but remain strong and full of (21) , than to train too hard and face (22) or injury.

The (23) of a healthy diet can never be stressed too much, of course, and you should always eat a good helping of carbohydrates soon after exercising. Another crucial (24) is the need to remain hydrated at all times. Listen to your body: if you feel thirsty, then you need a drink.

MOTIVATE

AGREE

RUN

SURPRISE

PREFER

ENTHUSIASTIC

SICK

IMPORTANT

CONSIDER

For questions **25–30**, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 Karen didn't really want to go to the party.

FORWARD

Karen wasn't really to the party.

The gap can be filled by the words 'looking forward to going', so you write:

Example:

0	LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING
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25 Nadia left her phone on the bus, and she got to school late, too.

LEAVE

Not her phone on the bus, but Nadia got to school late, too.

26 People can't cycle here if they don't wear helmets.

ALLOWED

People aren't they wear helmets.

27 They didn't cancel the outdoor theatre performance despite the rain.

EVEN

The outdoor theatre performance wasn't was raining.

28 Dan played games on his computer all evening.

WHOLE

Dan games on his computer.

29 My grandmother says she remembers her childhood when we come here.

REMINDS

My grandmother says this place her childhood.

30 Do you think your mum could take us to school in her car?

LIFT

Do you think your mum would mind to school in her car?

You are going to read an article about a teenage writer called Beth Reekles. For questions **31–36**, choose the answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Teenage novelist Beth Reekles

Our reporter interviewed a teenage writer and her father.

Aged 15, British teenager Beth Reekles spent hours alone in her bedroom, tapping away obsessively on her laptop. Reekles was writing a bestselling novel. 'All that time, I thought she was messing around on social networking sites, like other teenagers,' her dad told me, shaking his head. Reekles wrote her book as a serial, uploading a chapter at a time onto the Internet — the first chapter alone got a million hits — until her inbox was deluged with emails that she said typically began 'upload faster!' The three-book deal she signed with a publisher only came after her book had been read online for free 19 million times. Through instinct, luck or cleverness, she had discovered the secret to global appeal that had eluded those three or four times her age.

'I wrote it because I was looking for something to read,' says Reekles, with disarming calm simplicity. 'I couldn't find it, so I wrote it.' This is typical of Reekles, making her writing sound easy. Her writing flows out of her unstoppably when I ask her, for instance, how she finds the time to study while maintaining her career as an international publishing phenomenon, she looks at me and laughs lightly. 'A lot of my friends say that. Some of them don't even take Saturday jobs because there's too much to do on the network now. I suppose I see this as like my Saturday job now.'

One strange thing about her rise to fame is that almost all her fans have no idea how young she is. Teen fiction is usually written by adults. But if you look closely enough, there are a few indications of Reekles' age. Not many books end with quite such a specific message to staff at a Welsh school: 'A big thank you to my English teacher, Aislinn Laughan. Your enthusiastic teaching and interest in writing was a huge motivation.' Adults always struggle to write the teenage detail — things like how to keep on

listening to music even when you're in the shower — but Reekles gets it just right.

Despite these giveaways, the main reason few would guess at the fact that when she wrote the book Reekles was even younger than her teenage heroine is that her writing is so impressive. It is never introspective or pretentious. The pace is controlled, the chapters end on cliffhangers. You might be forgiven for thinking that the book was written by a highly experienced American scriptwriter with an eye for a movie deal.

Reekles says she wrote addictively from the first moment her father gave her a laptop at the age of 11. She never told or showed anyone for a very long time. She worried she was weird: 'I mean, it didn't seem like the average hobby.' Then a friend recommended she read a book on a free online novel-sharing platform for amateur writers. 'All my stories were squirrelled away in a folder on my laptop. But I saw that on this site I could be anonymous, and I liked that. I was self-conscious about the quality of my writing. I saw that here no one would know me, and I eventually worked up the courage to start posting my own books.'

Her writing soon became very popular on the site, and a year later, she got an email from a publisher offering to publish her latest online novel as a paper book. "'What's this?'" I thought. I read it a few times, yanked the charger out of the laptop and ran across to my parents, the noise that came out of my mouth was not human. I was so excited.' Her dad chips in proudly: 'Although it's easy to upload books online, and there are a lot of people doing it, there aren't that many people who can do it well.' I ask him what he thinks of the book. 'Oh, I haven't read it.'

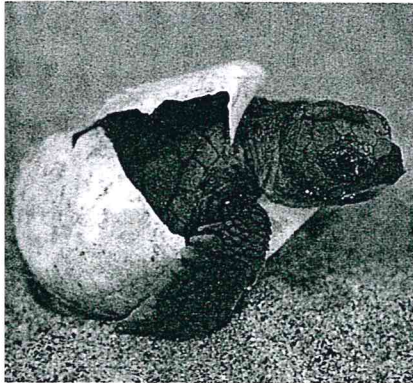
lir

- 31 What do we learn about Reekles in the first paragraph?
- A She is easily distracted while trying to write novels.
 - B She adapted her writing in response to readers' comments.
 - C She took care to avoid mistakes made by other novelists.
 - D She manages to please a wide range of readers.
- 32 What does Reekles suggest about her writing in the second paragraph?
- A She has little trouble fitting it into her life.
 - B She finds it easier to do than schoolwork nowadays.
 - C She does it to boost her income from other part-time jobs.
 - D She realises that few people are able to do it as well as she does.
- 33 What does the reporter say about Reekles' age?
- A It is hard for her to hide it from her readers.
 - B It allows her to write in a realistic way.
 - C It explains her need to please her teacher.
 - D It can sometimes put off adult readers.
- 34 What is meant by 'giveaways' in *line 37*?
- A slightly irrelevant parts of the book
 - B pieces of advice Reekles has received
 - C clues giving information about Reekles
 - D opportunities to read the book for free
- 35 According to Reekles, the online novel-sharing site was important for her because
- A it allowed her to compare her writing to that of others.
 - B other users gave her positive feedback about her work.
 - C she could display her work on it without embarrassment.
 - D it proved that she was less unusual than she had thought.
- 36 How does Reekles' father feel about her success?
- A proud that he recognised her talent when she was younger
 - B relieved that her book has become a bestseller at last
 - C impressed by his daughter's achievement in a competitive field
 - D keen to discover for himself why so many people admire the book

You are going to read an article about baby sea turtles being helped by humans. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**37–42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Baby sea turtles get to the water safely



Volunteers on a Caribbean Island and a police officer in the US have something in common: helping baby turtles to reach the sea.

Although human beings are

responsible for many of the problems faced by animals worldwide, there are times when people try to make up for it. Recently, in both the Caribbean and the US, people came to the aid of baby sea turtles confused by man-made light.

Though loggerhead sea turtles spend most of their lives in water, they are born on land. Adult females come ashore onto beaches to lay their eggs in the sand. There are around 100 eggs in a nest, and they incubate for about 55–65 days, depending on the temperature. Adult loggerhead turtles weigh up to 140kg and have few predators. **37** This, along with pollution and the loss of nesting habitats due to development, has resulted in these animals being placed on the threatened species list.

On the Caribbean island of Bonaire, conservation volunteers regularly help to ensure that the hundreds of loggerhead sea turtles that hatch on the beaches of the island make it to the sea each year. **38** This time, however, they had to do something they had never done before: create a human wall for some of the little ones that were confused as to the path to the ocean.

It all began when volunteers on Bonaire Island noticed that a turtle had laid her eggs a little further away from

the sea than usual, on a beach close to the airport. This was a problem because the babies usually hatch at night, and then use the moonlight to guide them to the sea. However, when turtles are born close to a place that is brightly lit at night, they get confused between the artificial light and the natural light of the moon.

39 In this case, that would be away from the sea and towards the bright lights of the airport terminal. When some turtle eggs were laid close by a few years ago, it caused a lot of problems for the baby turtles.

40 Then came the big day when they began to hatch, and the little hatchlings – as the tiny baby turtles are called – were ready to make their long trek to the water.

In order to ensure the hatchlings were guided by the moon and did not set off towards the airport, the volunteers came together and created a human wall around the turtles. **41** As a result, all 112 turtles scrambled over the sand in the right direction and made it safely to the sea.

And in Florida, in the United States, some baby turtles were similarly confused. A police officer was on patrol at 1 a.m. when he spotted some sea turtle hatchlings crawling towards a hotel. A passer-by told him that several other baby turtles were wandering around the hotel car park. **42** This may explain why they were heading for the hotel's front door. 'I began collecting hatchlings from the street and stopped traffic several times to do so,' said the officer. Helped by some of the hotel guests, the officer scooped up nearly 100 little turtles in a box and released them into the sea near the hotel.

- A** Determined not to let the same thing happen again, the volunteers kept a close eye on the turtle eggs.
- B** The Bonaire turtle eggs had also been buried near the sea.
- C** The task usually involves just keeping an eye on them.
- D** Like the loggerhead turtles in the Caribbean, their instinct was to move towards the brightest light.
- E** The eggs and young ones, however, are much more vulnerable.
- F** This effectively blocked out all the artificial light.
- G** As a result they can end up heading in the wrong direction.

You are going to read an article about a summer camp for teenagers where they can learn about a prehistoric animal. For questions **43–52**, choose from the sections **(A–D)**. The sections may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which section

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| includes praise for the learning environment provided? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| says a discovery has been long awaited? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| explains why the mastodon may have been in the area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| mentions that the students are carefully supervised? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| mentions a physical feature of mastodons that was related to their diet? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| demonstrates the great impact the camp has had on certain people? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| says someone's initial belief later turned out to be mistaken? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| shows that difficult conditions failed to put people off? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| describes how suitable places to dig are chosen? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| points out that something was hardly unexpected? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Summer camp for teenagers – looking for prehistoric animal bones!

A special summer camp in the US gave high school students the chance to look for the remains of mastodons – a prehistoric relative of the elephant.

A Lying on her stomach, Victoria Bochniak kept digging until she hit something hard. She tapped the object with her trowel, assuming it was a piece of wood. She was wrong. ‘We were like: “Wait a second. This is bone!” said Bochniak. In fact, what she found this week nearly 60 cm beneath a boggy prairie was the bone of a mastodon, an extinct relative of the elephant, believed to be more than 11,000 years old. Bochniak was excited but not entirely surprised. After all, this is why she attended Mastodon Camp. With about 30 other high school students, she has been given the hands-on opportunity to help excavate a mastodon. Under the watchful eyes of experts, students have not only unearthed pieces of mastodon, they’ve also discovered their inner paleontologist, inspiring them to pursue their newfound curiosity about Ice Age secrets.

B Mastodon Camp is meant to help students and teachers improve their understanding of scientific inquiry and research and their familiarity with scientific technology and tools, as well as teach them about evolution and changes in the ecosystem over time. ‘We’ve changed some folks’ lives,’ said Tom Pray, education outreach manager at the camp. ‘They’ve decided: “I’m not going to do art history anymore. I’m going to go into archeology.”’ This fall, Bochniak, 18, plans to study geology and anthropology at university and do field work at a nearby nature reserve. Kaitlyn Hornik, 16, said Mastodon Camp is more engaging than a typical classroom setting. ‘Textbooks are boring,’ said Hornik, ‘You come out here and you find things out for yourself.’

C American mastodons stood 2.4 to 3 m tall at the shoulder, similar to elephants, but were stockier and covered with thick hair. A ground-penetrating radar was dragged over the area to pinpoint where the students would excavate, Pray said. Soil surveys of the site by the Illinois State Geological Survey have determined that the mastodon was discovered at the shoreline of a glacial ‘kettle lake’. These were formed when chunks of ice broke off and melted during the glacial retreat. ‘Whether he came down for a drink or fell through the ice, we don’t know,’ said Jack MacRae, a naturalist with the Forest Preserve District. Pollen samples in the lake demonstrate that plant species in the region were in a time of transition from a spruce forest ecosystem containing trees like pines to the deciduous trees that lose their leaves in winter prevalent today. Mastodons, which had teeth strong enough to crush pine cones, preferred spruce forests as their habitat, experts say. So the site may provide clues as to why the beasts became extinct in North America about 10,000 years ago: possibly disease, human overhunting or loss of habitat caused by climate change.

D Although this year’s camp was plagued by heavy rains, the weather did little to dampen the students’ enthusiasm. On Tuesday, Pray arrived at the site at 6:30 a.m. to pump water out of the trenches and was joined a few hours later by students who helped by bailing water. Then they continued digging, using shovels, trowels and their own hands. On Tuesday, the piece of bone that Bochniak had discovered protruded from the black mud. Pray said it could be a rib or the top of a femur. ‘This could be what we’ve been looking for over the last few years,’ he said. A discovery like this makes all the hard work worthwhile. ‘This gives people the idea that anybody can do science,’ Pray said.

CERTIFICATION PRACTICE B2 LEVEL

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READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

Reading and Use of English 1

- For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

SUMMER EATING

As the weather gets warmer it is time to (0) B plans. There are days out, picnics, barbecues and, naturally, holidays to organise.

For (1) _____ people these will be enjoyable events, which run smoothly and without any problems. Unfortunately things do not always go as we wish.

To avoid any mishaps it is a good idea to include some safety measures in your summer planning. Make sure that these measures (2) _____ to summer eating; too, as germs multiply very quickly in food (3) _____ in warm conditions. Incorrect storage procedures are the main reason why food poisoning cases (4) _____ in summer.

One helpful step you can (5) _____ is to buy "cool bags" to bring your shopping home in. These look like carrier bags, but they are specially padded. This insulation keeps things (6) _____ raw meat and dairy produce longer, but you should get them into the fridge as quickly as possible.

If you are having a picnic lunch you will probably prepare it in the morning and then put it in the car or carry it (7) _____ for a few hours until you are ready to eat. That could put you (8) _____ risk of upset tummies all round, so be sure to pack your picnic in cool bags.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 0 | A do | <input type="checkbox"/> | B make | <input type="checkbox"/> | C arrange | <input type="checkbox"/> | D decide | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1 | A lots | <input type="checkbox"/> | B majority | <input type="checkbox"/> | C most | <input type="checkbox"/> | D all | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | A interest | <input type="checkbox"/> | B belong | <input type="checkbox"/> | C regard | <input type="checkbox"/> | D apply | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | A held | <input type="checkbox"/> | B put | <input type="checkbox"/> | C kept | <input type="checkbox"/> | D found | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | A raise | <input type="checkbox"/> | B rouse | <input type="checkbox"/> | C rise | <input type="checkbox"/> | D arouse | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | A follow | <input type="checkbox"/> | B take | <input type="checkbox"/> | C adopt | <input type="checkbox"/> | D observe | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | A such | <input type="checkbox"/> | B like | <input type="checkbox"/> | C alike | <input type="checkbox"/> | D as | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | A on | <input type="checkbox"/> | B about | <input type="checkbox"/> | C out | <input type="checkbox"/> | D forward | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | A on | <input type="checkbox"/> | B in | <input type="checkbox"/> | C for | <input type="checkbox"/> | D at | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**CERTIFICATION
PRACTICE
B2 LEVEL**

Reading and Use of English 2

- For questions 1 – 8, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

Example:

0

B

O

R

N

BILLY WILDER

Billy Wilder was (0) _____ Samuel Wilder in 1906 in Sucha, a small town about 150 km east (1) _____ Vienna. He was Jewish, the son of an ex-head waiter, on the way to becoming a hotel owner in Krakow, Poland. His mother called Samuel Billy after Buffalo Bill Cody whose Wild West Shows she had once seen in New York. She had lived there when she was a girl and longed to (2) _____ back, but alas, she would perish in Auschwitz.

Billy was eight years old when his parents settled in Vienna in 1914. There he entered secondary school where he excelled in sports and enjoyed classes in the humanities.

At the age of eighteen Wilder (3) _____ the capital's university to read law but he gave (4) _____ his studies to become a part-time journalist. He interviewed many (5) _____ men like Richard Strauss and Arthur Schnitzler.

In 1926 Wilder moved to Berlin and he gained access to cinematic circles. However, (6) _____ Hitler became chancellor in 1933, he decided it was time he (7) _____ Germany.

After a spell in Paris he emigrated to the USA where he met the novelist Charles Brackett. They began a partnership that (8) _____ last for over twelve years and resulted in many successful films, among which was the Oscar winner *The Lost Weekend*.

Reading and Use of English 3

- For questions 1 – 8, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap **in the same line**. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

Example: 0 A D M I R E R S

DA VINCI PUT TO THE TEST 500 YEARS ON

About 500 years ago Leonardo Da Vinci sketched what (0) _____ call ADMIRE
 the Mona Lisa of bridges and what critics at the time said was (1) _____ POSSIBLE
 to build. In fact, Sultan Bajazet II's refusal of the project in 1502 was based on his
 conviction that the construction would be a (2) _____ FAIL

Cranes lifted a huge white cloth to (3) _____ the structure to 500 VEIL
 people gathered in Aas, Norway, 2,500 km north of the (4) _____ spot SUN
 on the Golden Horn in Istanbul where Da Vinci (5) _____ intended to INITIAL
 erect it.

With a (6) _____ of 364 m it would have been a record breaker in the LONG
 16th century. Although Leonardo had (7) _____ envisioned the use of ORIGINAL
 stone, the Norwegians settled for a (8) _____ version with railings WOOD
 made of stainless steel.

**CERTIFICATION
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B2 LEVEL**

Reading and Use of English 4

- For questions 1 – 6, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 It's difficult for me to understand your point of view.

DIFFICULTY

I _____ your point of view.

The gap can be filled by the words "have difficulty in understanding", so you write:

Example: 0 HAVE DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING

Write **only** the missing words **IN CAPITAL LETTERS**.

1 When Bond looked in the wing mirror he realized that a grey car was tailing him.

FOLLOWED

When Bond looked in the wing mirror he realized that _____
a grey car.

2 There's nothing you can force Peter to do against his will.

MAKE

You can't _____ against his will.

3 Rachel is offended because you didn't accept her offer of help.

TURNED

If you _____ her offer of help Rachel wouldn't be offended.

4 Excuse me, will you help me with this case?

WOULD

Excuse me, _____ a hand with this case?

5 Edward's photos are far worse than Adam's.

SUCH

Edward does not _____ Adam.

6 "How much will we have to pay for admission to the show?" Tony asked Bob.

CHARGED

Tony asked Bob how much they _____ for admission to the show.

**CERTIFICATION
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Reading and Use of English 5

- You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 1 – 6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

She prattled on, and contentedly he half listened. The path emerged from the woods onto the broad grassy banks of the river. They walked upstream for half a mile and entered the woods again. Here, on a bend in the river, below overhanging trees, was the pool, dug out in Briony's grandfather's time.

A stone weir slowed the current and was a favourite diving and jumping-off place. Otherwise, it was not ideal for beginners. You went from the weir, or you jumped off the bank into nine feet of water.

He dived in and trod water, waiting for her. They had started the lessons the year before, in late summer when the river was lower and the current sluggish. Now, even in the pool there was a steady rotating drift. She paused only for a moment, then jumped from the bank into his arms with a scream.

She practised treading water until the current carried her against the weir, then he towed her across the pool so that she could start again. When she tried out her breast stroke after a winter of neglect, he had to support her, not easy when he was treading water himself. If he removed his hand from under her, she could only manage three or four strokes before sinking. She was amused by the fact that, going against the current, she swam to remain still. But she did not stay still. Instead, she was carried back each time to the weir, where she clung to a rusty iron ring, waiting for him, her white face vivid against the lurid mossy walls and greenish cement. Swimming uphill, she called it.

She wanted to repeat the experience, but the water was cold and after fifteen minutes he'd had enough. He pulled her over to the bank and, ignoring her protests, helped her out.

He took his clothes from the basket and went a little way off into the woods to change. When he returned she

was standing exactly where he had left her, on the bank, looking into the water, with her towel around her shoulders.

She said, "If I fell in the river, would you save me?"
"Of course."

He was bending over the basket as he said this and he heard, but did not see, her jump in. Her towel lay on the bank. Apart from the concentric ripples moving out across the pool, there was no sign of her. Then she bobbed up and snatched a breath and sank again. Desperate, he thought of running to the weir to fish her out from there, but the water was an opaque muddy green. He would only find her below the surface by touch. There was no choice – he stepped into the water, shoes, jacket and all.

Almost immediately he found her arm, got his arm under her shoulder and heaved her up. To his surprise she was holding her breath. And then she was laughing joyously and clinging to his neck. He pushed her onto the bank and, with great difficulty in his sodden clothes, struggled out himself.

"Thank you," she kept saying. "Thank you, thank you."

"That was a bloody stupid thing to do."

"I wanted you to save me."

"Don't you see how easily you could have drowned?"

"You saved me."

Distress and relief were charging his anger. He was close to shouting. "You stupid girl. You could have killed us both."

She fell silent. He sat on the grass, emptying the water from his shoes. "You went under the surface. I couldn't see you. My clothes were weighing me down. We could have drowned, both of us. Is that your idea of a joke? Well, is it?"

- 1 The pool was located
- A a mile up the river.
 - B next to some woods.
 - C underneath some trees where the river curved.
 - D not far from the path.
- 2 When Briony had started her swimming lessons the previous summer
- A the current was very strong.
 - B the river flowed more slowly and was not as deep.
 - C the water in the pool moved in a circular motion.
 - D it was easier to tread water.
- 3 How did Briony feel when the current of the water pulled her towards the weir?
- A Afraid.
 - B Uncertain.
 - C Entertained.
 - D Calm.
- 4 When Briony jumped into the water the second time, the man initially wanted
- A to rush to the weir and save her.
 - B to step into the water and pull her out.
 - C to call out for help.
 - D to try to locate her in the water.
- 5 How did the man feel after rescuing Briony?
- A He was both thankful and upset.
 - B He felt guilty that he hadn't been looking after her properly.
 - C He felt angry with himself.
 - D He was able to see the funny side of the situation and treated it as a joke.
- 6 From Briony's actions and words we can understand that
- A she was determined to learn how to dive.
 - B she wanted to put the man to the test.
 - C she was demonstrating how brave she was.
 - D her intention was to drown herself.

Reading and Use of English 6

- You are going to read an article about snow leopards. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A – G** the one which fits each gap (1 – 6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

SNOW LEOPARDS

Magnificent and mysterious, snow leopards inhabit remote mountain tops where their thick, smoky-coloured coats render them almost invisible against the snow and rocks.

(1) _____ These agile and powerful beasts can cover up to 18 daunting metres in one leap, thanks to their long hind limbs and shortened front ones, and they can kill animals up to three times their size.

However, unlike other big cats, they are not aggressive towards humans. In the wild they cautiously leave the area when they realise people are around. (2) _____

It is said that a hand-reared lion or tiger cub will spit and scratch when you give it milk, but a snow leopard will just settle down and have a nice drink.

(3) _____ According to experts at the international wildlife organisation WWF, it's hard to estimate their numbers because they are very secretive and cover a wide area, but it is possible that there could be as few as 4,000 left.

In the past these beautiful creatures seemed immune to harm, but now man has moved into

their territory and the hunter has become the hunted. In spite of the fact that killing them is prohibited in most of the states where they live, many have been slain for their coats and bones, which are used in traditional Asian medicines.

(4) _____

The latest problem is that men have begun to push further into their mountain habitats to graze their herds. Traditionally, snow leopards prey on wild animals such as ibex, goats, boar and ground-dwelling birds, but obviously they won't say no to a bit of livestock if it appears on the scene. As a result they are being killed.

In an effort to stop the killing the WWF has joined with other conservation organisations to form the Snow Leopards Survival Strategy.

(5) _____ This includes introducing dogs and donkeys (which are very good guards); making stone shelters secure for livestock; setting up anti-poaching patrols, and organising a scheme whereby the locals are compensated for the loss of domestic animals.

(6) _____ In the meantime, their easy-going attitude to humans means they adapt well to life in captivity.

- A** Others have died as a consequence of wars.
- B** Proud members of the cat family, they are among the most efficient predators in the world.
- C** Of course, such initiatives are not always successful.
- D** It is hoped that the initiative will help preserve these remarkable felines in the wild for posterity.
- E** In captivity they are docile and adaptable.
- F** Its aim is to promote coexistence between animals and people.
- G** Snow leopards are found in 12 states in Central Asia, including Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Russia.

Reading and Use of English 7

- You are going to read a leaflet about famous British piers. For questions 1 – 10 choose from the piers A – E. The sections may be chosen more than once.

Which of the piers

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| is in a resort renowned for a type of seafood? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| was convenient for train passengers? | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| was damaged during the shooting of a film? | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| still retains some of the original building materials? | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| had a decorative light display? | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| caught fire three times? | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| was damaged by bad weather on two occasions? | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| has got a pavilion that was built in the mid thirties? | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| boasts an exotic building that was added just over a decade after it was opened? | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| offers landing facilities for a unique type of vessel? | 10 <input type="checkbox"/> |

FAMOUS BRITISH PIERS

A BRIGHTON PALACE PIER

Opened in May 1899, this was one of the last piers to be constructed in England.

The 1,760ft long structure consisted of a grand building with minaret towers, which housed a 1,500-seater pavilion theatre and dining, smoking and reading rooms. Ornamental arches shone with colourful electrical illuminations and an electric tramway ran up the centre. The war years hindered further development and it wasn't until the fifties that business started booming again. Today's visitors can see many nostalgic features, including original filigree ironwork arches.

B CROMER PIER

Cromer, famous for its crab and traditional British seaside atmosphere, also boasts one of the best piers to have been built in the 20th century. The current one dates from 1901 and began life at 450ft. It was later extended to 500ft, with the addition of a lifeboat station. The whole structure was closed during the Second World War as a precaution against German invasion – in 1940, one of the central sections was blown up to prevent it being used for landing by an enemy force. Its pavilion theatre is renowned for producing traditional summer season entertainment.

C SOUTHSEA SOUTH PARADE PIER

Originally designed to act as a landing stage for passengers travelling to and from the Isle of Wight, the old Pier was completely destroyed by fire in 1904. The new one, opened in 1908, was designed for pleasure and included a vast pavilion at the shore end housing two large halls. One was used as a theatre, the other doubled as a café bar and dance hall. No more mishaps occurred until the sixties when the theatre burnt down. Then, in 1974, a further blaze destroyed the rest of the pavilion during the making of the rock opera *Tommy* for the screen. Once again, it was rebuilt and the large white construction that stands today still acts as a distinctive local landmark.

D BLACKPOOL NORTH PIER

Considered the most traditional of Blackpool's three piers, the North Pier was designed by Eugenius Birch and opened in 1863. Situated close to the town's first railway station, it played a key role in Blackpool becoming the Playground of the North – a title the town retains today. In 1864, a landing stage was added, bringing the total length to 1,650ft and allowing pleasure steamers to offer trips to such places as the Isle of Man. An Indian pavilion, constructed in 1874, became famous for quality musical concerts. Successive extensions to the Pier were carried out between 1875 and 1903 as the town gained popularity. It was damaged by a blaze in 1921 and again in 1939.

E SOUTHWOLD PIER

Opened in 1900, the wooden original had a T-shaped landing stage at the seaward end. Later a shoreward pavilion was built for serving refreshments, but the structure was mainly used as a platform for passenger steam services between London Bridge and Great Yarmouth. The steamers continued to operate on the route until the early 30s, when the pier was purchased by the Amusement Equipment Company. In 1934, it was struck by a violent storm. Two years later the old timber buildings at the shore end were replaced by the two-storey pavilion, which remains today. In the Second World War sectioning had to be carried out for fear of invasion and the shortened version was further reduced in length due to a drifting mine. Another storm in 1955 caused even more damage and it was just 150ft long when it passed into the hands of the Iredale family in 1987. They restored it to its former glory and in 2002 facilities for disembarkation were added. Southwold Pier can now extend a warm welcome to the UK's only seagoing paddle steamer, the *P.S. Waverley*, and its sister ship *M.V. Balmoral*.

Writing 2

- Write an answer to **one** of the questions 2 – 4 in this part. Write your answer in **140 – 190** words in an appropriate style.

2 You have found this advertisement in a booklovers' magazine.

This is your opportunity to win a weekend in Rome!
If you want to take up the challenge all you have to do is write an interesting review of a book you have read recently.

Write your **review**.

3 You have received this email from your English-speaking friend Steven.

From: Steven

Subject: camping holiday

...Your camping holiday sounded so brilliant that Molly and I would like to do the same this summer. Since it will be our first time, we thought of asking you for advice. Could you send us information about the site you stayed at? Prices, facilities, booking procedures and any other details would be useful.

Love,
Steven

Write your **email**.

4 You see this announcement in an international students' magazine.

Articles wanted

Say it in English!

How long have you been studying English? What has helped you to improve your English and become more confident? Have you got any suggestions that may be useful to other learners?

We will publish the best articles in our magazine.

Write your **article**.