1

Read the text in which 15-year-old Tamanna Islam writes about Michelle Obama visiting her school in London. Some words are missing. Complete the text by writing one word for each gap

Meeting Michelle Obama

14 January 2017

Before she came, there was such a buzz. I was in the main school hall (0) ___ 300 other students. Everyone was quiet, everyone eagerly awaiting her arrival. When she walked on to the stage, we jumped to our feet – clapping, shouting, crying. She brought this incredible vibe and the atmosphere was just electric.

Throughout her speech she made eye (1) ___ with everyone, and gave these little smiles. It made it feel so personal, like she (2) ___ just talking to you. And then, at the end, she hugged (3) ___ pupil in the front row, including me! She pulled me close, looked me in the eye and told me: "I'm so proud (4) ___ you."

I was one of the 20 students selected (5) ___ my teachers to travel to the White House in Washington DC. (6) ___ we met her again, she recollected every single detail from her visit: how special it was to see us waving the American (7) ___, how moved she was by our performance of Still I Rise [the Maya Angelou poem]. It was nerve-racking going through all of the security, but once we were inside, Michelle made us feel like we were visiting a friend. In addition (8) ___ meeting her, we were introduced to lots of senior women working at the White House, such as in the justice and crime department. It was so inspiring and enlightening to see so (9) ___ women and people from ethnic-minority backgrounds in positions of power.

Michelle Obama understands what it is (10) ___ to be a young Muslim woman in Tower Hamlets. "Your story is my story," she told our school. Growing (11) ___ in a working-class environment in Chicago, she faced her own sort of unfairness, but she worked hard and showed the world that she could do anything. And if girls like us can raise our aspirations, it shows the rest of Britain, the rest of the world, that we can do anything.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Since meeting her, I've started to seek out what I can do to (12) ___ a positive change in my community. She taught me I have a responsibility to use my voice to break down negative stereotypes of Muslim women, and make change for the next generation after that.

2

Read the text in which a famous football player talks about his youth. Some words are missing. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each gap (1 – 12). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Lionel Messi: my first game

Almost at the same time as I started playing football in the street, I joined our little local club, Grandoli. (0) A___, it wasn't just me: the whole family was involved at the club; all of (1) ___ played there at different age levels and my dad was one of the coaches. We used (2) ___ the whole of Sunday at Grandoli because we would have a (3) ___ of the family playing in every different age category, from me through to my uncle in the senior team. We'd be there all day!

When I started, we (4) ___ in a seven-a-side league, against other little teams from the southern neighbourhoods of Rosario. I only got the (5) ___ to play as young as I did (6) ___ my grandmother. Grandoli didn't have a team for boys as young as me but, one Sunday, an older boy didn't turn up for his game and my grandmother pushed me forward to play. The coach wasn't keen at first but he (7) ___ me play in the end.

That first game for Grandoli was with older boys. When it came to training with boys my own age, my dad was our coach. By (8) ___, I was playing every hour of every day that I could. I'd go to school, come home and, straight away, go out with a ball. Then I might go training at Grandoli, come home, (9) ___ something to eat and then be back out in the street again. I was always out in the street. And always playing football. I even kept a ball with me when I was indoors! My brothers didn't (10) ___ worry any more: the other kids in the neighbourhood sort of looked (11) ___ me. They got to know me, got to know (12) ___ I was like and how I played football. By the time I was eight or nine, I didn't have to be afraid of being kicked by anybody. I could just play.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

0	A In fact	B Finally	C Despite	D In addition
1	A relatives	B boys	C we	D us
2	A to spend	B spending	C to spending	D spend
3	A group	B head	C member	D young
4	A have been playing	B were playing	C should compete	D might compete
5	A luck	B risk	C chance	D feeling
6	A thanking	B thanks	C because	D because of
7	A allowed	B let	C permitted	D left
8	A this	B then	C that	D there
9	A bring	B like	C become	D have
10	A must	B have to	C need	D want to
11	A after	B for	C up	D to
12	A how	B what	C whatever	D however

LIVEWORKSHEETS