Read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap.

LANGUAGE VARIETY



The fact that English language has **(1)** _____ spoken in England **(2)** _____ 1,500 years but in Australia for only 200, explains **(3)** _____ we have a great wealth **(4)** _____ regional dialects in England that is more **(5)** _____ less totally lacking in Australia. It is often possible to tell **(6)** _____ an English person comes from to **(7)** _____ about 15 miles or less. In Australia, where **(8)** _____ has not been enough time for changes **(9)** _____ bring about such regional variation, it is almost impossible to tell where someone comes from **(10)** _____ all, although very small differences **(11)** _____ now beginning to appear. It **(12)** _____ unlikely, however, that there will ever **(13)** _____ as much dialectal variation in Australia **(14)** _____ there is in England. This is because modern transport and communication conditions are very different from **(15)** _____ they were 1,500 or **(16)** _____ 100 years **(17)** _____. Even though English is now spoken in **(18)** _____ different parts of the world many thousands of miles apart, it is very unlikely that English **(19)** _____ ever break up into a number of different non-intelligible languages in the same **(20)** _____ that Indo-European and Germanic **(21)** _____. German and Norwegian became different languages because the ancestors of the speakers of these **(22)** _____ languages moved apart geographically, and were no **(23)** _____ in touch and communicating with one **(24)** _____. In the modern world, barring unforeseen catastrophes, this will not happen, **(25)** _____ least in the **(26)** _____ future. As **(27)** _____ as Americans and British people, for instance, are in touch with one another and want to communicate with one another, **(28)** _____ is most unlikely that their dialects will drift **(29)** _____ far apart **(30)** _____ to become different languages.

Adapted from: *CAE Practice Tests Plus 1*

LIVEWORKSHEETS