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Task 1

- You are going to read an article about Lego bricks. Some words are missing from the text.
- Choose the most appropriate answer from the options (A-D) for each gap (1-10) in the text.
- Write the letter of the appropriate answer in the white box.
- There is one example (0) at the beginning.

IS LEGO LOSING OUT TO COMPUTERS?

Lego has been voted the best plastic product ever made, but in an age when children have computers and mobile phones is its appeal fading?

LEGO FACTS

There are 52 Lego bricks for (0) _____ person on Earth.

Children spend five billion hours a year (1) _____ Lego bricks.

If all the Lego sets sold in the last 10 years were placed end to end they (2) _____ from London to Perth in Australia.

Coloured pieces of Lego feature strongly in the childhood memories of many adults, who (3) _____ parents and grandparents have become the toy-buyers of today. It has won many awards, (4) _____ Toy of the Century twice. And this week it is crowned the best plastic product, (5) _____ Tupperware among others, in an online poll of the British public and designers.

But nostalgia and the popular vote does not necessarily translate into sales, and the last few years (6) _____ rocky. Although it (7) _____ it's the fourth largest toy manufacturer in the world, Lego suffered its first financial loss in 1999, and this year decided to sell its four Legoland parks to private owners.

Lego has been a family business (8) _____ the Danish carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen started making wooden toys in 1932. The name came from two Danish words "leg godt", meaning "play well". He later (9) _____ that "lego" in latin means "I put together".

The plastic brick (10) _____ in 1949 and soon took off in the UK as a building toy for children. New ranges since then have become more advanced and more recently, the company has embraced Hollywood by launching sets based on Star Wars and Harry Potter.

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0)	A <i>all</i>	B <i>each</i>	C <i>some</i>	D <i>any</i>	0)	B	
1)	A to playing with	B play with	C to play with	D playing with	1)		
2)	A would stretch	B should stretch	C stretched	D can stretch	2)		
3)	A are	B be	C as	D although	3)		
4)	A ignoring	B excluding	C including	D extending	4)		
5)	A beating	B winning	C beaten	D won	5)		
6)	A were	B have been	C was	D has been	6)		
7)	A was said	B said	C had been said	D says	7)		
8)	A ever since	B until	C before	D while	8)		
9)	A invented	B discovered	C intended	D discussed	9)		
10)	A introduced	B has introduced	C was introduced	D has been introduced	10)		

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Task 2

- You are going to read a newspaper article about stray dogs. Some words are missing from the text.
- Your task is to write the missing words on the dotted lines (11-17) after the text.
- Use only one word in each gap.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.

STRAY DOG CLASSES

Wales is one of the most problematic parts of the UK for stray dogs, according (0) _____ an animal charity. The Dogs Trust, which takes in 1,000 stray dogs in Wales alone, is holding classes in Welsh primary schools (11) _____ teach children about responsible dog ownership. The charity said (12) _____ were a number of reasons for the problem including poor knowledge about looking after pets.

Classes have (13) _____ offered free to schools and are curriculum-based. Mark Goodman, (14) _____ of four education officers who work for the charity in the UK, has been running classes in schools in South Wales.

“It is about trying to get the message across to children about (15) _____ it means to look after a dog, and maybe they will take the message home with them,” he said.

Mr Goodman, (16) _____ is based at the charity’s Bridgend shelter, said that Wales has been identified as having some of the worst problems with stray dogs in the UK.

“Hopefully, these classes will help children to understand responsible behaviour and get them thinking about (17) _____ it is important for dogs to be microchipped, for example.”
At least that’s the idea.

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- 14).....
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- 16).....
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Task 3

- You are going to read an article about superstitions. Some words are missing from the text.
- Use the words in brackets to form the words that fit in the gaps (18-28).
- Then write these words on the lines below in the appropriate form.
- You might find words that you do not have to change.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.

SUPERSTITIONS: FRIDAY THE 13TH – UNLUCKY FOR YOU?

Do you believe in good luck and bad luck? Are you (0) _____ (*superstition*)? And, if so, how do you go about avoiding bad luck? And what do you do to (18) _____ (*sure*) good luck?

One person in four in Britain is, (19) _____ (*apparent*), superstitious, and they'll do everything from hanging horseshoes over their fireplace to (20) _____ (*cross*) their fingers, touching wood and (21) _____ (*absolute*) never walking under a ladder. And they are (22) _____ (*care*) about cats. Black cats are supposed to be (23) _____ (*relate*) of witches or warlocks, so if one is following you, it's (24) _____ (*definite*) bad luck!

On the other hand if one crosses your path and continues then it's good luck because it hasn't noticed you.

However, in some places the (25) _____ (*believe*) are different – so it pays to know where your black cat comes from.

Superstitions are also a subject for research by Dr. Richard Wiseman at the University of Hertfordshire. He believes that some people actually want to be (26) _____ (*lucky*), because it helps them to avoid taking (27) _____ (*responsible*) for their own failings. It's easier to say 'I failed the exam because I had bad luck again' than to admit that you didn't work (28) _____ (*hard*) enough. 'It's a way of coping out', he said.

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0).....*superstitious*.....

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Task 4

- You are going to read an article about mobile phones. In most lines there is one word that should not be there. It is either grammatically incorrect or does not fit in with the sense of the text.
- Read the text and then copy the extra word in the space provided after each line.
- Some lines are correct. Indicate these lines with a tick (✓).
- The task begins with two examples (0).

DON'T GIVE MOBILE PHONES TO YOUNG CHILDREN

0)	Parents should not give mobile phones to all children aged 8 or under,	0)	<i>all</i>	
0)	the chairman of an official study into the safety of the phones said.	0)	✓	
29)	Sir William Stewart, chairman of the National Radiological	29)		
30)	Protection Board, (NRPB), said there was a very growing amount	30)		
31)	of research that showed using mobile phones had been health	31)		
32)	implications and it was therefore wise to adopt a 'precautionary	32)		
33)	approach', particularly together with children.	33)		
34)	"I don't think we can put our hands on our hearts and rather say	34)		
35)	mobile phones are safe," he told a news conference.	35)		
36)	"When it comes to giving a mobile phone to a 3 to 8-year-old,	36)		
37)	that one can't possibly be right."	37)		
38)	Stewart concluded that "there is no any hard evidence at present that	38)		
39)	mobile phones are harmful." However, he had said he was "more	39)		
40)	concerned" about positive health implications than five years ago.	40)		

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