Read the magazine article. Choose the paragraph from A-H (page ◯ which best suits each gap (1-7). There is an extra paragraph.

INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE LEARNING

Research shows that language learners who make the most progress are those who are prepared **to take responsibility** for their own learning. This is known as **independent** or **autonomous** learning. But what does this actually involve?

1 ☐ Independent learners also keep organised vocabulary notebooks. They don't just write down new words on scraps of paper. For instance, they organise new vocabulary by topic. This means that they can easily find words they have decided to make a note of, which makes **accessing** and learning them easier.

2 ☐ But independent language learning isn't just about using dictionaries and keeping organised notebooks. Independent language learners are also more likely to actually use the language outside the classroom.

3 ☐ Besides cinema and television, independent learners also enjoy listening to songs in the target language. But it's not just the music that they are interested in. They listen to the words, too, and try and work out their meanings.

4 ☐ Independent learning is not confined to reading and listening. This kind of learner also likes to produce language. This does not only mean inside the classroom, but outside it, too.

5 ☐ They will be perfectly at home with writing, as well. They will probably be using the language on the Internet in chat rooms and writing emails to friends in other countries.

6 ☐ There are several answers to these questions. First of all, a student learning the language in a country where that language is not spoken might only have a couple of lessons a week. This means that those who use it outside the lessons are **getting more exposure** and practice.

7 ☐ At the end of the day, we don't actually know **precisely** how people learn languages, but it seems clear that if we want to improve our chances of learning one well, we should try and use it both inside and outside the classroom.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a And additional reason is that their learning is more personalised because they are doing things in the language that they are actually interested in, such as listening to their favourite bands singing in the target language.

b First of all, language learners should know how to use **resources** like dictionaries. This is important, because it allows the learners to work on their own without a teacher. For example, if you know how to use a dictionary, you can look up words and check spellings on your own.

c For example, they like watching films in the language they are learning. However, they don't just read the subtitles. They try to listen to how things are said, and might even try and follow what they are watching without looking at the subtitles at all.

d However, independent learners not only write down new words and their meanings. They also make a note of other important information connected with the word, such as its pronunciation and other words that usually go with it. They also write down examples of the word in context. All this information makes it easier for them to actually use the words they have recorded.

e Reading in the **target language** is another **favoured** strategy. Such learners will be browsing the Internet or flicking through magazines dealing with subjects that they are interested in.

f So why is it that independent learners seem to learn more? What is it about using the language outside the classroom that makes it more **memorable**?

g There have been some spectacular results. A recent survey in Sweden concluded that children who had access to one at home scored significantly higher in English tests that those who didn't.

h They don't worry about using the language in shops when they go abroad or if a foreign tourist stops them to ask for directions. In fact, they will eagerly grab the opportunity to practise their foreign language skills.

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