FIRST-4-EXAM SIMULATOR

ACTIVITY 23: Read the text below and choose from the menus the suitable answer. The first alternative [**eager** - **fast** - **important** - **urgent**] is already done for you.

WOMEN IN HISTORY

Is the history of the world in urgent need of correction?

Some historians, mostly women, argue that insufficient ? has been paid to a very important group: women. These historians ? history textbooks to be revised so that they show accurately the role ? by women.

? the history books, cavemen ? most of the food for their families through hunting animals. But the ? shows that 80% of the diet of prehistoric humans was vegetarian and it was collected by females. ?, women's efforts in fighting in wars or leading revolutions have been ignored. Textbooks concentrate on men such as Hannibal or Che Guevara and neglect ? women such as Théroigne de Méricourt, an opera singer who led the storming of the Bastille in 1789, or Mariya Bochkareva, a Bolshevik who organised a well-trained and ? successful troop of 2,000 fighting women during the Russian revolution in 1917. Women rulers are also forgotten. Between 962 and 1582 there were at least 16 women rulers in countries ? from Italy to Angola.

Women ? up half the human ?. If there is no ? to their contribution to history in the textbooks, then the real story is not being told. However many male historians ? that important female figures have been kept ? the history books.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ACTIVITY 24: Read the text below and choose from the menus the suitable answer. The first alternative [**character** - **credit** - **fame** - **reputation**] is already done for you.

ENGLISH SPELLING

Why does English spelling have a [reputation] for being so difficult? English was first written down when Christian monks came to England in Anglo-Saxon [?].

They used the 23 letters of Latin to write down the sounds of Anglo-Saxon [?] as they heard it.

However, English has a [?] range of basic sounds (over 40) than Latin.

The alphabet was too small, and so combinations of letters were needed to [?] the different sounds. Inevitably, there were inconsistencies in the way that letters were combined.

With the Norman invasion of England, the English language was put [?] risk. English survived, but the spelling of many English words changed to follow French [?], and many French words were [?] into the language. The result was more irregularity.

When the printing press was [?] in the fifteenth century, many early printers of English texts spoke other first languages. They [?] little effort to respect English spelling. Although one of the short-term [?] of printing was to produce a number of variant spellings, in the long term it created fixed spellings. People became used to seeing words spelt in the same way. Rules were [?] , and dictionaries were put together which printers and writers could [?] to.

However, spoken English was not fixed and continued to change slowly - just as it still does now. Letters that were sounded in the Anglo-Saxon period, like the 'k' in 'knife', now became [?]. Also, the pronunciation of vowels then had little in [?] with how they sound now, but the way they are spelt hasn't changed.

No [?] , then, that it is often difficult to see the link between sound and spelling.

LIVEWORKSHEETS