UNIT 9 D

WRITING SKILLS

Match headings a–c with blanks 1–3 in the article in exercise 1B.

a What are the benefits? b What can *you* do to help? c What do we need to do?

Universal design



Our city is one of the state's most important tourist destinations, and it's easy to understand why: We have the best parks, museums, and restaurants in the region. The proposed shopping area next to (a) Luna Park will be open seven days (b) a week when it opens in 2022. But, unlike most of the tourist attractions we have now, it should be designed to be accessible.

1 _____ ?

(c) The new streets and buildings that are planned should meet the needs of all users, including people who may have a physical or learning disability. They should also be practical. Here are a few simple examples:

- Wheelchair-friendly entrances with no steps, which are also safer for (d) the visually-impaired.
- Larger restroom stalls, which provide easier access for wheelchairs.
- Clear signs that use well-known symbols to help people who can't read.

2 _____ ?

Firstly, making "universal" design decisions means fewer expensive changes in the future. Secondly, these decisions can benefit both people who are physically disabled and those who are not. For example, entrances that don't have steps and larger restroom stalls are more practical for those with suitcases or strollers. User-friendly signs can also be more easily understood by (e) people who don't understand English very well.

3 _____ ?

Our government has recently passed a law on universal access, and now we have a chance to test its success. Sign this online petition now to remind our leaders that all new buildings and streets must be accessible to everyone.

As a society, we have (f) a moral obligation to everyone who lives here. People need to be able to access and use public spaces and buildings safely and comfortably.

Read the Text builder. Then match underlined examples a–f in the article with rules 1–6.

Text builder articles: *a*, *an*, *the*, zero (–)

- Use the indefinite article (*a*/*an*):

1 to talk about something/someone for the first time: ***A*** *new plan is needed.*

2 in expressions of frequency: *This entrance is used several times* ***a*** *day.*

- Use the definite article (*the*):

3 before a collective group: *He's collecting money for* ***the*** *homeless.*

4 when something has already been mentioned, or is specific: *I really like* ***the*** *car across the street.*

- Don't use an article (–):

5 before uncountable and plural nouns in general: (–) *Street signs should be easy to read.*

6 with most proper nouns and cities: (–) *Fifth Avenue is in* (–) *New York.*