READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following text about transport and answer the following questions.

The first underground train

Paragraph 1

Today there are underground train systems in over 40 countries. For example, you can take underground trains in Paris, New York and Tokyo. Modern underground systems use electric trains, and they are clean, safe and quiet, They usually arrive on time. There are no traffic jams. Most people are happy to use them. But the first underground train systems were quite different from the modern systems we see in big cities all around the world.

Paragraph 2

The first underground trains ran in London in 1863. It was a very busy city end the streets were full of traffic. There were too many people, horse carriages, houses and buildings. There just wasn't enough space above groundr and so people decided to put the trains underground. But unlike today, there were no electric trains in 1863 and all of the trains used steam engines which made power from fire and water.

Paragraph 3

In 1863, all of the trains used steam engines. Because these engines were powered by very hot water and fire, the tunnels were smoky, steamy, and noisy. People wanted some fresh air, but it was difficult to get it into the tunnels and stations. The tunnels were dark, too. The train cars and stations were made of wood, and lighted with gas. Sometimes there were accidents because of fires.

Paragraph 4

Before the London Underground opened, people were very scared about the idea of going into underground tunnels. Many were afraid of the tunnels full of the smoke, the steam and the noise from the train engines. And indeed, travelling in the tunnels of the first underground system was a very noisy, dark, and smelly experience. But on the first day, the new London Underground carried 40,000 passengers. It was very quick, and the trains ran every 10 minutes, The people of London fell in love with their new train system.

Paragraph 5

The London Underground had three classes of travel, First class was the most expensive and most comfortable. Second class was less expensive but still comfortable. Third class was the opposite of first class. When the London Underground opened, the third class tickets were the most popular. About 70% cf the tickets sold were these cheap tickets for ordinary working people. Nowadays the prices have gone up, but the underground experience around the world is definitely cleaner and quieter!

Questions 1-5

The text above has five paragraphs (1-5). Choose the best title for each paragraph from A-F below and write the letter (A-F) on the lines below. There is one title you don't need.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. Paragraph 1	**A.** Why the first underground train system was built
2. Paragraph 2	**B.** Tickets for the first underground system
3. Paragraph 3	**C.** People's feelings about the first underground train system
4. Paragraph 4	**D.** What the first underground system was like
5. Paragraph 5	**E.** Railroads of the first underground system
	F. Modern underground train systems

Questions 6-10:*Read the passage again. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Write T or F into the boxes.*

6. The stations and tunnels of the first underground system were smoky.

7. The first underground trains were late because of traffic jams.

8. There were three types of tickets for the first underground trains.

9. The first underground trains were built in Paris.

10. At first, people were worried about using the first underground trains.

11. The first underground train stations were made of wood.

12. Ordinary working people could not buy first class underground tickets.

13. The ticket prices today are still cheap for ordinary working people.

Questions 14-18

Complete sentences 14-18 with an exact number, word or phrase (NO MORE THAN three words) from the text. Write the exact number, word or phrase on the lines below.

14. In 1863, there weren't any _____ trains.

15. Steam engines used the power of _____.

16. Thousands of people used the London Underground on _____.

17. The old London Underground used _____lights.

18. When the London Underground opened, most of the tickets sold were the

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS