

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

**Example:**

0 A hit B knocked C banged D beat

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | A | B | C | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|

### The Mysterious Isle

In the early morning of 23 January, 2009, the most powerful storm for a decade (0) ..... western France. With wind speeds in (1) ..... of 120 miles per hour, it flattened forests, (2) ..... down power lines and caused massive destruction to buildings and roads. But it also left behind an extraordinary creation. Seven miles out to sea at the (3) ..... where the Atlantic Ocean meets the estuary of the River Gironde, a small island had (4) ..... out of the water. Locals soon gave it the name The Mysterious Isle. What was so remarkable, (5) ..... its sudden apparition, was the fact that the island (6) ..... intact in what is often quite a hostile sea environment. It could well become a permanent (7) .....

Scientists quickly realised that the island's appearance (8) ..... a unique opportunity to study the creation and development of a new ecosystem. Within months, it had been colonised by seabirds, insects and vegetation.

- |   |               |              |              |                 |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 | A surplus     | B advance    | C excess     | D put           |
| 2 | A fetched     | B brought    | C carried    | D sent          |
| 3 | A scene       | B mark       | C stage      | D point         |
| 4 | A risen       | B grown      | C lifted     | D surfaced      |
| 5 | A in spite of | B instead of | C apart from | D on account of |
| 6 | A prolonged   | B remained   | C resided    | D persevered    |
| 7 | A item        | B issue      | C matter     | D feature       |
| 8 | A delivered   | B awarded    | C proposed   | D offered       |

For questions **9–16**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning **(0)**.

Example: 

|   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 0 | G | R | E | A | T |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

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### Choosing Binoculars

For independent travellers, a good pair of binoculars often represents an essential piece of kit. Unless you're planning to do a **(0)** ..... deal of bird-watching or other specialist activities, however, there's no need to invest **(9)** ..... a full-size pair. Compact binoculars are fine when **(10)** ..... comes to general all-purpose viewing in good light. What's **(11)** ....., they are certainly easier to carry round.

Everyone has **(12)** ..... own idea of what makes a comfortable pair of binoculars. When you're considering **(13)** ..... of the many brands and models on the market you should choose, don't base your decision on price alone. A better idea **(14)** ..... to pop down to your local photographic store and **(15)** ..... those that fall within your price range a test run.

**(16)** ..... you might like the look of a particular pair, you may not find the handling and viewing position comfortable. Finally, make sure the binoculars come with a decent case and a comfortable neck strap. These details can make all the difference when you're out in the field.

For questions 17–24, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

[illegible]

## The Inventor of the Bar Code

Although you may never have heard of Joe Woodland, you almost certainly use his invention on a (0) ..... basis.

DAY

For Joe was the man who came up with the idea of the bar code – that little box containing parallel lines of (17) .....

REGULAR

width and (18) ..... that you find on the packaging

LONG

of most products that are offered for sale at retail (19) .....

LET

world wide. Joe Woodland actually invented the bar code

way back in 1949, when the manager of a supermarket in

Philadelphia asked him to design an electronic (20) .....

## CHECK

system which would be both simple and effective. The

purpose of the bar code is to store (21) ..... information

**CODED**

about the product, which (22) ..... speeds up the

## POTENTIAL

process of recording sales and restocking the shelves.

The idea was way ahead of its time however, and didn't

find any immediate practical (23) ..... It was the

## APPLY

(24) ..... of laser gun technology decades later which

## ARRIVE

allowed Joe's invention to come into everyday use.