TASK 2

Read the text below. For questions (6-10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

NEW HUNT FOR PERU'S 'LOST' INCA CITY

A French writer and adventurer plans to explore one of the most remote parts of the Peruvian Amazon in search of a "lost" or "secret city" that may have been built by the Incas, but there are fears that the expedition could endanger the health of isolated tribes that have never been exposed to common human diseases.

Thierry Jamin believes that the city, which he calls "Paititi", could lie somewhere in a 215,000-hectare protected area called the Megantoni National Sanctuary in the Cuzco region of south-east Peru.

"The magnificent discoveries realised by my group in the valleys of Lacco, Chunchusmayo and Cusirini in the north of the department of Cuzco lead towards a precise zone situated in the national sanctuary of Megantoni," Jamin said.

"Several natives of the forest – Matsiguengas – assert that 'monumental ruins' exist at the top of a strange square mountain. I think that we are very close to officialise the existence of this big archaeological site."

According to his website, Jamin is planning a six-week expedition starting in July. He will be assisted by an NGO based in Cuzco that he leads and a group of Machiguengas from a village near the sanctuary.

The search for Paititi or an Inca "lost city" has attracted scores of people and considerable controversy ever since the 16th century, with conflicting theories and ideas about where it might be and whether it really exists.

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But some experts fear that such an expedition would pose a threat to isolated indigenous Nanti people – sometimes called "Kugapakoris" – within the sanctuary. One of the main reasons for the sanctuary's creation 10 years ago was to protect indigenous people who have had little or no contact with outsiders and are extremely vulnerable to infectious diseases because of their lack of resistance.

Jamin said that he will apply to the ministry of environment, which oversees management of "protected natural areas", for permission to enter the Megantoni sanctuary. He said he has already applied for permission from the ministry of culture.

However, Ramon Rivero Mejia at the culture ministry says it has received no application from Jamin, any member of his team or the NGO that Jamin presides over. *[42]*

6. According to the text, the expedition can turn out to be a failure because:
   A. The remote parts of the Peruvian Amazon are difficult to reach;
   B. "the secret city" is lost;
   C. It can result in the increase in the rate of the inhabitants' illnesses;
   D. Isolated tribes can endanger the expedition by unknown diseases.

7. Everything is true about the location of the "lost city" except:
   A. It could be found on the territory of more than 200,000 hectares;
   B. It lies at the foot of a strange square mountain;
   C. It's the region in south-east Peru;
   D. It's the protected territory of the National sanctuary of Megantoni.

8. The search for the "lost city" is accompanied by:
   A. A six-week expedition:
   B. Combined efforts of a group of natives and the sanctuary representatives;
   C. Disagreeing as for "the lost city" location;
   D. A 7-hundred-long conflict of theories and ideas about its origin.

9. The sanctuary was founded a decade ago:
   A. To protect ingenious people from aggressive civilization;
   B. To prevent spreading of outside culture;
   C. To provide protection for inhabitants from being infected;
   D. To limit the contact of the inhabitants with the outside world.

10. The author of the article implies that:
   A. The permission for the expedition is to be given by the number of ministries;
   B. All possible threats to "the lost city" inhabitants have been considered;

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C. The existence of "the lost city" has been proved;

D. The secret of Peru's "lost city" is going to be revealed very soon.

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