

Part 4

Questions 16–20

Five sentences have been removed from the text below.

For each question, choose the correct answer.

There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Freezing food to keep it fresh

Inventor and businessman Clarence Birdseye was born in New York, on December 9, 1886. From a young age, he was interested in animals and plants and in 1909, Birdseye enrolled at university to study biology. **16** Instead he took a job working for the US government as a naturalist in the frozen north of Canada.

When he was working in Labrador in 1912, Birdseye watched local people fishing through holes cut in an icy lake. **17** He noticed that they could then be kept for long periods and, when the families wanted some to eat, they could defrost them without losing any of the freshness or flavour. Birdseye realised that cooling food very quickly was the key to success when freezing it. **18** In warmer climates, people had experimented with freezing food by cooling it slowly. When food is frozen in this way, long sharp crystals of ice, shaped like knives, start to grow inside it. These cut into the food, causing it to break up when defrosted. **19** Then he began to wonder how this freezing method might work with fresh vegetables and other foods as well as fish and meat.

When Birdseye returned to the US, he invented a machine which pressed food between two very cold metal plates. By 1930, it was ready to go into production. However, home freezers were very rare at this time. **20** It was another 25 years before Birdseye's invention was widely used.

- A** This was easy, of course, in very cold environments.
- B** It took Birdseye eight years to work out how to cool food quickly enough to stop them forming.
- C** He always came top of his university class.
- D** As a result, few people wanted to buy frozen food.
- E** They didn't catch many fish because they couldn't keep them fresh.
- F** However, he was unable to afford the teaching fees, and had to leave.
- G** For example, they were taken to nearby towns.
- H** As they pulled out fish, these immediately froze in the extremely cold air.