

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.

Lost Irish beach returns after 33 years

Achill Island, off the coast of Ireland, is a popular tourist destination. It has beautiful mountains and clean beaches. The island was suddenly in the news in 1984 because of something that happened near the village of Dooagh. **16** They discovered that their beach had disappeared during the night, leaving behind just rocks. For years after that, only small amounts of sand returned to the once-beautiful shore, and fewer and fewer tourists went there. **17** The effect of this was felt by everyone in the small community.

Then, in 2017, something incredible happened. People couldn't believe their eyes when, one morning, they found that their beach had returned, and the rocks were once again covered in soft golden sand! **18** They said that the amount of sand under the sea near the coast had slowly increased. Then, during a period of strong winds and powerful waves, most of it was carried to the shore.

The people of the island were of course delighted to have their beach back, and for some time, it attracted hundreds of visitors. **19** Business owners in the area were also hopeful that the beach would encourage surfers to return to the region, making it a popular holiday destination again. **20** No one was sure whether it was absolutely safe.

Later, a special type of seaweed – a plant that grows in the sea – appeared on the beach. It is traditionally used to help crops grow, so its return was particularly good news. The local people are hopeful that now the sand is finally here to stay.

- A** They were able to experience these amazing events.
- B** At first, however, people were advised to avoid going into the sea.
- C** Losing so many visitors meant that many hotels and restaurants had to close.
- D** But a most surprising thing happened that night.
- E** Scientists from an Irish university provided a possible explanation.
- F** Despite these benefits to plants and animals, a few people were disappointed.
- G** One morning, the people living there had a nasty shock.
- H** Tourists wanted to see the power of nature for themselves.