BTS 8 – EOT 3 – Exam Practice

A) Read the passage and choose the best answer a, b, c or d.

Annette Kellerman

Annette Kellerman was born in Australia in 1887. For many years, she was a very sick child. She had polio and could not walk easily. She had to wear metal supports on her legs to help her stand up on her own. To make her legs stronger, her mother took her for swimming lessons every week. Swimming made her legs so strong that when she was 15, she was able to throw away her supports.

Her family was poor, so she got work acting as a mermaid. She wore a long tail and fish swam around her. People paid to come and see her. She travelled around Australia until she was 17, when her father took her to England. But English people did not want to see a mermaid, so her father made her swim down the river Thames. Lots of people came to see her swim.

In 1900, Annette swam in the Paris Olympics and won two gold medals. Next, she tried to swim across the English Channel, the sea between England and France. Six other people swam with her - all of them men. The sea was very cold, and Annette and the men soon became tired. One by one, the other swimmers had to stop. Annette swam on for six hours, but then she, too, had to stop. Nowadays, a lot of men and women swim the English Channel every year, but Annette was the first woman to try.

In 1915, Annette went to Hollywood and was the star of two films.

Questions:

1. The text is about .....
   a) the Paris Olympics
   b) a famous Australian swimmer
   c) how to swim

2. As a child, Annette needed ..... because she had polio.
   a) legs b) metal supports c) food

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3. ..... helped Annette walk normally.

a) Supports b) Mermaids c) Sport

4- Annette had to work as a mermaid because .....

a) she loved swimming

b) she liked mermaids

c) her family needed money

5. In 1900, Annette won two gold medals for .....

a) Swimming. b) English Channel c) Paris Olympics

6. Annette did not cross the English Channel because of .....

a) the water temperature

b) the six other men

c) England and France

7. In Hollywood, Annette was a star in films that showed .....

a) mermaids

b) The English Channel

c) polio

Annette Kellerman

A mermaid

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