Part 4

Questions 21–25

Read the text and questions below.
For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Cliff Jones

In 2005, Cliff Jones began a journey round Britain on a unicycle, a bike with only one wheel. He had already made a documentary film about his experiences travelling round Europe in a 50-year-old car. He was mad about motor sport and had a job building racing car engines. To save money, Cliff rode to work in London on an old bicycle, which he also used to go to France on holiday. 'That trip opened my eyes,' he says. 'I decided to do a tour of Britain by bike.'

Cliff didn't want a normal touring bike, and he knew he wanted to build one himself. 'The craziest bicycle I could think of was a unicycle, so I went to a factory to see how they are made.' After one false start in 2004, when he had to turn back because of a knee injury, he finally set out in 2005. He was away for four months, and travelled over 8,500 km.

The best bit of the trip was arriving in Wales and seeing Mount Snowdon. 'Although I met cyclists who could easily ride up mountains on their bikes, which I couldn't do, I never regretted my unicycle. The further away from London I got, the more amazed people seemed by it.' His worst moment came when he had to drink some dirty water from a stream. A serious fever kept him in bed in hospital for five long days. He was determined not to give up and go back home before he had completed his challenge, but found it hard to carry on because he felt so weak. Yet despite all this, Cliff now says, 'If I could afford it, I would like to do something similar again.'

21 What is the writer trying to do in this text?

- **A** advise people to take adventure holidays
- **B** explain a rather unusual choice of transport
- **C** suggest the benefits of a special vehicle
- **D** persuade people to travel long distances

LIVEWORKSHEETS

22 What made Cliff realise he wanted to cycle round Britain?

A touring Europe in an old car
B visiting a unicycle factory
C attending motor races abroad
D taking his bike to another country

23 When Cliff met other cyclists in the mountains, he was

A anxious to get away from them.
B satisfied with his own type of bicycle.
C jealous of what they were able to do.
D surprised by their attitude towards him.

24 What was Cliff's biggest problem during the trip?

A He fell ill for nearly a week.
B He had to go home to rest.
C He wanted to finish his trip early.
D He took too long to get to one place.

25 What might Cliff say after his trip?

A

My aim was to get to the top of Mount Snowdon, so I was disappointed not to reach Wales.

B

I'm already building the unicycle for my next trip. It's going to be the latest model so I can ride up mountains.

C

I was happy when I managed to get started at the second attempt. Fortunately, my knee didn't give me any more trouble.

D

I'm lucky that I have plenty of money. That means I can set off on another trip whenever I like.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 4

Questions 21–25

Read the text and questions below.
For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

James Waltham – Chocolate Taster



Whenever I tell people what I do for a living, they can hardly believe this job exists. But I'm not joking! I spend my days at work eating chocolate! Tasting the chocolate is an essential part of making sure that customers get perfect bars of high-quality chocolate from the company I work for.

Every week I receive samples, small amounts that show what the chocolate is like, from our factory and I have to check them for taste, texture and smell. I also have to taste the raw materials we usually use – the nuts, fruit and so on. I spend days choosing the most suitable ones to go into the chocolate.

Just beside my company office I have a kitchen where I can test and taste products I make – and I keep my colleagues happy by giving them samples! My kitchen is full of machines and ingredients to play with. It's wonderful to have a private space I can go off to during the day.

No two days are the same in this job. Sometimes I am at our food lab and others I'm out of the country buying our raw materials and as I've got a young family that can be difficult. But that kind of variety, and lack of routine, is something I love about the job, although I think it still comes second to the chocolate itself! The question I get asked most is whether I get bored of chocolate. I've worked with it for a long time, and I've never felt I didn't want to eat it. In fact, I'll often go home and eat some more in the evening!

21 What is James Waltham doing in the text?

- **A** recommending the best ways to test chocolate
- **B** describing what personal qualities are needed to do his job
- **C** telling readers what makes his job worth doing for him
- **D** suggesting different methods of making chocolate

22 James says that when he tells people about his work, they

- **A** say they would like to do the same thing.
- **B** doubt whether he is serious.
- **C** think it must be very easy.
- **D** wonder why he chose it as a career.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

23 James says that working in his kitchen involves

A trying various different preparation methods.
B checking the quantities of ingredients in each bar.
C discussing his opinions with other members of staff.
D making sure the best chocolate-making equipment is used.

24 What does James think is a disadvantage of his job?

A He sometimes feels he has eaten too much chocolate.
B He finds it difficult to have a routine with his work.
C He has worked with the same product too long.
D He needs to travel abroad some of the time.

25 Which one would be an advert for the chocolate company James works for?

A

Every single bar of chocolate that leaves our factory is tested for its taste.

B

We choose only the best ingredients – just chocolate beans, sugar and milk. We don't add anything else.

C

We're proud of being so environmentally friendly - all our ingredients are bought from local businesses.

D

We check everything that goes into our chocolate, so that you can enjoy the best chocolate possible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 4

Questions 21–25

Read the text and questions below.
For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

American Black Ducks

by Sam Prentice, wildlife biologist



I work at a US university where my team and I are trying to learn more about water birds, particularly one called the American black duck. And we've just started using an exciting piece of equipment called a 'night-vision scope', which allows us to see the ducks in the dark!

We're worried about black ducks mainly because their numbers have fallen hugely and we don't know whether there's enough food on the east coast for these animals. There's lots of information about their daytime activities, but nothing about what they do at night, because we simply haven't had the equipment. But this new 'scope' will produce really clear pictures, even on moonless nights, so we'll be able to find out more and make better decisions about looking after the area where they live based on what we learn.

It is very hard work. There are four of us, each working six hours daily. We've studied ducks in different locations, and I've had to take a boat to some sites and make notes on every duck I see. The weather hasn't helped – some nights are mild, but more often it's wet. Oh, and it's so quiet I've needed lots of coffee to stop me falling asleep! We've only missed one working day so far, because the snow was too deep even for our special snow vehicles.

Still I like the challenge of it, especially compared to what the summer will bring – hours in a laboratory, where we'll look at our results together. It'll be hard to be stuck inside – but it's essential to do this. And I wouldn't change it for anything!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

21 What is Sam Prentice doing in the text?

- **A** describing how he became a wildlife biologist
- **B** explaining how he is doing a piece of research
- **C** suggesting how readers can learn about one type of bird
- **D** giving a report of success he's had in his work

22 What is Sam hoping to discover about American black ducks?

- **A** what their behaviour is like after dark
- **B** which kind of food they need to live on
- **C** which animals are responsible for the fall in their numbers
- **D** what makes the east coast a suitable location for them

23 When Sam spends long periods watching ducks, he

- **A** dislikes having to deal with low temperatures.
- **B** finds there's enough to do to maintain his interest.
- **C** is glad of the chance to be in a quiet place.
- **D** sometimes finds it difficult to stay awake.

24 What does Sam say about working inside a lab over the summer?

- **A** He feels pleased that he'll avoid the hot weather.
- **B** He accepts that it's a necessary part of his job.
- **C** He's looking forward to studying his results.
- **D** He's glad he'll be working with other people.

25 What might Sam say about his experiences of working outdoors?

A Having the right vehicle for bad weather has meant we've still carried on working, whatever it's been like outside.

B We decided that we'd only go to sites that were easy to get to, and I'm really glad we made that decision.

C Sometimes the moon hasn't been very bright, but our equipment provides the amount of light we need to collect information.

D The other people in my team are brilliant, but it's been hard watching ducks in the same place every day.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 4

Questions 21–25

Read the text and questions below.
For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Helen Skelton



Television presenter Helen Skelton has completed various dangerous challenges for charity, including a desert marathon run and a journey down the Amazon river in a tiny boat. For her latest challenge, Helen walked on a high wire, a long thin piece of metal, 66 metres above the ground, between the two towers of an empty power station. There was no safety net, only a belt around her waist attached to another wire above. To help her keep her balance and not to fall, she carried a long stick, weighing eight kilograms.

Helen took lessons from an expert high-wire walker. Although she already had a few circus skills, she quickly discovered that high-wire walking was completely different. 'The training was a shock', said Helen. 'I didn't realise how strong I'd need to be. Every day started at 8 am with a run up a steep hill; then came an hour of exercises, with another hour of them after my day practising on the wire. I also had to learn how to fall onto the wire so that if I slipped I could carry on. Every time I fell on the wire it hurt badly. But it was essential to keep a positive attitude: if I was nervous and started shaking, so would the wire!'

The day of the actual challenge was windy and Helen controlled herself by taking deep breaths as she moved step by step along the wire. The 150-metre walk took 15 minutes. 'That was the scariest thing I've done,' she admitted afterwards. 'I'm glad it's over!'

The experience has not prevented Helen, however, from planning her next charity project: to reach the South Pole by ski, kite and bike.

21 What is the writer doing in this text?

- **A** introducing a new television presenter
- **B** getting support for a charity project
- **C** describing a woman's achievement
- **D** recommending a television programme

LIVEWORKSHEETS

22 Helen knew she would be safe if she fell because
- **A** she had a net that could catch her.
- **B** she had a stick to support herself with.
- **C** she was wearing special equipment.
- **D** she was quite close to the ground.

23 During her training, Helen was surprised to find that
- **A** staying on the wire was so difficult.
- **B** she had to work so hard at her fitness.
- **C** it was so important to be confident.
- **D** her circus skills were so useful.

24 When Helen performed her work on the high wire
- **A** she was sorry to get to the end.
- **B** the weather conditions were perfect.
- **C** it took less time than expected.
- **D** she managed to keep herself calm.

25 What might Helen say about the walk?

A
> The view from the high wire was fantastic – I loved every minute of it. I can't wait to have another go.

B
> I must admit I was a little bit frightened, but it wasn't nearly as bad as going down the Amazon on my own.

C
> That was the longest quarter of an hour of my life. I couldn't breathe at all when I first stepped onto the wire.

D
> The training could be painful at times but at least I'm in really good condition now, ready for my next challenge.

LIVEWORKSHEETS