

Page 33 Task information**Page 35** Action plan**Review****1 Put these stages for dealing with Reading and Use of English Part 7 in order (1–6).**

- A Look before and after the gaps for clues as to what must fill the gap.
- B Work through the remaining gaps in turn, checking which of the remaining options fits each one.
- C Look at the title to see what the text is going to be about.
- D Read through the whole text with the paragraphs you have chosen in place – does it all make sense?
- E Read through the text (but not the options) to get an idea of the structure of the text.
- F Read through the options. Are there any paragraphs that you can immediately place?

2 What goes before and after?

Go through the exam practice text below and on the following page and underline any words or phrases in both the text and the options (A–G) that seem to refer to something outside that paragraph.

Follow the exam instructions, using the advice to help you.

You are going to read an extract from a magazine article. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs A–G the one which fits each gap (41–46). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

Tip! Looking immediately before and after the gap will help you to work out what you need to find in the missing text.

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Yukon: Canada's Wild West

A modern-day minerals rush threatens one of North America's last great wildernesses

Shawn Ryan recalls the hungry years, before his first big strike. The prospector and his family were living in the Yukon, in a metal shack on the outskirts of Dawson, the Klondike boomtown that had declined to a ghostly remnant of its glory days. They had less than \$300 and no running water or electricity. One night, as wind sneaked through gaps in the walls, Ryan's wife, Cathy Wood, worried aloud that they and their two children might even freeze to death.

41

The minerals rush has reanimated Dawson's bars and hostels, whose facades glow in pastel hues during midsummer's late-night sunset. The scene could be from more than a century ago, with bearded men bustling along wooden sidewalks and muddy

streets, stopping to chat and trade rumors of the latest strikes and price spikes.

42

It's well worth that investment in technology and people. The claim-staking boom may have cooled since the price of gold has stabilized, but an ongoing high demand for minerals and the Yukon's industry-friendly regulations continue to attract mining companies from as far away as China. Shawn Ryan's business is as successful as any of them.

43

In his small office, radios and bear-spray canisters surround a trio of computer screens atop a plywood table. A self-taught geologist, Ryan uses the left-hand screen to

Advice

41 What is the situation in the first paragraph of the text? Which paragraph takes that situation a little further?

42 What does the sentence that follows this gap suggest about what has just preceded it?

43 Look at the sentence just before and the sentence just after this gap – what do they tell you about what might be in the missing paragraph here?

display the colored maps he generates from his ever-growing database of soil samples, looking for anomalies that might betray a hidden body of precious ore. On the center screen, a blue grid overlays a map of the Yukon, showing the claims he currently owns; since 1996, he and his crews have staked more than 55,000 claims, enough to cover a landmass larger than Jamaica. Ryan uses the right-side screen to track his gold-related holdings, which notch up in value whenever an economic jolt sends investors fleeing to precious metals.

44

Trish Hume, for example, has expressed concern. Though she is involved in mapping work that's mining related, she worries that the Yukon is reaching a tipping point where the environmental and cultural costs of mining outweigh the benefits. "The people coming up and taking out minerals aren't asking what happens to the animals we

hunt, the fish we eat, the topsoil that holds it all together. And when the boom is over, how does our tiny population afford to clean up the toxic mess?" The population is small, but the area of the Yukon is enormous.

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Walled off by some of the country's highest peaks and largest glaciers, the territory is almost completely unsettled, its sparse population scattered over a few small communities and the capital, Whitehorse. It is also rich in wildlife, an Arctic safari park whose extreme seasonal shifts beckon vast herds of caribou and other animals into motion.

46

It is crucial that such a remarkable environment, as this clearly is, is not lost for ever, destroyed by the businesses anxious to exploit its mineral wealth for their own ends.

- A It is even larger than the state of California, but with only 37,000 inhabitants, it drives an immense wedge between Alaska and the bulk of Canada. From its north coast, the Yukon stretches to the south and south-east, taking in tremendous expanses of lake-dotted tundra, forests, mountains, wetlands, and river systems.
- B At his expanding compound at the edge of town, helicopters thump overhead, fetching GPS-equipped prospectors to and from remote mountain ridges. Ryan is 50 years old, but he radiates the eagerness and intensity of a much younger man. "This is the biggest geochemical exploration project on the planet right now," he says, his grin revealing a couple of missing upper teeth, "and maybe in history."
- C Today, the couple could buy—and heat—just about any house on Earth. Ryan's discovery of what would eventually amount to billions of dollars' worth of buried treasure has helped reinfect the Yukon with gold fever, and fortune seekers have stormed the Canadian territory in numbers not seen since the 1890s.
- D In contrast, the Yukon's early inhabitants hunted bison, elk, caribou, woolly mammoths, waterfowl, and fish, and they competed for resources with carnivores such as wolves and Beringian lions. Due to climate warming and other factors, some of these animals died off. But others, such as the barren-ground caribou, thrived in such numbers that native peoples adapted their own movements and lifestyles to the animals' migrations.

Advice

44 What does 'for example' suggest about what the writer has just mentioned?

45 Can you find anything in any of paragraphs A-G which connects with the tiny population and the enormous area referred to at the end of the paragraph preceding gap 45?

46 What does the phrase 'as this clearly is' tell you about what must have been in the previous paragraph?

- E Such creatures are especially to be found in the Peel watershed, an immense wilderness which drains an area larger than Scotland. "The Peel watershed is one of the few places left where you still have large, intact predator-prey ecosystems," says a representative of the Yukon Conservation Society. "From wolves and grizzlies and eagles on down, it's a wildlife habitat of global importance."
- F As the material needs of the world's seven billion people continue to grow, the rush to exploit the Yukon's exceptionally rich resources—gold, zinc, copper, and more—has brought prosperity to a once forsaken corner of the continent. But the boom has brought to the fore a growing tension between those who would keep one of North America's last great wildernesses unbroken and those whose success depends on digging it up.
- G But in other ways, things are different now. During the first Klondike stampede, prospectors plied nearby creeks with picks and pans and shovels, and a bartender could sweep up a small fortune in spilled gold dust at the end of a big night. Nowadays, mining's heavy lifting is done by a mechanized army of bulldozers, drilling rigs, and flown-in workers.