Exam practice: Reading Part 4

Exam tip

- Some questions test attitude and opinion and some test specific detail, so read the question carefully.

7 Read the text and questions below. For each question, circle the correct letter A, B, C or D.



Marie Davies – being a twin

When people hear that I'm a twin, their first question is always 'Can you and Paula read each other's thoughts?'

Being a twin means always having a best friend and never being lonely. From a very early age my sister and I both knew what the other was thinking and feeling. I've watched videos of us as young children, playing happily side by side, not needing to say anything. Sometimes even I can't tell which twin is which.

The teenage years are a difficult enough time for anyone, but they were even worse for us. At school I joined the basketball team, listened to hip hop music and dressed in sporty clothes, and Paula didn't want to know me. If I wore trousers, she wore a skirt. Her blonde hair was long and loose, while mine was dark and very short. Sometimes we had arguments, though they were quickly forgotten. Luckily we never liked the same kind of boyfriend! At 18, we went to different universities and didn't see each other for six months. When we met up again she seemed like a stranger.

Now we are both in our twenties and live 500 kilometres apart, though we speak or email most days. Our friends see us as individuals not twins. People who know us both say we're as different as night and day. Paula is shy and kind, and always forgetting things. I am more confident than she is and I've never forgotten a friend's birthday! Yet we both love painting, running and dancing and hate people who are rude or unkind! Underneath we are just as close as ever.

1 In this text Marie Davies is
- A advising parents how to bring up twins.
- B describing her relationship with her sister.
- C explaining why she dislikes being a twin.
- D complaining about her friends' attitudes.

2 In films of their early childhood, Marie and Paula
- A play separate games.
- B behave in different ways.
- C communicate without speaking.
- D sometimes fight with each other.

3 What did Marie and Paula do at school?
- A They refused to copy each other's style.
- B They had long-lasting disagreements.
- C They liked to borrow each other's clothes.
- D They went out with the same boyfriend.

4 Marie thinks that she
- A has a better memory than Paula.
- B has more hobbies than Paula.
- C is more ready to trust people than Paula.
- D is less friendly than Paula.

5 What would the twins say about their lives?

A "We were very close as children but we've never been as close since that time."

B "We'd like to live nearer to each other – we've lost contact because our homes are so far apart."

C "We had a lot of fun at secondary school – we looked so similar that the teachers often got our names wrong."

D "Even though we lead separate lives now, there is still a very strong connection between us."

LIVEWORKSHEETS