THE FIANCE

CLOZE GAP

Fill in with ONE word only:

Five years after Daniel's death, Marta had finally learned to live without him.

At first, grief (1) .....occupied every part of her life. She avoided familiar streets, ignored invitations and kept his final voice message saved on her phone, (2)..... she could no longer play it. The police had told her that Daniel's car struck a barrier (3)..... a wet November night and burst into flames. His body had been identified through dental records because it was impossible to recognise.

- ☐ For years, she accepted that explanation. Daniel had been the man she intended to marry, and questioning the circumstances of his death had seemed almost disloyal.
- ☐ Eventually, life began to move again. Marta changed jobs, moved into a quieter flat and stopped waking at night convinced she had heard his key in the door. She still carried a small engagement photograph in her purse, but it had become less a source of comfort (4)..... proof of a life that no longer existed.
- ☐ One Friday evening, her colleagues persuaded her to join them for dinner at a crowded Italian restaurant. The room was noisy, filled with conversation and clinking glasses. Marta was listening to a familiar story when something across the room caught her attention.
- ☐ A man (5)..... a corner table lifted his hand to brush back his hair.
- ☐ The gesture was so familiar (6).....she stopped breathing.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- ☐ He wore a silver watch on his left wrist. A thin scar crossed his eyebrow. When he turned towards the light, the restaurant seemed to disappear around her.
- ☐ It was Daniel.
- ☐ He looked older, but there was no doubt. Beside him sat a dark-haired woman who appeared completely relaxed, (7)..... if the man opposite her had no past worth hiding.
- ☐ Then Daniel looked up.
- ☐ For one brief second, recognition crossed his face. It vanished immediately.
- ☐ Marta stood before she had decided (8)..... to do.
- ☐ "Daniel?"
- ☐ The woman glanced between them.
- ☐ The man gave Marta a controlled smile. "I'm sorry. You must (9).....mistaken me for someone else."
- ☐ "You proposed to me."
- ☐ A few nearby diners turned to look.
- ☐ His expression remained calm, (10)..... his fingers tightened around his glass.
- ☐ Marta removed the old photograph from her purse and placed it on the table. Daniel looked at it for less than a second, but that was enough.
- ☐ "I don't know you," he said.
- ☐ The woman frowned. "Michael, what is this?"
- ☐ Michael.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- ☐ Marta took back the photograph and left without another word. She was shaking, but (11).....from grief. Whatever had happened five years earlier, Daniel had recognised her and chosen to lie again.
- ☐ A week later, she returned to the restaurant. Shortly (12)..... ten, Daniel emerged alone and walked towards a car in a side street.
- ☐ "You (14).....have stayed away," he said (15)..... turning around.

LIVEWORKSHEETS