

## READING

**TASK 1 - Choose one word (a, b or c) for each group gap (01-05). The first one (00) is marked as an example.**

Dear family,

How are things? Remember I **(00)** you that I had enrolled in a school of arts? Well, I had my first class yesterday, and it was a **(01)** experience. Our teacher is very patient and incredibly talented. I am **(02)** forward to our next lesson. In the meanwhile, I am practising some of the techniques I've learnt. I **(03)** not be an artist, but painting helps me relax after college, and I have **(04)** some new friends. But I **(05)** you all! Hope to see you soon.

Love,

- |     |            |                |            |
|-----|------------|----------------|------------|
| 00. | a. said    | b. <b>told</b> | c. spoke   |
| 01. | a. big     | b. great       | c. large   |
| 02. | a. looking | b. seeing      | c. waiting |
| 03. | a. should  | b. could       | c. might   |
| 04. | a. did     | b. met         | c. made    |
| 05. | a. miss    | b. lose        | c. look    |

**TASK 2 - Order the sentences B-G to make a story. Write your answers 06-11. The first sentence of the story (A) is given as an example.**

- A. **Maria Sklodowska was born in Warsaw on November 7, 1867.**
- B. But she could not attend the University of Warsaw, so she agreed with her sister that they would help each other pay for their studies.
- C. After graduating, she married Pierre Curie, and they started to experiment with radioactivity.
- D. So, for years Maria worked as a tutor to pay for her sister's studies, and then her sister helped Maria enrol at the Sorbonne.
- E. These experiments granted her the Nobel Prize, becoming the first woman to win it.
- F. There she graduated in physics and mathematics.
- G. She was an exemplary student who excelled at school.

**(00) A      (06) .....      (07) .....      (08) .....      (09) .....      (10) .....      (11) .....**

**TASK 3 - Read the text and complete each gap 12-18 with a word from the list A-J below. The answer to question 00 is given as an example. You will not need three of the words.**

The Righteous Man premiered in 1986, becoming an **(00)** box-office hit and getting 5-star reviews from most film critics. Directed by James Jamison and **(12)** on the homonymous novel by Lorenzo Mauro, it tells the story of the Nandinis, a mafia family in New York – although the term 'mafia' is never mentioned in the film due to **(13)** from real mob gangs. **(14)**, it is just another film noir, however, the **(15)** of this masterpiece of celluloid is that it **(16)** with subjects such as family bonds, loyalty and betrayal, friendship and love.

Although it is made clear from the opening scene that Maurizio Nandini is a gangster, soon you get to **(17)** him for his solid values and **(18)**. He is a man made to himself, who would do anything in his power to support and protect his family.

- |               |             |               |           |           |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| A. respect    | B. appeal   | C. apparently | D. regard | E. based  |
| F. principles | G. pressure | H. actually   | I. deals  | J. treats |

**00. immediate (12)..... (13)..... (14)..... (15)..... (16)..... (17)..... (18).....**

**TASK 4 - Read the text below. Match the headings B-I to the paragraphs 19-25. There is an extra heading you will not need.**

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| A. <b>Busy days</b>                              | <b>00) A</b> |
| B. The practical reasons for choosing Greenfield | 19)....      |
| C. Government supports the initiative            | 20)....      |
| D. Filming set's characteristics                 | 21)....      |
| E. Different techniques, same standards          | 22)....      |
| F. Economic benefits for Greenfield              | 23)....      |
| G. A personal motivation                         | 24)....      |
| H. The root of the project                       | 25)....      |
| I. A description of the town's main features     |              |

00. The quiet and peaceful seaside town of Greenfield is a hive of activity these days. Tim Higgins, the famous chef and successful author of cookbooks, has chosen this small fishing town as a film location for the first season of his program Cooking & the Country.

19. In addition to putting Greenfield on the map, the presence of Higgins and his team of more than fifty fully fledged professionals, including cameramen, sound technicians, hairdressers or make-up artists, will surely boost the local economy. Filming, expected to last for at least two weeks, will provide extra revenue. The two hotels in the town are already fully booked, and restaurants are hiring extra staff to cater all diners expected for the next fortnight.

20. In a recent interview, Higgins said he had chosen Greenfield not only for its excellent location in a rural setting of unparalleled beauty but also for the reputation of its local cuisine. Not in vain The Blue Bell, a small family business specialized in fish and seafood, is listed in one of the chef's recommended restaurant guides.

21. Another reason, which perhaps even chef's fans ignore, is that Higgins has family roots in the region. His maternal great-grandfather was born and grew up in a small town not far from Greenfield. His ancestor was a primary school teacher and a regular chronicler for the local newspaper. Higgins is not the chef's birth name, but his mother's maiden name, and a link to both the past of his family and to the region.

22. Regarding the show *Cooking & the Country*, Higgins stated that the project was conceived more than a decade ago when he was not a world-famous chef yet. He was prompted to it by his passion for cooking and his interest in perpetuating traditional recipes as well as his eagerness to show the world the gastronomic delights of this unfairly underestimated cuisine.
23. This first season comprised of three episodes, focused on Green Country cuisine, in which he chef will delight us with traditional local dishes as well as with more innovative recipes, some of his creation, in which despite their more modern and avant-garde character, the chef will use local, seasonal vegetables, true to his philosophy of using only high-quality products.
24. Peter Bowles, mayor of Greenfield, has already expressed his gratitude to the chef and his team, and has declared that both his government team and the rest of Greenfield's neighbours will do everything in their hands to make them feel at ease and to ensure the chef can comply with tight filming deadline.
25. The countdown has already begun since filming is expected to start in two days. We hope the weather will not be adverse to shoot outdoors, although most of the filming will take place in the makeshift kitchen of the filming set, equipped with cutting-edge technology that, we hope, will live up to the chef's expectations. We wish him good luck in this new enterprise!