Part 1

You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions **1–8**, choose th (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

In the exam, mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

A whole year had gone by since Tyler and I'd hung out together and I'd grown used to people reporting bad things about him. Mostly I just sighed. I'd accepted the fact that he was no longer the lad I once knew. He'd chosen the wrong kind of people to hang around with and had got into trouble. I knew these things only too well. Still, the news that he was in hospital shook me all the same. It was Beth's brother who told me.

'Wait for me outside Whitechapel station, Ashe,' Beth had said. The pavement where I was standing
line 7 was crowded with market stalls doing brisk business. I had to keep stepping aside to let people get by. Beth was late and I kept looking at my mobile to check the time.

The odd thing was that I'd been thinking about Tyler since the previous afternoon. I'd seen him while walking home from college. He'd got out of a car about ten metres in front of me. It had taken me only a second to recognise who it was and I'd darted into the doorway of a closed shop to avoid coming face to face with him.

When eventually I'd peeked out, he was standing on the pavement speaking on the phone. He had a long coat on over jeans and boots. His hair was cropped and his face was pale. He wasn't wearing his glasses and his free hand was cutting the air as if he was making points while talking. He was looking
16 round but his attention was on the call. Suddenly, he brought it to an abrupt end and slipped the mobile into a pocket. He walked a couple of steps and then, to my dismay, he spotted me. He smiled and headed in my direction. I kept my face towards the glass window and studied one of the posters that had been stuck there. 'Ashe!' he'd called.

'Oh, hi!'

'What are you up to?' he said, glancing at the poster on the shop window. I stumbled out some words about looking for a gig to go to. I'd no idea what my hair looked like or if I'd got a spot on my chin or if he'd noticed me earlier watching him from the shop doorway. 'Fancy a coffee?' he said.

'I've got to be somewhere,' I said, stepping out of the shop doorway and making off.

'See you, Ashe,' he'd called after me.

After about twenty metres, I looked round and saw that he was in exactly the same position, staring at me. He raised his hand in a tiny wave and I turned and went on. I didn't look back again.

I'd thought about him on and off during the previous evening. Now, while waiting for Beth, I thought about him again. I wondered what he was doing. I pictured the funny brown glasses he'd worn to read with and wondered if he still read books by George Orwell. Perhaps I should have gone for that coffee, I might not get another chance to find out what he was really up to these days.

Beth was very late. I pulled my coat tightly round to ward off the cold. I huffed and watched a small cloud of my breath form. We were due to go to an exhibition on twentieth-century fashion. I hadn't really wanted to go but it was important for some of Beth's coursework, and in any case she loved the clothes and had been looking forward to it all week. Afterwards we were going to go shopping.

A couple of cars started hooting and there were some raised voices from a group of pedestrians who were ignoring the red man and crossing the road. I looked through the shoppers to see if I could see Beth's cheery face but there was no sign. I took my mobile out of my pocket again and stared at the screen, but again drew a blank. I wondered what to do. I was stamping my feet with the cold. Something must have happened. Beth wouldn't just leave me standing in the freezing cold for no reason. Tyler came into my mind again. That's when I saw her brother walking towards me.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 In the first paragraph, Ashe is surprised to discover that Tyler
- A has got into trouble again.
- B has made unsuitable friends.
- C has been admitted to hospital.
- D has been the subject of rumours.

2 The word 'brisk' (line 7) tells us that the market stalls were
- A rather busy.
- B especially cheap.
- C just about to close.
- D very close together.

3 How did Ashe feel when she'd first seen Tyler the previous day?
- A unsure if it was him
- B surprised that he was driving
- C keen that he shouldn't see her
- D upset that he didn't recognise her

4 The word 'it' in line 16 refers to
- A a movement.
- B a conversation.
- C a way of looking.
- D a piece of equipment.

5 When Tyler finally noticed her, Ashe felt
- A relieved that he was smiling.
- B sure he'd been waiting for her.
- C offended by something he said.
- D concerned about her appearance.

6 After meeting Tyler the previous day, Ashe had felt
- A sorry that she'd been rude.
- B curious about his current life.
- C guilty about refusing his invitation.
- D convinced that she would see him again.

7 Why was Ashe going to an exhibition?
- A to see some of the latest fashions
- B to help her in her studies
- C to escape from the cold
- D to please her friend

8 The phrase 'drew a blank' (line 39) suggests that
- A Beth had left no message.
- B Ashe's mobile wasn't working.
- C Ashe had decided to wait no longer.
- D Beth was just being typically unreliable.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 2

You are going to read an article about an amateur archaeologist. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–H** the one which fits each gap (**9–15**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

In the exam, mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Treasure in the mud

Ian Smith likes to spend his free time looking for ancient objects

Mudlark was the nineteenth-century name for someone who searched in river mud at low tide, on the lookout for objects that other people had lost or thrown into the water. For the original mudlarks it was a way of making a living. But for Ian Smith it's a hobby, because he's looking for objects of historical interest.

Ian heads down to the River Thames at low tide with his electronic metal-detector and a spade. Working around fast and sometimes dangerous tides, he hunts for ancient everyday objects, from cups and coins to buttons and badges. Anyone can have a go, as long as they have permission. There are currently about 300 licensed mudlarks in Britain. But Ian, who is an antique dealer by profession, is not an ordinary one. After thirty years, there's barely a patch of wet mud on any tidal river in the UK that he doesn't know. **9** ____

'You're not likely to find a chest of gold on a foreshore and the spectacular stuff in museums is there because it is extremely rare,' Ian tells me when I meet him under London's Tower Bridge shortly after breakfast. Here it's more likely to be the everyday possessions of ordinary families. **10** ____ It's mostly rubbish – literally, from a time when unwanted things were simply thrown into the river.

Mudlarking involves working with a metal detector, but also using your eyes – studying the surface, picking it over and knowing what you're looking at when you see it. Mudlarking, says Ian, is an activity that tends to attract solitary characters. **11** ____ 'But,' he adds, 'it's also very tranquil. You may be in the middle of the city but the lapping of the water takes you away from the hustle.'

We quickly make our first find, the sole from a sixteenth-century shoe. Then, much to my dismay, Ian casually tosses aside our find: 'You get to see a lot of those over the years,' he says. **12** ____ That piece of shoe leather, for example, is a give-away that the patch of mud around it is likely to have been eroded by the tides to the sixteenth-century layer. Several oyster shells – an expensive shellfish now, but common workman's food then – support the theory.

Conscious that the tide is against us, we dig a little deeper. An item is often better preserved in the mud than it would be if exposed to the air. **13** ____ 'While mudlarking is ultimately about the love of history, it is also a race to capture and record what we can before it's gone,' says Ian. 'The water erodes layers, and property developments push further and further out into the river.'

Sifting the mud in his surgeon's gloves, Ian picks up what the untrained eye would see as a lump of stone. **14** ____ Next, what looks to be a bit of grit reveals itself to be a tiny silver penny bearing the image of Queen Elizabeth I.

'People ask fishermen what they get out of staring out over a river for hours on end and, unless you're a fisherman, it's hard to explain,' says Ian. '**15** ____ Like fishing, it's very easy to become obsessive about it. But unlike fishing, you also have the pure excitement of seeing something that's been buried for centuries. It's still amazing to me that this stuff is there.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Long, disused sets of steps that descend into the mud are another such clue.

B But finding such objects can point towards more interesting things nearby.

C In other words, they are objects that tell us how such people used to live centuries ago.

D It's the same with mudlarking.

E It turns out to be part of a sword.

F Because of this wide experience, he has special permission to dig deep in search of antiquities.

G This scientific fact means the muddy shoreline is a sort of time capsule.

H You have to be that sort of person to want to poke about in the mud for thirty years.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 3

You are going to read an article about fathers and sons. For questions **16–30**, choose from the fathers (**A–D**). The fathers may be chosen more than once.

In the exam, mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Which person's father ...

always had faith in his son's abilities? **16**

encouraged his son not to give up in the face of disappointment? **17**

gave his son advice in a light-hearted way? **18**

had time for his young son despite heavy work commitments **19**

helped his son to avoid being distracted by others? **20**

made his son realise the need to try harder? **21**

may not have succeeded in passing on certain ideas to his son? **22**

never blamed his son for mistakes that he made? **23**

put no pressure on his son to follow in his footsteps? **24**

reassured his son when equipment let him down? **25**

showed his son how to perform practical tasks? **26**

taught his son the value of good manners? **27**

urged his son to make the most of unexpected opportunities? **28**

always used a saying that his son still finds inspiring today? **29**

was willing to listen to his son's suggestions? **30**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

What's the best advice your father ever gave you?

We asked four successful young men.

A Tony: Racing driver

'Drive it like you stole it and keep it on the black stuff!' I was quite nervous when I first started racing, but those were my dad's jokey words of wisdom and they made me feel better at the time. In the beginning, I had quite a few spins on the circuits – the very first one was particularly scary because the car left the track, but he never said it was my fault. I used to drive a Porsche 924 and pretty much every single race something would break, but Dad would just say: 'Don't worry about the car, we can always fix it.' I didn't like people behind me when I went round corners, but Dad was always telling me not to take any notice, to focus on what I was doing. I've got a long way to go, but Dad's really good – he's hardly the most polite person to have around if things don't go well, but he's my role model.

B David: Record producer

Because Dad and I have always been close, there was no one moment when he imparted some big philosophical piece of advice. I think his greatest gift has been his general unwavering belief in me. Since I was about fourteen, he's given me the opportunity to input ideas and have my say about the bands we work with or the equipment we use, which is amazing. When you're part of a family business, it can sometimes feel as if you have to be there, but my brother and I have done other things, and we're back with Dad again because we want to be. He left the decision to us. Dad's also been good at giving career advice because he's done it and he's got the experience. When, out of the blue, I got the chance to work in London, he compared it to when he first went on tour as a roadie. He said, 'When you get a chance like that, grab it with both hands.' He's given me that drive and ambition to succeed.

C Andy: Buyer for a department store

I was probably Dad's most unruly son. He tried to teach me a lot of things – how much I've taken on board is another matter. But I don't think I'm such a disappointment to him! Business-wise, he told me that building good relationships with customers and suppliers is key and that being polite costs nothing. He's a very cool dad, but he's quite traditional in some ways. He's always said that if you want to succeed, then get on with it. If you're going to do something, do it right away or at least write it down so you don't forget! I'm proud of my dad and how hard he worked for us to have a lovely childhood and lifestyle. But as well as running a demanding business, he made sure he was there for us kids every evening too. Dad also taught me valuable skills like how to change the oil in my car, how to play tennis and ski – although the last time he saw me doing that he said he feared for his life!

D Simon: Rugby player

He had this catchphrase: 'Under-prepare, and you prepare to fail.' I heard it time and again. He first said it to me when I was about fourteen. At first I thought it was a joke, but I was wrong. We'd lost a match and I was quite upset because I'd played dreadfully. Dad was very laid-back and said: 'Why do you think you played so badly?' A typical teenager, I was trying to blame everything and everyone but myself. He used his catchphrase and explained that if you don't put sufficient effort in, you'll never get anything out of whatever it is you're doing. That's stayed with me ever since, even now when I'm playing professionally. He's always given a fair amount of advice. He made me realise that if you just stick at something, no matter how hard things get, then your time will come. It's the hardest thing to hear when things aren't going well. At the beginning of the season, I wasn't getting picked for many matches, but I didn't give up and then when the chance came to play, I really took it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS