You are going to read an article about a teenage writer called Beth Reekles. For questions **31–36**, choose the answer (**A, B, C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Teenage novelist Beth Reekles

Our reporter interviewed a teenage writer and her father.

Aged 15, British teenager Beth Reekles spent hours alone in her bedroom, tapping away obsessively on her laptop. Reekles was writing a bestselling novel. 'All that time, I thought she was messing around on social networking sites, like other teenagers,' her dad told me, shaking his head. Reekles wrote her book as a serial, uploading a chapter at a time onto the Internet — the first chapter alone got a million hits — until her inbox was deluged with emails that she said typically began 'upload faster!' The three-book deal she signed with a publisher only came after her book had been read online for free 19 million times. Through instinct, luck or cleverness, she had discovered the secret to global appeal that had eluded those three or four times her age.

'I wrote it because I was looking for something to read,' says Reekles, with disarming calm simplicity. 'I couldn't find it, so I wrote it.' This is typical of Reekles, making it sound easy. Her writing flows out of her unstoppably and when I ask her, for instance, how she finds the time to study while maintaining her career as an international publishing phenomenon, she looks at me and laughs politely. 'A lot of my friends say that. Some of them don't even take Saturday jobs because there's too much homework now. I suppose I see this as like my Saturday job now.'

The strange thing about her rise to fame is that almost all of her fans have no idea how young she is. Teen fiction is mostly written by adults. But if you look closely enough, there are a few indications of Reekles' age. Not many books end with quite such a specific message to staff at a Welsh school: 'A big thank you to my English teacher, Mr Maughan. Your enthusiastic teaching and interest in my writing was a huge motivation.' Adults always struggle to write the teenage detail – things like how to keep on listening to music even when you're in the shower – but Reekles gets it just right.

Despite these giveaways, the main reason few would guess at the fact that when she wrote the book Reekles was even younger than her teenage heroine is that her writing is so impressive. It is never introspective or pretentious. The pace is controlled, the chapters end on cliffhangers. You might be forgiven for thinking that the book was written by a highly experienced American scriptwriter with an eye for a movie deal. *line 37*

Reekles says she wrote addictively from the first moment her father gave her a laptop at the age of 11. She never told or showed anyone for a very long time. She worried she was weird: 'I mean, it didn't seem like the average hobby.' Then a friend recommended she read a book on a free online novel-sharing platform for amateur writers. 'All my stories were squirrelled away in a folder on my laptop. But I saw that on this site I could be anonymous, and I liked that. I was self-conscious about the quality of my writing. I saw that here no one would know me, and I eventually worked up the courage to start posting my own books.'

Her writing soon became very popular on the site, and a year later, she got an email from a publisher offering to publish her latest online novel as a paper book. '"What's this?" I thought. I read it a few times, yanked the charger out of the laptop and ran across to my parents, the noise that came out of my mouth was not human. I was so excited.' Her dad chips in proudly: 'Although it's easy to upload books online, and there are a lot of people doing it, there aren't that many people who can do it well.' I ask him what he thinks of the book. 'Oh, I haven't read it.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS

31 What do we learn about Reekles in the first paragraph?

A She is easily distracted while trying to write novels.
B She adapted her writing in response to readers' comments.
C She took care to avoid mistakes made by other novelists.
D She manages to please a wide range of readers.

32 What does Reekles suggest about her writing in the second paragraph?

A She has little trouble fitting it into her life.
B She finds it easier to do than schoolwork nowadays.
C She does it to boost her income from other part-time jobs.
D She realises that few people are able to do it as well as she does.

33 What does the reporter say about Reekles' age?

A It is hard for her to hide it from her readers.
B It allows her to write in a realistic way.
C It explains her need to please her teacher.
D It can sometimes put off adult readers.

34 What is meant by 'giveaways' in *line 37*?

A slightly irrelevant parts of the book
B pieces of advice Reekles has received
C clues giving information about Reekles
D opportunities to read the book for free

35 According to Reekles, the online novel-sharing site was important for her because

A it allowed her to compare her writing to that of others.
B other users gave her positive feedback about her work.
C she could display her work on it without embarrassment.
D it proved that she was less unusual than she had thought.

36 How does Reekles' father feel about her success?

A proud that he recognised her talent when she was younger
B relieved that her book has become a bestseller at last
C impressed by his daughter's achievement in a competitive field
D keen to discover for himself why so many people admire the book

LIVEWORKSHEETS

You are going to read an article about baby sea turtles being helped by humans. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**37–42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Baby sea turtles get to the water safely

Volunteers on a Caribbean Island and a police officer in the US have something in common: helping baby turtles to reach the sea.

Although human beings are responsible for many of the problems faced by animals worldwide, there are times when people try to make up for it. Recently, in both the Caribbean and the US, people came to the aid of baby sea turtles confused by man-made light.

Though loggerhead sea turtles spend most of their lives in water, they are born on land. Adult females come ashore onto beaches to lay their eggs in the sand. There are around 100 eggs in a nest, and they incubate for about 55–65 days, depending on the temperature. Adult loggerhead turtles weigh up to 140kg and have few predators. **37** [ ] This, along with pollution and the loss of nesting habitats due to development, has resulted in these animals being placed on the threatened species list.

On the Caribbean island of Bonaire, conservation volunteers regularly help to ensure that the hundreds of loggerhead sea turtles that hatch on the beaches of the island make it to the sea each year. **38** [ ] This time, however, they had to do something they had never done before: create a human wall for some of the little ones that were confused as to the path to the ocean.

It all began when volunteers on Bonaire Island noticed that a turtle had laid her eggs a little further away from the sea than usual, on a beach close to the airport. This was a problem because the babies usually hatch at night, and then use the moonlight to guide them to the sea. However, when turtles are born close to a place that is brightly lit at night, they get confused between the artificial light and the natural light of the moon. **39** [ ] In this case, that would be away from the sea and towards the bright lights of the airport terminal. When some turtle eggs were laid close by a few years ago, it caused a lot of problems for the baby turtles.

40 [ ] Then came the big day when they began to hatch, and the little hatchlings – as the tiny baby turtles are called – were ready to make their long trek to the water.

In order to ensure the hatchlings were guided by the moon and did not set off towards the airport, the volunteers came together and created a human wall around the turtles. **41** [ ] As a result, all 112 turtles scrambled over the sand in the right direction and made it safely to the sea.

And in Florida, in the United States, some baby turtles were similarly confused. A police officer was on patrol at 1 a.m. when he spotted some sea turtle hatchlings crawling towards a hotel. A passer-by told him that several other baby turtles were wandering around the hotel car park. **42** [ ] This may explain why they were heading for the hotel's front door. 'I began collecting hatchlings from the street and stopped traffic several times to do so,' said the officer. Helped by some of the hotel guests, the officer scooped up nearly 100 little turtles in a box and released them into the sea near the hotel.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Determined not to let the same thing happen again, the volunteers kept a close eye on the turtle eggs.

B The Bonaire turtle eggs had also been buried near the sea.

C The task usually involves just keeping an eye on them.

D Like the loggerhead turtles in the Caribbean, their instinct was to move towards the brightest light.

E The eggs and young ones, however, are much more vulnerable.

F This effectively blocked out all the artificial light.

G As a result they can end up heading in the wrong direction.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Test 3 Reading and Use of English • Part 7

You are going to read an article about a summer camp for teenagers where they can learn about a prehistoric animal. For questions **43–52**, choose from the sections (**A–D**). The sections may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which section

includes praise for the learning environment provided?	43
says a discovery has been long awaited?	44
explains why the mastodon may have been in the area?	45
mentions that the students are carefully supervised?	46
mentions a physical feature of mastodons that was related to their diet?	47
demonstrates the great impact the camp has had on certain people?	48
says someone's initial belief later turned out to be mistaken?	49
shows that difficult conditions failed to put people off?	50
describes how suitable places to dig are chosen?	51
points out that something was hardly unexpected?	52

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Summer camp for teenagers – looking for prehistoric animal bones!

A special summer camp in the US gave high school students the chance to look for the remains of mastodons – a prehistoric relative of the elephant.

A

Lying on her stomach, Victoria Bochniak kept digging until she hit something hard. She tapped the object with her trowel, assuming it was a piece of wood. She was wrong. 'We were like: "Wait a second. This is bone!" said Bochniak. In fact, what she found this week nearly 60 cm beneath a boggy prairie was the bone of a mastodon, an extinct relative of the elephant, believed to be more than 11,000 years old. Bochniak was excited but not entirely surprised. After all, this is why she attended Mastodon Camp. With about 30 other high school students, she has been given the hands-on opportunity to help excavate a mastodon. Under the watchful eyes of experts, students have not only unearthed pieces of mastodon, they've also discovered their inner paleontologist, inspiring them to pursue their newfound curiosity about Ice Age secrets.

B

Mastodon Camp is meant to help students and teachers improve their understanding of scientific inquiry and research and their familiarity with scientific technology and tools, as well as teach them about evolution and changes in the ecosystem over time. 'We've changed some folks' lives,' said Tom Pray, education outreach manager at the camp. 'They've decided: "I'm not going to do art history anymore. I'm going to go into archeology."' This fall, Bochniak, 18, plans to study geology and anthropology at university and do field work at a nearby nature reserve. Kaitlyn Hornik, 16, said Mastodon Camp is more engaging than a typical classroom setting. 'Textbooks are boring,' said Hornik, 'You come out here and you find things out for yourself.'

C

American mastodons stood 2.4 to 3 m tall at the shoulder, similar to elephants, but were stockier and covered with thick hair. A ground-penetrating radar was dragged over the area to pinpoint where the students would excavate, Pray said. Soil surveys of the site by the Illinois State Geological Survey have determined that the mastodon was discovered at the shoreline of a glacial 'kettle lake'. These were formed when chunks of ice broke off and melted during the glacial retreat. 'Whether he came down for a drink or fell through the ice, we don't know,' said Jack MacRae, a naturalist with the Forest Preserve District. Pollen samples in the lake demonstrate that plant species in the region were in a time of transition from a spruce forest ecosystem containing trees like pines to the deciduous trees that lose their leaves in winter prevalent today. Mastodons, which had teeth strong enough to crush pine cones, preferred spruce forests as their habitat, experts say. So the site may provide clues as to why the beasts became extinct in North America about 10,000 years ago: possibly disease, human overhunting or loss of habitat caused by climate change.

D

Although this year's camp was plagued by heavy rains, the weather did little to dampen the students' enthusiasm. On Tuesday, Pray arrived at the site at 6:30 a.m. to pump water out of the trenches and was joined a few hours later by students who helped by bailing water. Then they continued digging, using shovels, trowels and their own hands. On Tuesday, the piece of bone that Bochniak had discovered protruded from the black mud. Pray said it could be a rib or the top of a femur. 'This could be what we've been looking for over the last few years,' he said. A discovery like this makes all the hard work worthwhile. 'This gives people the idea that anybody can do science,' Pray said.

LIVEWORKSHEETS