

Part 2

Questions 9 to 18

Read the text below and choose the **best** word for each space. For each question, mark the correct

letter **A, B, C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Climb Your Way

Rock climbing is one of the most challenging extreme sports in the world. The (9)_____ requires climbers to scale a rock wall or a natural formation to reach the summit. It is definitely not an activity for the faint-hearted as it will take climbers high (10)_____ the ground. If you wish to go rock climbing, you must have the strength and stamina. It will take a very long time for a climber to be able to (11)_____ the summit. The activity is very dangerous and accidents may occur during a climb. Due to this, many climbers do not climb back down to the ground. The activity requires specialised (12)_____. For example, the climbers have an assortment of safety harnesses and ropes to keep themselves from falling to the ground. They also wear (13)_____ to protect their heads during a climb. Besides that, the climbers also carry a bag of chalk powder to make sure their hands are (14)_____ so they can maintain their grip on the rocks. While most rock climbers were drawn to the biggest and most obvious challenges, a small subset of (15)_____ climbers focused on mastering their athletic potential with smaller objectives.

Bouldering, climbing without a rope on small cliffs and boulders where it is possible to land relatively safely, first evolved on the boulders of Fontainebleau outside of Paris in the mid-century. Because bouldering (16)_____ the climber to practice intricate movements undisturbed by a rope or safety concerns, it is the premier venue for pushing the absolute limits of free climbing. With approximately 450 commercial climbing gyms in the United States, and (17)_____ opening up every month, climbing is uniquely poised among popular outdoor activities to find mainstream appeal. The sport's recent growth has caused pressure on many popular outdoor areas, resulting in land-access issues that drive its more adventurous devotees to seek out new terrain. Much of climbing's future lies in the vast areas of the (19)_____ that have not been systematically explored by first-ascenders.

- 9 A. hobby B. activity C. pastime D. leisure
- 10 A. below B. under C. above D. up
- 11 A. arrive B. reach C. conquer D. defeat
- 12 A. equipment B. tools C. skills D. ability
- 13 A. hats B. sunhat C. snowcap D. helmet
- 14 A. wet B. soggy C. dry D. arid
- 15 A. free B. independent C. solo D. team
- 16 A. allow B. permit C. let D. authorise
- 17 A. much B. more C. a lot D. a few
- 18 A. earth B. world C. globe D. realm