Changes

Ask anyone over forty to make a comparison (1) ___ the past and the present and nine (2) ___ ten people will tell you that things have been getting (3) ___ worse for as long as they can remember. Take the weather for example, which has been behaving rather stranely lately. Everyone remembers that in their childhood the summers were (4) ___ hotter, and that the winter always included (5) ___ falls of snow just when the school holidays had started. Of course, the food in (6) ___ days was far superior too, as nothing was impoerted and everything was fresh. Unemployment was (7) ___ , the pound really was worth something, and you could buy a (8) ___ house even if your means were (9) ___. And above all, people were (10) ___ better in those days, far more friendly, not inclined to crime or violence, and spent their free time making model boats and tending their stamp collections (11) ___ than gazing at the television screen for hours on end. As we know that this picture of the past (12) ___ cannot be true, and there are plenty of statistics dealing with health and prosperity which prove that it is not true, why is it that we all have a (13)___ to idealise the past? Is this simply nostalgia? Or is it rather that we need to believe in an image of the world which is (14) ___ the opposite of what we see around us? Whichever it is, at least it leaves us with a nagging feeling that the present could be better, and perhaps (15) ___ us to be a little more critical about the way we live.

	A	B	C	D
1	with	from	between	in
2	out of	to	or	from
3	out	so	virtually	steadily
4	not only	at least	rarely	considerably
5	lavish	abundant	bulky	prolific
6	most	early	those	former
7	petty	negligible	miniature	trivial
8	middling	sizeable	medium	voluminous
9	mediocre	confined	rationed	limited
10	more	as	somehow	whatsoever
11	other	rather	usually	different
12	simply	hardly	especially	specifically
13	habit	custom	tendency	practice
14	quite	widely	utterly	rather
15	reassures	supports	makes	encourages

LIVEWORKSHEETS