1 BAT **UNIT 1 CLOZE Girls and boys**

1. **CLOZE: Complete the gaps with the phrases given. There are two extra phrases. Write the numbers in the spaces provided**

Are girls cleverer than boys? Is our education system sexist? These are the kinds of questions that made the headlines last week, when the results of this year's GCSE and A-level exams were published. Once again, girls have outperformed boys. ( ), which is traditionally regarded as a 'boys' subject', the girls are doing better. The government now says ( ) gender gap.
So, why are boys underachieving? Some people blame ( ) among boys who think it is not 'cool' to study. Others think that the exams themselves need rewriting. Studies have shown that ( ) at tasks which require imagination and empathy, whereas boys prefer questions which ask for lots of dates and facts. Modern exams often ask students to think creatively – an approach which some experts think might be favouring girls. However, Dexter Hutt, who is the head teacher of a co-educational school in Birmingham, thinks that boys are just overconfident. According to Mr Hutt, boys ( ), and they do not work as hard. He says that boys are more interested in watching TV and playing football!
What do the students themselves think? One of Mr Hutt's students, Califah, who was pleased with his exam results, says that it is all down to personal motivation. 'There are a few distractions, but I do my best,' he says. His classmate Kerry, who got very high marks in all her exams, thinks that girls mature earlier. 'They know ( ),' she says.
The Education Minister says that some teachers are now experimenting with teaching boys separately ( ). Until we find out what is causing this difference in results, she feels that teachers need to try new techniques. But they had better hurry. Last century was a time ( ). Will this twenty-first century see the same thing happening to boys?

1	Tend to misbehave more than girls in class	2	To test girls and see if they work more creatively	3	An anti-learning attitude	4	When countless girls failed to achieve their potential
5	It is concerned by the 'unacceptable'	6	Even in computer studies	7	What's got to be done and they just do it	8	That girls performed so much better than boys in all fields
9	To improve their performance	10	Girls generally perform better				

LIVEWORKSHEETS