

Read the text and choose the correct word for each space. For each question circle A, B, C or D.

THE FOUR-MINUTE MILE



It is the nature of athletic records that they are broken and their place is taken by others. Yet in many sports (1) _____, there is a mark which is not (2) _____ in itself, but which becomes a legend as athletes (3) _____ to break it. The most (4) _____ of these is the attempt to run the mile in (5) _____ than four minutes.

In 1945, the mile record was (6) _____ to 4 minutes, 1.5 seconds. And there, for nine years, it stuck. Then, 1954, a medical student (7) _____ Roger Bannister decided to try and break the record. He had been (8) _____ for this day since running the mile in 4 minutes, 2 seconds the (9) _____ year.

Two other runners set the pace for him and (10) _____ 250 yards to go he burst ahead for the finish. He wrote (11) _____: 'My body had exhausted all its energy, but it (12) _____ on running just the same – Those (13) _____ few seconds seemed never-ending. I could see the line of the finishing tape.... I jumped like a man making a desperate attempt to save himself from danger...'

Bannister's time was 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds. (14) _____ this record has been broken on many (15) _____ since, Bannister's achievement will never be forgotten.

1. A) happenings	B) events	C) games	D) matches
2. A) central	B) major	C) significant	D) considerable
3. A) try	B) try on	C) try out	D) try for
4. A) known	B) public	C) noticeable	D) famous
5. A) smaller	B) less	C) lower	D) under
6. A) broken down	B) lessened	C) decreased	D) brought down
7. A) entitled	B) called	C) nicknamed	D) known
8. A) trying	B) studying	C) running	D) training
9. A) early	B) previous	C) past	D) former
10. A) on	B) in	C) with	D) by
11. A) afterwards	B) then	C) next	D) after
12. A) went	B) continued	C) ran	D) got
13. A) last	B) late	C) latest	D) later
14. A) But	B) In spite of	C) However	D) Although
15. A) times	B) periods	C) occasions	D) incidents

Source: FCE Gold Practice Exams