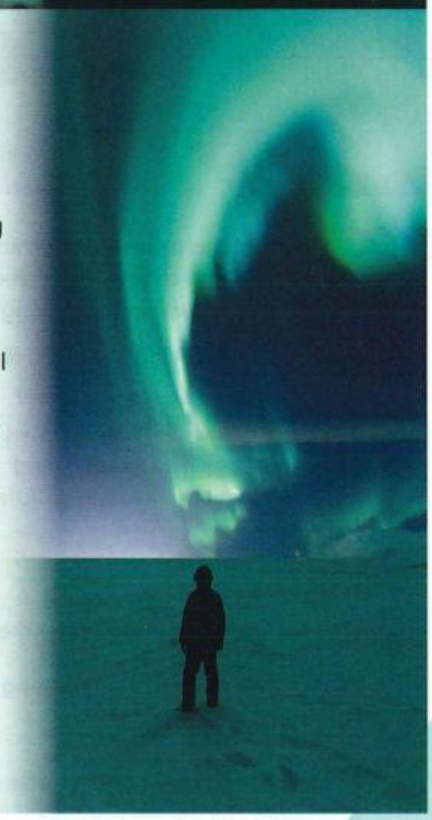
Reading Part 4

Exam task

Five sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question, choose the correct answer. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

The Northern Lights in Iceland



What's the most exciting holiday you've ever been on? For me, it was a trip to Iceland with my family to see the Aurora Borealis, or Northern Lights – strange, different-coloured lights that can appear in the night sky. I first became interested in the Northern Lights after watching an amazing video years ago. [1] And now I finally had the chance.

I knew we might not be lucky enough to see the Northern Lights during our visit. [2] But I'd also read that people have a better chance if they find a place with totally dark skies. As a result, going to Iceland during its long, dark winter months seemed a great idea, as there'd be very little sunlight. [3] So that meant temperatures could easily fall to well below zero, which would be difficult to cope with.

However, we weren't going to let any of that spoil our trip. Dad decided it was best to go far away from any cities and stay in the countryside. [4] Anyway, after a long search on the internet, we finally found a hotel miles from anywhere, where the night sky was so dark that we could hardly see anything at all outside!

But then one evening, we suddenly saw the most amazing display of colourful dancing lights in the sky – white, green and even purple in some places. I managed to take some videos even though my hands were almost too cold to operate the camera. [5] So now I have a record of one of the most amazing experiences of my life. And the bonus is that I've visited a really beautiful country, too.

A I thought that was pretty unlikely, though.
B But that was also when the weather would be really bad.
C It wasn't very difficult to achieve.
D It would depend on the weather conditions, for one thing.
E We wanted somewhere with no light pollution from buildings or vehicles.
F We couldn't even get a good view of the stars.
G For that reason, I'd wanted to see them for myself ever since.
H However, I wasn't disappointed with the results I got.

Exam tip

Look carefully at what comes **before** and **after** each gap. Read the whole text at the end to check your answers make sense.

1 **Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.**

1 Would you like to see the Northern Lights? In which other countries can you see them?
2 Do you prefer lower or higher temperatures? Why?

LIVEWORKSHEETS