



C. READING

**VIII** Read the passage and fill in the blank with one most suitable word.

My name is Sarah. My favourite (1) is reading. I enjoy reading a book when I am free. I started to do it (2) I was four years old. The first time I did it, I felt interested. So I kept reading. The teachers (3) me to read the difficult words. I was happy when I read a story with a happy (4) I was thrilled when I read a detective story. I enjoy reading (5) I like to explore the imaginative world of my favourite author, J.K. Rowling who (6) “Harry Potter”. There are a lot of advantages of reading. Reading can make me relaxed and calm. I can also learn new vocabulary items. Then I can further (7) my English. Moreover, it can give me an unlimited imagination, so I can write books in the future. I can learn the different (8) and customs of other countries in the world too. I read at least one hour every day. I read books by (9) I usually read it at home. I wish I could read different kinds of books because it (10) be very challenging.

IX Read the passage.**HELPING MOTHER AT HOME**

Every child should love his mother. A girl or boy learns many good things from mother. Mother teaches us to be obedient, helpful and friendly to others.

Ever since my young days I have always helped my mother in the kitchen. I get up early in the morning and help my mother prepare breakfast. Then I clean the kitchen and sweep the floor. I also help mother wash the dishes and pans.

On Sunday I follow my mother to the market and help her to carry vegetables and fish back home. Sometimes my mother asks me to cut vegetables. I also wash vegetables. I like to give small help whenever I am free from school work.

One day when my mother was sick, I cooked dishes for lunch. My mother was very happy and told me that I should be good to everyone.

Every mother will be happy if her children help her at home.

Decide whether the statements are True (T) or False (F).

1. It's a useful lesson for children to love their parents.
2. Children can learn a lot of good things from their mother.
3. The writer seldom helps her mother at home.
4. She gets up late and does nothing in the morning.
5. On Sunday she goes shopping alone

X Read the following passage.



Sydney is Australia's most exciting city. The history of Australia begins here. In 1788 Captain Arthur Philips arrived in Sydney with 11 ships and 1624 passengers from Britain (including 770 prisoners). Today there are about 3.6 million people in Sydney. It is the biggest city in Australia, the busiest port in the South Pacific and one of the most beautiful cities in the world. In Sydney, the buildings are higher, the colors are brighter and the nightlife is more exciting. There are over 20 excellent beaches close to Sydney and its warm climate and cool winter have made **it** a favorite city for immigrants from overseas. There are three things that make Sydney famous: its beautiful harbor, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, which was built in 1932 and the Sydney Opera House, which was opened in 1973.

Answer the questions:

1. Where did Captain Arthur arrive in 1788?
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2. What is the population of Sydney today?
.....
3. Is Sydney the biggest city in Australia?
.....
4. How many beaches are there close to Sydney?
.....
5. What does the word "**it**" mean?
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