SECTION III: READING COMPREHENSION (6 pts)

PART 1: ***Read the text and choose the best answer. Write your answers (A, B, C, or D) in the numbered box. (2 pts)***

Football academies were set up by leading football clubs like Manchester United and Liverpool so their coaches could run trials to identify and train talented boys from as young as eight as potential players for their first team. All the big football clubs have ***one***, and other less well known teams run their own school of excellence.

This means that in Britain there are at least 9,000 boys at any one time attending academies after school who think they are going to be a famous footballer. Unfortunately, for most this isn't the case. One eight year old was selected for Chelsea academy and he went from being top of his class at school to being the boy who was messing around at the back. His mother asked him why he wasn't trying hard at school anymore. His reply was that he was going to be a goalkeeper and be rich so he needn't to. In the end he only lasted a year in the academy but, luckily for him, he was still young enough to recover and not be so discouraged that he never played football again.

But football is not unique. Any sport or other field where only a few can get to the top has ***an invisible layer of also-rans***. These people are very talented and do their absolute best but ultimately it will not pay off because they are just not exceptional enough. In football, this effect is magnified because the numbers of players selected for training by academies is so huge. Most of these won't get into a team and most won't become professionals.

This doesn't put off all the boys who are spotted by the big football clubs and are desperate to join the academies. The benefits are still there for them of course. They get to play as much football as possible – the coaches teach them to pass, tackle and practice standard techniques, moves and penalty kicks over and over again. The skills become part of them as they are with professional players, so they are automatic and the boys don't have to think about them when they're on the pitch. Experts say this is the way to do it. Otherwise you end up with players who are much more likely to get injured.

1. What is the best title for the passage?
   A. Football clubs
   B. Future football stars
   C. Football coaches
   D. Football techniques
2. What does **"*one*"** in the first paragraph refer to?
   A. a trial B. a coach C. a first team D. an academy
3. What did one boy's mother notice after he joined an academy?
   A. His schoolwork suffered because football took up too much time.
   B. There was little support at school for his changed circumstances.
   C. There was a significant change in his attitude towards school.
   D. He refused to play football at school any more.
4. What is the writer referring to by "***an invisible layer of also-rans***" in the third paragraph?
   A. those footballers who will not in the end be rewarded for their hard work
   B. the fact that there are fewer opportunities for professional footballers than there used to be
   C. the number of footballers who are not willing to put in the amount of effort required
   D. the fact that the wrong people are sometimes selected to play in the best teams
5. What advantage of the academies is mentioned in the fourth paragraph?
   A. The coaches can adapt techniques to suit individual players.
   B. The players are trained in a way which results in fewer injuries.
   C. There are experts to answer the players' questions.
   D. There are more opportunities to watch professional players in action.

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 2: ***Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. Write your answers (A, B, C, or D) in the numbered box.(2 pts)***

What teenagers do with their money

Thirteen-year-olds do not spend as much money as their parents suspect – at least not according to the findings of a (1) _____ survey, *Money and Change*. The survey (2) _____ three hundred teenagers, 13-17 years old, from all over Britain.

By the time they (3) _____ their teens, most children see their weekly allowance rise dramatically to an amazing national average of $5.14. Two thirds think they get (4) _____ money, but most expect to have to do something to get it.

Although they have more cash, worry about debt is (5) _____ among teenagers. Therefore, the (6) _____ of children (7) _____ an effort to save for the future.

Greater access to cash (8) _____ teenagers does not, however, mean that they are more irresponsible as a result. The economic recession seems to have encouraged (9) _____ attitudes to money, even in the case of children at these ages. Instead of wasting what pocket money they have on sweets or magazines, the 13-year-olds who took part in the survey seem to (10) _____ to the situation by saving more than half of their cash.

1.	A. late	B. recent	C. latest	D. fresh
2.	A. included	B. contained	C. counted	D. enclosed
3.	A. reach	B. get	C. make	D. arrive
4.	A. acceptable	B. adequate	C. satisfactory	D. enough
5.	A. gaining	B. heightening	C. increasing	D. building
6.	A. most	B. maximum	C. many	D. majority
7.	A. make	B. do	C. have	D. try
8.	A. among	B. through	C. between	D. along
9.	A. aware	B. knowing	C. helpful	D. cautious
10.	A. reply	B. answer	C. respond	D. return

Your answers:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

LIVEWORKSHEETS