Extra Training

Reading Task 1603

Read the text. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (1-8) the one that fits each gap (A-G). There is one extra sentence.

The Zone of Silence

Deserts are often considered eerie, isolated places. However, there is one desert spot which takes this isolation one step further.

Six hundred kilometres from the US border in the Chihuahua Desert of Mexico lies an area that has perplexed scientists for decades. **A**_____ This is why it has become known as the Zone of Silence. The mysterious Zone of Silence was first discovered in the 1930s when a Mexican pilot reported problems while flying over the region. **B**_____ However, the phenomenon was not confirmed until 1970 when an American rocket flew hundreds of kilometres off course and crashed into the area! It was suspected that an invisible force within the desert had caused this strange occurrence. But nobody could explain what this curious force could be.

In order to uncover the mystery of the peculiar desert, government investigators were sent out to the crash site. **C**_____ Since then, a research centre has been constructed at the heart of the zone and scientists from around the world have come to study the area. Despite all this attention, the reason behind the sound wave silence remains a mystery to this day. The mystery becomes even more intriguing with the high number of UFO sightings that have been witnessed over the years in the zone. **D**_____ Most of the eye-witness accounts of alien encounters describe strange human-like creatures with long blonde hair, wearing raincoats and hats. Many of the mysterious lights in the night sky can be attributed to the high concentration of meteor strikes in the zone. The area seems to be a magnet for space debris, and has even attracted the largest meteorite ever recorded on Earth. **E**_____

So does anyone actually live in this creepy area? Well actually, they do! **F**_____ It seems that almost all of the people living there have a story to tell about a strange light in the sky or other mysterious occurrences. They have also learned to live without television and with weak radio signals.

Curiously enough, the Zone of Silence with all its UFO and meteor attraction is located on the same latitude as another mysterious planetary spot: the Bermuda Triangle in the Atlantic Ocean. **G**_____ Could this just be a coincidence, or could this invisible line point towards an even greater mystery that has yet to unfold?

1. He claimed that he could not transmit radio signals and that his plane instruments seemed to fail.
2. This infamous stretch of water has long been known as an area where countless ships and planes have disappeared.
3. For unexplained reasons, no radio, television or satellite signals can be transmitted in the area.
4. Some scientists believe that region was once submerged beneath the sea.
5. Reports of strange lights, flying saucers, burning bushes and alien encounters have made the zone a UFO hotspot.
6. This car-sized fireball struck the zone in 1969, producing a Shockwave that could be heard many kilometres away!
7. Just 40 kilometres from the zone lies the town of Ceballos, where residents have got used to the unique attributes of the area.
8. Upon arrival they became immediately aware of the 'silence' when they couldn't communicate with each other via radio transmissions.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G



LIVEWORKSHEETS