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for Schools

Reading

Task 1

Read the article. Choose from the sentences (A–H) the one which fits each gap (31–35). There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

A Producing it costs a lot and is also bad for the environment.

B It's this climate change that is causing lots of problems in many places.

C This plastic can get into seas a rivers and harm wildlife.

D So I've actually recycled some of my own rubbish!

E So the sun heats up these clouds and destroys them.

F But the most important of these is that we can all do something about it.

G This is why it's better to only have chicken.

H They also produce other types of pollution, which is bad for our health.

Going greener

My name's Galia, and I'm studying all about the damage that people are doing to our planet at the moment. A lot of the things I've found out about are extremely interesting. **(1)** ..... So that's why I wanted to share with you some of the things I've started doing to help protect the environment a bit more. Maybe you can start doing some of these things too.

The first thing I try to do is to use less electricity. When most electricity is made, it adds a harmful gas called carbon dioxide to the air. If we have too much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the Earth gets warmer. This makes the weather around the world different to before. **(2)** ..... So now I switch off lights and electrical equipment when I'm not using it.

Mum used to give me a lift to school. She had to drive a few extra kilometres to take me there because the school isn't really on her way to work. Cars release lots of carbon dioxide. **(3)** ..... That's why I've started cycling there now.
I also eat less meat than I did before. **(4)** ..... That's because the animals we use for meat need a lot of land and extra food, so it's better to have one meat-free day and eat more fruit, vegetables and cereals like rice.

I made a really nice jewellery box using some of the little plastic food pots that I usually just throw away.
(5) ..... It may sound funny, but with a bit of glue to stick them all together and some paint, it actually looks great!

So come on everyone, it's time to go greener!

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Task 3

My unusual hobby

16-year-old Bridget Peters writes about her hobby, making soap sculptures

I have a slightly unusual hobby – you probably only use it to wash your face or hands, but I make small sculptures out of soap. I'm a bit of an expert these days, having read about it in many different books, and I've even managed to get several friends interested in doing it. I didn't even know people made sculptures from soap until I found a short online film about it by accident and thought it was something I'd like to try. More people are becoming interested these days and a documentary has even been made about it.

It's especially popular in a country called Thailand. They often make sculptures of flowers there so I decided to try that. Although I've seen sculptures of many other things since, like birds, flowers seemed like the best thing to start with. I wasn't expecting my first sculpture to be brilliant, but I surprised myself with how good it was. I felt more confident about trying other things after my family told me how good it looked. It took quite a long time, and I didn't really have the right tools, but I enjoyed making it.
After lots of practice, I became quite good and had my first exhibition when I was fifteen. It went extremely well, even though the place where it was held was rather small. I made some nice posters with photos of my designs on, and put them up wherever I could. So although very few people had heard of soap sculpture, they could see exactly what it was. The posters worked, because lots of people came. We'd only just finished putting the sculptures in place when the first people arrived.

Lots of people ask me why I don't try making sculptures using stone or metal. It's never really attracted me, though. I prefer learning by doing rather than going to classes, so I can't see me ever doing a degree in sculpture but I'd love to show people how to create the kinds of things I make. Everything I do is small, because soap is hard to work with once it goes past a certain size. Whatever happens, I'm sure I'll love my hobby for years to come.

Read the article and choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

6 Bridget first became interested in soap sculptures when she
A read about it in a book.
B saw a video on it on the internet.
C watched a TV programme about it.
D learnt about it from someone she knows.

7 How did Bridget feel about the first soap sculpture she made?
A disappointed with the quality
B unsure she'd chosen the right design
C surprised by how easy it was to make
D pleased by what other people said about it

8 Why does Bridget think her first exhibition was a success?
A It was organised so long before the event.
B The gallery was so good.
C She had advertised it well.
D Soap sculpture had become popular.

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9 In the future, Bridget would like to
A teach sculpture to others.
B study sculpture at university.
C make larger soap sculptures.
D create sculptures in other materials.

10 What would Bridget's best friend say about her?
A Bridget never talks about her hobby much to me or her other friends. She really loves it though and wants to continue doing it.
B I was amazed how good the sculptures were at Bridget's little exhibition last year. Even the poster for it was beautiful.
C I think Bridget's starting to get bored of making things with soap, but she's looking forward to using metal instead.
D Now she's got the right equipment, Bridget's sculptures are actually really good. The first one was a bit of a disaster, though.

___/10

6 Read the text and match the questions (1–5) with the people (A–C).

What a way to spend the summer!

Students tell us about good jobs they've got for the summer.

A James

Wow! What an excellent job! Just for the summer I've got the best job in the world. I'm a lifeguard on my local beach. Swimming is my biggest hobby and I normally spend every day of my holidays on the beach. Now I can do the same thing and earn some money at the same time! I have to watch the people in the water and help them if there are any problems. Most people are very sensible and don't take risks or do dangerous things. Sometimes young children swim out too far though. Then they get tired and can't swim back. I go and help them. So, I'm on the beach in the sun and everyone thinks I'm a hero. Cool job huh? It's a shame I have to go back to school in two weeks.

B Sally

Last year I worked in a supermarket over the summer and it was a bit boring. Also it was really hot! So this summer I wanted a job outdoors. There was a notice at school advertising for people to help at a big tennis tournament in my town. I love tennis and the competition is outside on grass courts, so it sounded perfect. And it is! I'm a ball girl. That means I stay by the net and when there are balls on the court I run across and pick them up. It's quite tiring but I'm getting a lot of exercise which is brilliant. I also meet famous players every day. Much better than working in a supermarket!

C Imogen

When it's hot and you're out in the sun, what's the best thing to eat? Ice cream! And my job this summer is selling it! I sell ice creams from a stall on the beach near my home and I liked the idea of eating ice cream all the time – for free. The idea was great but the reality isn't! The first day I ate so much that I was ill. So, now I hardly ever eat one – I just don't like them anymore. But the good thing is that I'm outside and I think I'm the most popular person on the beach. When people see me they're always happy and smiling! That makes you feel very good.

Which person:

11 has changed his/her opinion about something because of her job? ____

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12 uses a particular ability in his/her job? ____

13 would like to continue the job after the summer? ____

14 compares two types of summer jobs? ____

15 isn't enjoying his/her job as mu

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