READING AND VOCABULARY

1 Times Square has become a staple in American pop culture, appearing in countless movies, TV shows, and even songs. match the questions (a-d) with the answers (1-4).

a Where is it?	1 Tourists and locals alike stroll along the pedestrian plazas.
b What's with the funny name?	2 It was renamed 'Times Square' after the New York Times moved there in 1904.
c Why is it so popular?	3 It represents fame, bright lights, and the belief that anything is possible.
d Who goes there?	4 In New York City.

2 Read the article and answer the questions.

a What can you see in Times Square?

_____

b What type of entertainment does Times Square offer?

_____

c What time of year is the most significant at Times Square? Why?

_____

Times Square

Times Square, New York is one of top three (1) _____ tourist attractions in the world. Nicknamed the 'Crossroads of the World' it welcomes millions and millions of tourists every year who tour the bowtie-shaped plaza, (2) _____ the bright, flashing lights of the big city like moths to a flame. So popular is it that it has been featured in literature as well as many films, television shows, music videos, and video games. (3) _____ throngs of ogle-eyed visitors traverse the streets creating a 24-hour buzz of energy, rubbing shoulders with celebrities, and posing for photos with Elvis impersonators, the human Statue of Liberty, or any of a host of cartoon characters who vie for their tips. Day or night, street performers and artists provide entertainment on demand and not-so-original souvenirs while people-watchers (4) _____ and then some. There is much to see as the square is located in midtown Manhattan in the very heart of New York City and surrounded by skyscrapers, billboards, shops, restaurants, and hotels at every turn. It encompasses several city blocks north from 40th street, including the now family-friendly 42nd street at the intersection of Seventh Avenue and the Broadway Theatre District. Flashing theatre marquees and multi-story electronic billboards (5) _____ the streets like a giant spotlight, mimicking the stages in its vicinity. A Broadway (or off-Broadway) play is definitely a must-see. Bonus points if it's a musical. (6) _____ nearby also include Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum with over 200 wax figures of A-list stars, world leaders, musicians, sports legends, and more, as well as Ripley's Believe It Or Not if you're fascinated by the odd, the unusual, and (7) _____. However, its most magnificent display is the New Year's Eve Spectacular, featuring star-studded musical performances and the dropping of the ball at midnight, a tradition which began in 1908 by the New York Times, which was then headquartered in the Times Tower. An estimated one million people (8) _____ below-freezing temperatures to converge on Times Square every year for this event while millions more watch worldwide and wish that they were there in the jam-packed, crush of humanity. There is indeed nothing like it.

3. Match the phrases (a-h) with the appropriate places (1-8) in the article.

a illuminate

b the downright unbelievable

c most visited

d On any given day

e brave

f lured by

g Popular attractions

h get their fill

LIVEWORKSHEETS