

Task 1

- You are going to read an article about a Guinness World Record holder who builds houses of cards. Some words are missing from the text.
- Use the words in brackets to form the words that fit in the gaps (1-8).
- Then write the appropriate form of these words on the lines after the text.
- There might be cases when you do not have to change the word in brackets.
- Use only one word for each gap.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.

THE HOUSE OF CARDS CHAMPION



Bryan Berg is a cardstacking legend from Iowa. He began building card structures with his grandfather when he was about 8 years old. He built his first (0) _____ (**create**), simple boxlike “houses,” with great (1) _____ (**difficult**). But Berg didn’t give it up and worked hard to make the cards stand much (2) _____ (**good**) and longer. Today he holds the Guinness World Record for the largest playing card structure and the tallest house of cards — reaching the first of these (3) _____ (**achieve**) while in high school. Since then, he’s broken each of his (4) _____ (**record**) several times.

As a (5) _____ (**profession**) cardstacker, Berg creates card structures around the world. They’re so strong, they can hold a cement brick, yet he never uses glue — nothing but thousands of regular playing cards. His most (6) _____ (**ordinary**) creations include some really (7) _____ (**possible**) structures, such as Cinderella’s castle from Walt Disney World, New York’s Empire State Building and the Guggenheim Museum, as well as these (8) _____ (**fame**) Washington landmarks: the U.S. Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

Task 2

- You are going to read a joke about choosing the right present. Some words are missing from the text.
- Your task is to choose the most appropriate word from the list (A-M) for each gap (9-16) in the text. Write the letter of the appropriate word in the white box.
- Each word can be used once.
- There are three extra words that you do not need to use.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.



A COSTLY PRESENT

A rich man walks into a pet store for people with fat wallets. He explains that he's looking **0)** _____ a birthday present for his friend.

0)	C
9)	
10)	

And his friend **(9)** _____ to like birds, so he needs a very talented parrot.

11)	
12)	
13)	
14)	

The store owner says that he's just got some perfect birds and

(10) _____ the man over to a huge stand with three exotic parrots. "These birds are very special; the first one here on the right speaks three languages, knows a bunch of jokes, loves whisky and Cuban cigars. We're selling him for five million dollars. The second one on the left speaks ten languages fluently, is a(n) **(11)** _____ entertainer and loves kids and women. **(12)** _____ it or not, his ancestry goes back all the way to a parrot **(13)** _____ by Queen Elizabeth I, and trust me, these birds know **(14)** _____ to pass an anecdote from generation to generation! This one goes for fifty million dollars. And finally, the third one, here in the middle, is the most special and expensive; we are selling him for a hundred million."

15)	
16)	

Amazed, the guy shouts: "He **(15)** _____ speak at least twenty languages!"

"You know, this one doesn't talk **(16)** _____ all, but those two call him Boss," the owner explains.

A) ACCEPTING	E) BELIEVE	I) HOW
B) AS	F) COULD	K) MUST
C) FOR	G) CHARMING	L) OWNED
D) AT	H) HAPPENS	M) TAKES

8 pont	
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Task 3

- You are going to read about the history of M&M's. Some words are missing from the text.
- Your task is to write the missing words on the dotted lines (17-25) after the text.
- Use only one word in each gap.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.



THE UNTOLD TRUTH OF M&M'S

With so many colors and flavors to choose from, surely, there's (0) _____ pack of M&M's for everyone. And it's pretty safe (17) _____ say almost everyone has tried these little candy-coated chocolates at some point in (18) _____ lives.

M&M's were first introduced in the U.S. (19) _____ Forrest E. Mars in Newark, New Jersey in 1941. But the story started earlier. Frank C. Mars had founded a candy business in 1911, and his son, Forrest, took on the job years later. Forrest wasn't too fond (20) _____ how his father had been running the company, and he had a new candy idea of (21) _____ own. So, he found a business partner to make the candy-coated chocolates.

Forrest Mars eventually paired up with Bruce Murrie, and they began making M&M's at their new company Mars & Murrie, which has since put Twix, Snickers and lots of other brands on the market.

Original M&M's and Peanut M&M's were the only two flavors (22) _____ quite some time, until Peanut Butter M&M's debuted in 1989. Since then, more and more flavors (23) _____ followed.

There are only a few brands (24) _____ can say they made it to space. M&M's is (25) _____ of them. According to M&M's history, M&Ms were actually the first candy to be chosen to go to space in 1981.