

- 4 Read the following text. Three sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences (A-E) the one which fits each gap (1-3) to obtain a logical and coherent text. There are two extra sentences that you do not need to use.

A BAD BEGINNING TO THE HOLIDAY

The bell rang and the final lesson of the term ended. 'Have a cool holiday,' Maria called to her friends as she raced out of the school gate, eager to get home to show her parents her latest test results. She'd done well – better than her sister Gina for once! At last, she thought, a whole five weeks with no lessons and Gina was going to stay in France with a friend. (1) ____ Her sister could be a real pain sometimes.

She was singing as she turned into her road but she quickly stopped. There was a police van with flashing lights outside her house. (2) ____ What had happened? Had there been a burglary? Were her parents OK? Maria pushed past the officer and ran into the house. Her parents were sitting at the kitchen table, looking pale and worried.

A nice-looking policewoman put her hand on Maria's shoulder. 'It's Gina,' she said quietly. 'She's disappeared.'

(3) ____ 'What do you mean – disappeared?' she asked.

Her mum looked at her. 'The police think someone has kidnapped your sister,' she said and then she started to cry.



- A Maria suddenly felt very cold and guilty.
- B The front door was wide open and a police officer was standing there.
- C Maria wished she had spoken to Gina.
- D Maria wouldn't have to put up with her nasty comments or listen to her loud music all the time.
- E Her dad was a policeman and often brought his car home.

On the street

The old man was sitting on a wooden box on the pavement. Beside him was a bag that looked full of clothes and a pile of paperback books next to it. At his feet, there was an old tin with a few coins in it. (1) ____ I was worried. It was very cold and he obviously had nowhere to stay.

It seemed so wrong. Only a few metres away from us, the brightly lit street was full of people rushing to get to the shops before they closed. It was nearly Xmas and their only concern was to buy more and more presents and more and more food. Did they realise how greedy they were? (2) ____ 'Life is so unfair,' I said as I put a five-pound note in the old man's tin. His eyes opened and he looked directly at me.

'Thank you, my dear. (3) ____ I hope yours are good ones,' he said and smiled briefly. Then his eyes closed again. I moved on, towards the warmth and noise of the street.

- A Just a tiny amount of the money they spent on their shopping would give this old man a warm bed for the night.
- B Was it his anger that made me feel so scared?
- C His eyes were closed and I wondered whether he was just tired or feeling ill.
- D As a result, he clearly needed further help.
- E Life is one long set of surprises.

Fish for words

3 Match words 1–6 with definitions A–F.

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| 1 pile | A worry |
| 2 tin | B for a short time |
| 3 concern | C very small |
| 4 greedy | D things on top of each other |
| 5 tiny | E a metal container |
| 6 briefly | F wanting more than you need |

