

Task 1

Read this article about the beginnings of the modern Olympics. In the sentences that follow the text there are some gaps. Your task is to fill the gaps with one or two words so that the sentences correspond to what the text says. Write the words on the dotted lines. An example has been given for you.

It's the Olympic Spirit that Still Moves Them

The first recorded Olympic chant of the modern era, fittingly, was “Nike! Nike!,” which is the Greek word for “victory”. The first man to hear it was James Connolly, an American hop-step-and-jumper, who dropped out of Harvard to compete in the 1896 Games. Arriving in Athens the night before the start of the Games (having, according to Olympic historian David Wallechinsky, miscalculated the gap between the American and Greek calendars) Connolly entered the triple jump on the first day and won, easily, with a jump of just under 45 feet. The first-place medal that year was silver, not gold, but it came accompanied by a certificate and an olive branch. Connolly, who went on to become a well-known war correspondent and novelist, apparently never regretted choosing Olympic immortality over a degree from Harvard.

There were only around 300 athletes altogether at that first modern Olympiad – drawn from a world population of little more than a billion and a half. The competitors represented a total of 13 countries, although most of them were, as it happened, Greek. In photographs, their faces beam with Olympian idealism and spirit, and their handlebar moustaches bristle with pride.

They trained as hard as they needed to win, but not many of them could afford to spend their whole lives in the gym: after all, they were all amateurs. The very first marathon winner, in 1896, was a Greek shepherd named Spiridou Louis, who promptly retired from sports and went back to his village.

The Olympics has bequeathed to the world thrilling examples of courage (sprinter Gail Davers battling an almost fatal thyroid condition; wrestler Jeff Blatnick overcoming Hodgkin’s disease), of determination and astonishing physical grace. And should the Games last another 100 years, there will always be heroes to cheer. Nike! Nike!

- 0) The Greek word Nike means *victory* in English.
- 1) The first modern Olympiad was held in Greece, but the very first event was won by an
- 2) Unlike in present-day Olympics, winners received a medal then.
- 3) James Connolly never completed his
- 4) After his Olympic victory he became a journalist, and he also
- 5) Only different nationalities took part in the first modern Olympics.
- 6) All the 300 participants were

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Task 2

Read the following advice on how to behave on your first day at work. Parts of some sentences are missing. Your task is to fill them in from the list below. Write the letters in the appropriate white boxes as in the example. Remember that there are two extra letters that you do not need.

THE DO'S AND DON'T'S

DO

- Turn up at the right time on the right day, and preferably at the right address – first (0) _____.
- Consider whether it (7) _____ to leave your nose stud and ear-piercings at home.
- Be nice to everyone, including the man you like least. He (8) _____.
- Ask questions (but not: “Why is it my (9) _____?”)

DON'T

- Say that the senior partner is your dad's best friend and will (10) _____.
- Start surfing dodgy websites on the office computer (11) _____ for you to do.
- Tell the secretaries you'll (12) _____ within a year of graduating from Oxford.
- Write an e-mail to a friend saying you are surrounded by (13) _____ accidentally send it to “all company users.”

- A** be earning far more than them
- B** is expected to do the dirty work
- C** impressions can last a long time
- D** sack anyone who crosses you
- E** turn to make the tea again
- F** might be the chairman
- G** even if there isn't much
- H** boring losers, and then
- I** be deeply disappointing
- K** might be best

0	C	
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12		
13		

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Task 3

Read this article on the life and work of the writer Garcia Marquez, and then read the statements following it. Your task is to decide if the statements correspond to the information in the article. If a statement means exactly the same as the article, mark it **A**. If it means something different, mark it **B**. If it says something that is not mentioned in the article (so we don't know if it is true or not), mark it **C**. Look at the examples first.

Garcia Marquez, Lion of Left, Takes Hollywood Dollar

The Nobel prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the lion of the Latin American literary left who once celebrated his being banned from the United States with a fireworks party, has signed up with his first Hollywood studio to earn a "family pension".

Garcia Marquez, 76, who is fighting lymphatic cancer, overcame anti-American scruples to let a Los Angeles company produce a big-budget version of *Love in the Time of Cholera*, a surreal romance based on his parents' troubled courtship. He will receive £1.7m.

Garcia Marquez, a confidant of the Cuban leader Fidel Castro, says he took "the Yankee dollar" to secure a comfortable old age for his wife Mercedes, with whom he fell in love half a century ago when she was just 13, and their sons Gonzalo and Rodrigo.

Since the publication of his 1967 novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Garcia Marquez has earned a fortune from writing and teaching in his native Colombia and in Mexico City. But a heavy investment in *Cambio*, a radical Mexican political magazine, is said to have drained his assets, and he has told friends he had to "rethink" his finances.

The master of the dream-like style known as magical realism lives in a luxurious house in Mexico City. Yet he remains haunted by his impoverished past as a left-wing journalist in Bogota, when he bought food with second-hand beer bottles.

Garcia Marquez channelled his colourful past into bestselling books that influenced younger authors such as Salmon Rushdie. But he has not been prolific — when he won the Nobel prize for literature in 1982 the writer John Updike said he had never known anyone achieve so much with so little published.

Although he funded a film school in Havana that was visited by the director Steven Spielberg, he spurned attempts to turn his books into Hollywood blockbusters.

Last week the Hollywood producer Scott Steindorff revealed that the secret of his success in signing up the right to *Love in the Time of Cholera* was money and persistence. The deal followed 18 months of daily phone calls, he said.

"I am going to make a lot of male cinema-goers unhappy because this is all about romance. This guy works 50 years to court a woman," said Steindorff.

While *One Hundred Years of Solitude* was based on the lives of his grandparents, *Love in the Time of Cholera* was inspired by Garcia Marquez's parents. Their love was frustrated for years by his mother's father, who regarded her suitor as a waste of time.

0)	B	
0)	C	
14)		
15)		
16)		
17)		
18)		
19)		
20)		
21)		
22)		

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Task 4

In this passage a famous Indian film director talks about his holidays. Your task is to match the half sentences that follow the text. There is an extra letter you do not need. Write the letters in the boxes as shown in the example.

My Holidays

I don't understand the point of beach holidays and I'm just not interested in sunbathing. On the contrary, there's got to be a bit of physical activity – something that helps me engage with my environment. Which is why I especially enjoy mountain-trekking, which allows you to become part of the mountains, and sailing, where you become part of the sea.

I once sailed a 60ft schooner with two other guys from Gibraltar to Ibiza, then on to Nice and back. It was physically demanding – not much time for sunbathing – but I really enjoyed the teamwork.

The first time I went on a diving holiday, in the Philippines, I came face to face with a shark. We were diving in quite shallow water, about 30ft deep, when the shark arrived. It just circled around me a few times, working out whether it felt like a snack, and then left.

One of the recurring pleasures of the ocean is seeing dolphins. In Goa, I once swam out too far. I could see a shape coming towards me. Having got off lightly before, I didn't want to risk another close encounter with a shark. So I panicked and started splashing frantically back to shore. Then I realised this was just the thing you shouldn't do, so I stopped and waited for fate to take its course. As the shape got closer, I saw that it was a school of dolphins. They just came up and swam around me – calm and curious.

I've known the mountains all my life. When I was a child, we lived in Delhi and every year the whole family used to rent places in the Himalayas. Today, even remote parts of India are part of the tourist trail, but back then it was a magical experience. As adults, we rapidly forget how to live in the moment, always thinking about work or the mortgage – even when we're on holiday. As a child, it was different. We never thought beyond the present, which, up there in the hills, seemed like it would last forever.

The other great thing about my childhood travels was that we had the luxury of holidays lasting for three months at a time. That was to escape the worst of the monsoons in Delhi, but I still don't see much point in taking short breaks. I have such a busy life now that it is even more important for me to spend at least a month in any place in order to have enough time to ease out of the work mentality and really to become part of wherever I am.

Ironically, when I was young, I always dreamt of having a job where I would be constantly travelling – New York one day, Mumbai the next, London the next. Now that this has become the reality of my working life, I find myself just wanting to stay in one place. So beware of your fantasies – they might just come true.

0) One reason why he likes sailing and mountain trekking is that these sports

23) He enjoys a physically demanding holiday

24) He had a near fatal adventure once, and

25) The dolphins he met one day

26) Even far-away places in India

27) When he was a child, his family

28) He thinks the busier he is the more

29) As a young man he wanted a career

30) Travel now

A) seemed really interested in him.

B) attract large numbers of tourists these days.

C) help him feel part of his environment.

D) that allowed him to travel.

E) the natural beauty made it worth every second.

F) more than one with no adventure.

G) means work for him.

H) he behaved more cautiously the next time.

I) he needs a proper holiday.

K) tried not to spend the rainy season in Delhi.

0)	C	
23)		
24)		
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