

Task 8

Read and complete the text below. For each of the empty space (39–48) choose the correct variant (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

THE TREE AND THE VEGETABLES

By Pedro Pablo Sacristan

Once upon a time, there was a lovely vegetable (39) _____, on which grew a very leafy tree. Both the patch and the tree gave the place a wonderful appearance, and were the pride and joy of the garden's (40) _____. What no one knew was that the vegetables in the patch and the tree couldn't stand each other. The vegetables hated the tree's (41) _____, because it left them only just enough light to survive. The tree, on the other hand, resented the vegetables because they drank nearly all the water before it could get to him, leaving him with just enough to survive.

The situation became so extreme that the vegetables got totally (42) _____ and decided to use up all the water in the ground so that the tree would dry up. The tree answered back by refusing to shade the vegetables from the hot midday sun, so they too began to dry up. Before long, the vegetables were really (43) _____, and the tree's branches were drying up.

None of them suspected that the gardener, on seeing his vegetable patch deteriorating, would stop watering it. When he did that, both the tree and the vegetables really learned what thirst was. There seemed to be no (44) _____, but one of the vegetables, a small courgette, understood what was going on, and decided to (45) _____ it. Although the little water available, and the unforgiving heat, the little courgette did all he could to grow, grow, grow...

He managed to grow so big that the gardener started watering the patch again. Now the gardener wanted to enter that beautiful big courgette in some gardening (46) _____.

And so it was that the vegetables and the tree realised that it was better to help each other than to fight. They should really learn how to live in (47) _____ with those around them, doing the best they could. So they decided to work together, using both the shade and the water in the best combination to grow good vegetables. Seeing how well they were doing, the gardener now gave the best of care to his vegetable patch, watering and (48) _____ it better than any other patch for miles around.

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|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 39 A piece | B patch | C chunk | D strip |
| 40 A dealer | B purchaser | C owner | D holder |
| 41 A shield | B tint | C shadow | D shelter |
| 42 A overjoyed | B gloomy | C fed up | D indifferent |
| 43 A bony | B skeletal | C lean | D scrawny |
| 44 A key | B clarification | C result | D solution |
| 45 A fix | B elect | C conclude | D resolve |
| 46 A contest | B race | C rally | D quiz |
| 47 A harmony | B integrity | C balance | D cooperation |
| 48 A feeding | B raising | C harvesting | D fertilising |

Task 9

Read the text below. For each of the empty space (49–58) choose the correct variant (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT JANUS

Janus is the Roman god of doorways, beginnings, change, and transition. He was a very important figure in the Roman pantheon, typically (49) _____ first during prayers, and the cult of Janus was at one point very widespread in Rome. Janus (50) _____ on in some surprising places; the first month of the year, January, is named for Janus, as are janitors, the keepers of doors and keys.

The most striking and memorable feature of Janus is probably his two or sometimes four faces. In classical art, he (51) _____ with two faces which pointed in opposite directions, illustrating his role as a guardian of doorways; with two faces, he could look out on either side of the doorway to see what (52) _____. On occasion, busts of Janus showed four faces instead of two, and in full statues, Janus typically holds a key in his right hand.

Janus' original role was probably as the guardian of doorways, with his later duties being added by subsequent worshipers. The link between doorways and new beginnings is pretty obvious, as is the association with change. Janus (53) _____ worshipped at major life events like coming of age parties, weddings, and New Year's parties, with those present praying to Janus for good fortune.

Janus also came to be associated with war, (54) _____ the Janus Geminus, a large temple in Rome. By tradition, the doors of this temple (55) _____ open during periods of war, and closed in periods of peace. Soldiers often visited the temple (56) _____ its doors in the hopes of being blessed by the god so that they could perform well in war.

The god was also linked with endings, as a doorway can appear at the end of a journey just as it can at the beginnings. In some regions, Janus was said to be capable of (57) _____ events, thanks to his double-faced head, which presumably didn't miss much. Romans sought advice from Janus about major decisions, hoping that he could illuminate the best path to follow.

In the modern era, Janus is also used as a metaphor for the often complex nature of humanity. Janus is often referenced in art with two-faced individuals who have (58) _____ different faces, such as the face of a man and the face of a woman. The Romans probably did not think about Janus in this way, although they undoubtedly thought about duality and betrayal, just as modern people do.

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|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 49 A was naming | B being named | C having named | D have named |
| 50 A has lived | B lived | C lives | D living |
| 51 A was depicted | B had depicted | C is depicted | D has been lived |
| 52 A happened | B was happening | C has been happening | D is happening |
| 53 A often was | B is often | C was often | D has been often |
| 54 A thanks of | B thanks to | C thanks on | D thanks off |
| 55 A was left | B had been left | C are left | D were left |
| 56 A to pass in | B to pass out of | C to pass at | D to pass through |
| 57 A predicting | B having predicted | C predicted | D being predicted |
| 58 A marked | B mark | C markedly | D marking |