

Reading Challenge 1

1. Zapoznaj się z tekstem i odpowiedz na pytania.

The Spirit of London

London often gives the impression of being more comfortable with its past than its present. From the world-famous **landmarks** of St Paul's Cathedral, Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London to the **traditional** and well-loved **double-decker** buses, the theatres and the many grand hotels, England's capital offers visitors a journey through centuries of history. This journey is even better now that the **building works**, which covered many historic sites, have been **taken down**. Newly cleaned and restored buildings are revealed, and the city looks as if it has been **revitalised**.

The city has also rediscovered its river. The area between the South Bank Arts Centre, which includes the National Theatre, and Tower Bridge, has been brought back to life and the city has found a new heart along the forgotten **riverside**. As you walk **eastwards** along the river from Westminster, you will discover that old warehouses have been transformed into galleries, shops and clubs.

Across the river from London Bridge is 'The City of London', the financial district of the capital. The City has its own historic **delights** such as the 15th century Guildhall and churches **designed** by Sir Christopher Wren. The best way to explore the City is on foot. For instance, you can "**walk through the ages**", starting from Fournier Street and ending at the modern Lloyd's building on Lime Street. Remember, however, that in London you are never far away from the past; the **old-fashioned** red telephone boxes are becoming popular again and many London pubs — where a visitor might ask for a pint of bitter — have been restored to their original Victorian beauty.

But the capital is not a historical **theme park**. It is a lively and exciting metropolis which is well-known for its popular culture, music, clubs, street fashion, and visual arts. Today, many of its wide variety of restaurants claim to be as good as in any other European capitals. For example, Marco Pierre White's highly recommended restaurant at the Hyde Park Hotel is a perfect example of new English cuisine — unusual, sophisticated and extremely expensive. When it comes to shopping, Covent Garden and King's Road in Chelsea offer a **mixture** of reasonably priced **chainstore clothing** and **unique** boutiques selling everything from rave gear to skateboards. Shoppers with full wallets and more sophisticated tastes should head for Knightsbridge, where Harrods and Harvey Nichols compete to be the most exclusive department store in London.

Much of London's energy and originality is now centred in Soho, the city's liveliest and most **bohemian** area, **squeezed** in between the department stores of Oxford Street and the bookshops of Charing Cross Road. Soho, once considered one of the dirtiest and most dangerous parts of London, was cleaned up in the early 1980's. Today, with its gurgling cappuccino machines and pavement cafés, it has become a meeting place for all kinds of people from all over the world, whatever the hour of day or night.

So, even if you are new to the city, you don't have to try hard in order to experience the real London. Despite its heavy traffic and **shaking** underground railway, it is still one of the world's greatest and most **cosmopolitan** cities.

- 1 According to the first paragraph, what is the most outstanding characteristic of London?
 - A the number of hotels
 - B the number of historic sites
 - C the number of landmarks
 - D the number of theatres
- 2 What has recently happened alongside the river?
 - A The area has been redeveloped.
 - B A new bridge has been built.
 - C New warehouses have been built.
 - D Old warehouses have been torn down.
- 3 The City of London
 - A was built by Sir Christopher Wren.
 - B is mainly made up of churches.
 - C is a museum of architecture.
 - D contains different styles of architecture.
- 4 The new English cuisine is
 - A well represented by White's restaurant.
 - B only available at the Hyde Park Hotel.
 - C available in all London restaurants.
 - D not worth the price the diner is expected to pay.
- 5 What does the writer think of London's shopping facilities?
 - A They are too expensive for most people.
 - B They provide for a variety of tastes.
 - C They are all quite reasonably priced.
 - D They don't have enough customers.
- 6 Before the 1980's, Soho was
 - A neat and tidy.
 - B popular among foreigners.
 - C very crowded.
 - D unsafe and unclean.
- 7 What does "it" in line 46 refer to?
 - A Soho
 - B London
 - C Oxford Street
 - D shopping in London

2. Uzupełnij zdania używając poniższych słów.

explore *revealed* *sophisticated*
head for *metropolis* *gear*
experience *claims to be* *lively*
transform *exclusive* *restore*

- 1 They have finally decided to that old building into a museum. (**change**)
- 2 The children couldn't wait to the woods behind the hotel. (**look around**)
- 3 Over ten million people live in the of Buenos Aires. (**large capital city**)
- 4 That man the best tour guide in the city. (**says he is**)
- 5 Susan would love to be able to afford expensive clothes. (**modern and elegant**)
- 6 As it was a hot sunny day we decided to the beach. (**go to**)
- 7 That club is very; only rich people can afford to go there. (**restricted to certain people**)
- 8 Without the correct it isn't safe to go rock climbing. (**clothes and equipment**)
- 9 The work of the archaeologist the remains of the lost city. (**exposed**)
- 10 In order to real excitement, try the "Super Shaker" rollercoaster! (**become familiar with**)
- 11 They are planning to the old church. (**repair**)
- 12 London has many pubs and clubs. (**interesting, exciting**)

3. Zapoznaj się z artykułem. Do każdego z akapitów 1 – 6 dopasuj odpowiedni nagłówek A-H. Jeden nagłówek został podany dodatkowo i nie pasuje do żadnego z akapitów.

A Wandering through nature and history.
B Keeping the arts alive.
C The perfect place to go.
D Past and present combined.
E For the adventurous only.
F Weatherproof fun.
G Seaside pleasures.
H A jungle in the heart of Swansea.

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The summer holidays are approaching and you and your family just can't decide where to go. The kids want lots

of sport and activity, while you would prefer a chance to relax in natural surroundings and experience a bit of culture as well. Why not try Swansea, the holiday **destination** with something for everyone?

1

To start with, the beaches around Swansea are a playtime paradise, with clean sand and **sparkling** water. There is no end to the things you can do. The little ones can build sandcastles and **paddle** on the shore, while older children can take part in activities such as wind-surfing and sailing. Grown-ups will enjoy lazing on the beach while admiring the beautiful scenery.

2

For those who don't fancy sunbathing or watersports, the surrounding countryside has lots to offer. Picturesque coastal paths and nature trails are ideal for long walks. Moreover, **medieval** castles, ancient **burial sites** and spectacular parks and gardens can all be easily reached.

3

If you want to have a fabulous time in town, try the Maritime Quarter. Once the industrial and shipping area of the city, it now has **quaint** 19th century streets alongside newer areas of homes, businesses, pubs, restaurants and museums. Don't miss the Maritime and Industrial Museum, which is full of fascinating **relics** from the Quarter's working past.

4

We can guarantee that your holiday in Swansea won't be spoilt by rainy weather. The Swansea **Leisure Centre**, a huge indoor complex, truly has something for everyone with its swimming pool, fitness classes, high-tech gym and of course a cafeteria for snacks and drinks. There's an **assortment** of special activities for the kids, including wild and **wacky** exercises in Fitkid, and the Fun Club, with team games, arts and crafts and swimming sessions especially for children.

5

The culturally-minded will find plenty to suit their tastes in Swansea. The Swansea Grand theatre has offerings **ranging** from comedy to opera. There is also an outdoor theatre at Oystermouth Castle, where opera and the plays of Shakespeare are performed. For those interested in the visual arts, Swansea's municipal art gallery houses a variety of works by famous artists such as Doré, Gwen and Augustus John and Graham Sutherland.

6

Finally, for a taste of the exotic, don't miss Plantasia. This is an indoor tropical paradise, packed with beautiful plant-life from the warmest regions of the world. It's not just

greenery either. Frogs, snakes, spiders and birds can be seen in their natural surroundings, and the butterfly house, with its colourful creatures from the world's rainforests, is not to be missed. So if your holiday plans are still **up in the air**, don't hesitate – come to Swansea and have the holiday of a lifetime!

4. Wybierz wyraz, który najlepiej uzupełnia każdą z luk.

Six reasons to see Sydney!

Sydney is the largest city in Australia and one of the most **0)** cities in the world. It has one of the best climates in Australia, with long warm summers and **mild** winters.

Sydney has one of the most beautiful city **harbours** in the world. **1)** a ferry across the **bay** and **experience** the **2)** possible panorama of the city. The stunning views of the famous Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House will blow you away.

Sydney Opera House is one of the most famous buildings in the world. Constructed **3)** the 1960's, the Opera House is now a UNESCO world **heritage** site. Its spectacular exterior is **stunning** to look at, and tours of the interior are **4)** The Opera House auditorium has crystal clear acoustics and features a diverse programme of opera, classical concerts as well as **contemporary** pop, jazz and comedy **performances**.

There are two huge old markets in Sydney, Paddy's Flemington and Paddy's Haymarket. Flemington is the place to go for fresh produce and flowers, **5)** Haymarket is more of a flea market selling clothes, giftware and souvenirs. You can **6)** just about anything.

One of the largest zoos in the world, and just 12 minutes **7)** ferry from central Sydney, Taronga homes 2,600 animals on 21 hectares of land. The zoo enjoys stunning views **overlooking** Sydney harbour. The animals have a lot of space in beautiful natural settings and visitors can enjoy **8)** giraffes, elephants and, of course native kangaroos and koala bears! There is even the **option** to stay overnight at the zoo in one of their safari tents. Just imagine waking to the sound of a lion's roar!

The Chinese Garden of Friendship is a beautiful, peaceful place in the heart of the city. The garden celebrates the friendship between Australia and China and **9)** like a traditional garden of the Ming Dynasty. It **features** a water pavilion and a bamboo forest.

What better way to end your day than at one of Sydney's many seafood restaurants **10)** you can find all around the harbour and beyond. Top chefs serve all kinds of seafood dishes.

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|----|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A famous | B favourite | C best | C excellent |
| 1 | A Take | B Bring | C Hold | C Keep |
| 2 | A good | B better | C great | C best |
| 3 | A in | B on | C at | C of |
| 4 | A open | B hand | C available | C there |
| 5 | A when | B while | C so | C and |
| 6 | A find | B come | C meet | C spot |
| 7 | A at | B on | C by | C with |
| 8 | A noticing | B seeing | C looking | C viewing |
| 9 | A watches | B appears | C seems | C looks |
| 10 | A where | B which | C who | C what |