4

Read five texts below and look at questions 1-5. Each text is about a different subject. After having read the texts, tick the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each of the five tasks.

The Death Zone



Would you like to enter the death zone? We're not talking about a computer game or going into battle, but a place that exists high above the sea; 7,000-8,000 metres to be exact. The death zone is a point on some of the world's highest mountains where there is too little oxygen to support human life. Although Mount Everest is the world's highest and most famous mountain, the deadliest mountains are Annapurna and K2, both of which have a death rate of 20% for climbers who manage to reach the peak.

1 **Where is the death zone?**

A) Where most climbers fall on a mountain.
B) The world's deadliest mountains - K2 and Annapurna.
C) A height on a mountain where there is not enough oxygen.
D) At the top of the mountain.



Are you listening to me?

You should say "please" and "thank you" and try to be helpful. You have to get up at seven o'clock in the morning. You can't stay in bed all day! When dinner is ready, I will call you. You should always wash your hands before eating. No snacks before mealtimes! You must always finish your homework, especially mathematics, before you watch television. It's important to listen to people when they're talking to you and not to keep asking silly questions. And if you can remember all that, I will pay you three pounds and fifty pence pocket money a week.

2 **Who is talking to whom?**

A) Teacher to pupil.
B) Boss to employee.
C) Host to visitor.
D) Parent to child.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Freediving

Can you hold your breath for a long time? Are you good at swimming? If yes, then perhaps freediving is the sport for you. Freediving can range from something as simple as holding your breath to snorkeling. The most well-known version of this sport is diving underwater without the aid of oxygen. Freedivers have been known to reach depths of over 200 metres, with the use of weights on the dive down and floats on the way up. The current world record for unassisted freediving is held by a Czech man, Martin Stepan, who freedived 122 metres.

3 **What can freedivers use?**

- **A)** No equipment or bottled oxygen.
- **B)** Some equipment but no bottled oxygen.
- **C)** Bottled oxygen but no equipment.
- **D)** Any equipment or oxygen they woild like.

Who did it?



At first I enjoyed reading the book. I like a good murder mystery. It's set in L.A. in the 1950s. A detective has to find out who's killing famous actresses. The plot was fine. It was the characters that didn't work for me. The detective was so slow and silly; the only thing he could catch was a cold. The actresses were horrible. The only mystery surrounding their murders was how they'd managed to live so long in the first place and the surprise ending – the postman killed them because they got so much fan mail it made his bag heavy!

4 **Why didn't the reader enjoy the book?**

- **A)** The person doesn't like murder mysteries.
- **B)** The reader didn't like the people in the book.
- **C)** The story was set in L.A.
- **D)** The ideas in the book were too slow.

What are you going to be?

Abby: What do you want to do when you leave school, Joe?

Joe: I thought about being a pilot, but I'm afraid of flying. I wanted to be a vet, but I'm allergic to animals. I'd like to be a sailor, but I get seasick. I also wouldn't mind being a cook, but I burn everything. And being a doctor would be nice, except that I'm always getting ill.

Abby: So what are you going to do?

Joe: The only thing possible – not to leave school!

5 **Which job can't Joe do because he's not good at it?**

- **A)** Pilot.
- **B)** Vet.
- **C)** Cook.
- **D)** Doctor.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 **Read five texts below and look at questions 1-5. Each text is about a different subject. After having read the texts, tick the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each of the five tasks.**

It was a normal day until...

It was a Wednesday evening when it happened. I couldn't believe it. Nothing like that had ever happened to me before. I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. I just sat there really quiet for about fifteen minutes without any movement. I wanted to telephone my family and tell them what had happened, but I was shaking too much to pick up the phone. I didn't think anything like that would ever happen to me. It was such a shock. I've never won anything before in my life, and now I don't know what I'm going to do with all that money.

1 **What experience is the person describing?**

A) A time when she was scared. ☐
B) About being sad. ☐
C) A big surprise she once had. ☐
D) That she was lonely. ☐

Parachuting

Although Leonardo da Vinci designed the first parachute in 1485, it was another 500 years before anyone built his design and tried to use it. Since then, parachuting has become a major sport enjoyed by thousands of people worldwide. The highest parachute jump ever recorded is 102,800 feet.That's almost from space! Captain Kittenger when jumping from this height reached an amazing 714 miles per hour before his parachute opened at 18,000 feet.

2 **Captain Kittenger ...**

A) tried Da Vinci's parachute design. ☐
B) was the first man to parachute from space. ☐
C) holds the record for the fastest ever parachute jump. ☐
D) made the highest ever parachute jump. ☐

Bungee jumping

Although the Aztecs loved bungee jumping before Europeans had even sailed to America and some tribes in Papua New Guinea were filmed doing it during the 1960s, it didn't become a popular worldwide sport until later. The modern version of this sport was first recorded in 1979, when five members of the Oxford University Dangerous Sports Club jumped off the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol, England. All five were arrested after performing the 250-foot jump. Since the 1990s, bungee jumping has taken off all over the world, with millions of people willing to risk death to enjoy the adrenalin rush of falling through the air.

3 **Who were the first people to do bungee jumping as a sport?**

A) The Aztecs. ☐
B) Oxford University students. ☐
C) Tribes in Papua New Guinea. ☐
D) English people during the 1990s. ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

The party

Ralph: Hi, Susan. Why didn't you come to my party last night?
Susan: Well, you know...
Ralph: I told you about it 37 times!
Susan: How was it?
Ralph: Fantastic.
Susan: Did many people turn up?
Ralph: Less than last year.
Susan: Last year it was just me and you, Ralph.
Ralph: That's right. It was such fun. Do you remember?
Susan: Oh, I remember, Ralph - the music, the food, the crying...
Ralph: Sorry, I was nervous. I'd never played the trumpet before in public.



4 **Which sentence best describes Susan?**

A) After going to one of Ralph's parties, she doesn't want to go to another one. ☐
B) She forgot to go to Ralph's party. ☐
C) Each year she goes to Ralph's party, but can't remember it. ☐
D) Susan has never been to one of Ralph's parties. ☐

Sun power

Just 0.3 % of the sunlight falling on the Sahara could power the whole of Europe. Engineers hope to build a solar power farm in Northern Sahara that will provide environmentally-friendly electricity for centuries to come. Sunlight in Sahara is much stronger than in Europe, so it produces more electricity. Also, the heat of the desert can be used to boil water to produce steam that can power turbines. The project is still only at the planning stage, but politicians have given the thumbs up and are hopeful.



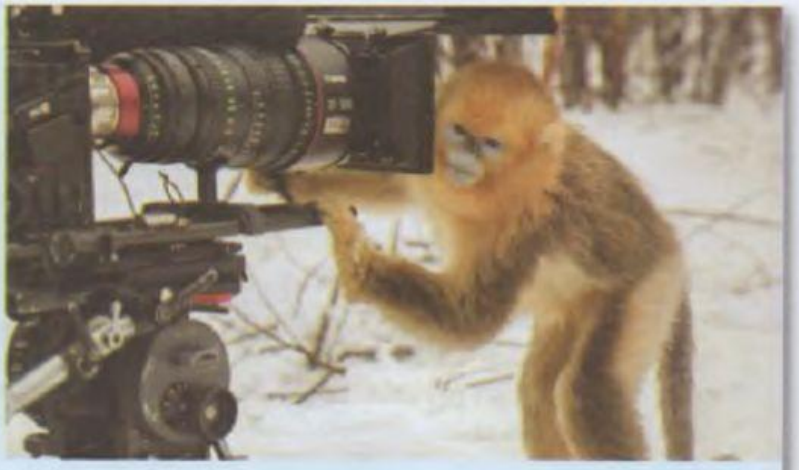
5 **At what stage is the solar power farm?**

A) The farm is being built now and will be ready soon. ☐
B) It has been built. ☐
C) The solar power farm won't be built. ☐
D) It might be built in the future. ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 **Read five texts below and look at questions 1-5. Each text is about a different subject. After having read the texts, tick the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each of the five tasks.**

Monkey madness



A movie filmed by monkeys is to be shown on the BBC. The primates were given monkey-proof cameras. At the same time, they were also given a touch-screen monitor so they could select different types of videos to watch. It seems that they were more interested in making films than watching them. The monkey-made movies probably won't win any Oscars, but researchers hope it will show what sort of things monkeys like to look at.

1 **What is the BBC going to show?**

- **A)** A film about monkeys.
- **B)** A film made by monkeys.
- **C)** A film about monkeys making a movie.
- **D)** The films which monkeys like to watch.



You have 1 new message!

Britain's leading astronomer, Lord Rees, believes that we're closer than ever to making contact with people from a different planet. Scientists have been listening to radio signals from outer space for the last fifty years, but with no success. Now, thanks to inventions such as space telescopes, astronomers have been able to identify planets with similar conditions as Earth. This helps scientists to know where radio signals are more likely to come from. Lord Rees believes that if aliens do make contact with Earth, they are likely to be so intelligent that they make humans look like monkeys.

2 **Why does Lord Rees think aliens are more likely to make contact with Earth now?**

- **A)** Scientists know in which direction to search for alien radio signals.
- **B)** You can see aliens using space telescopes.
- **C)** We have better machines for searching for aliens.
- **D)** There are more aliens than before.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Running is good for you!



Scientists believe that running may help you remember things better. Researchers found that mice that were made to run every day produced more parts of the brain (cells) associated with memory than mice that didn't run. In some cases this may be up to twice as many cells. Another discovery was that the 'running' mice were better at remembering where their food was kept. Researchers also found that people who started running to keep fit remembered very quickly that they didn't like running.

3 **What did scientists discover about running?**

- **A)** Running makes you clever.
- **B)** People with good memories run quicker.
- **C)** Running can help produce brain cells.
- **D)** Mice like running - people don't.

Couch potato

People who watch television the whole time - couch potatoes - may be in danger of having a heart attack. Researchers have found that couch potatoes who watch more than four hours of television a day are 80% more likely to die of a heart attack than people who only watch two hours of television a day. Doctors say it's not the television that's the problem, but sitting in the same position for a long time. When the shocking findings were shown on a television documentary, more than 100,000 people phoned for an ambulance.

4 **What can be a cause of heart disease and heart attacks?**

- **A)** Eating potatoes.
- **B)** Watching television.
- **C)** Not moving for a long period.
- **D)** Shocking science facts.

Surfing

Surfing is a hugely popular sport that appeals to many people around the world. You can wear surfing fashion, watch surfing films, listen to surfing music and even speak surfer language! Although surfing represents a multi-million pound business, very few people go surfing regularly. Those who do, protect their waves and beaches, sometimes even using violence, and don't like just anybody turning up to catch a wave and hang five!

5 **Which statement is true?**

- **A)** Many people go surfing every weekend.
- **B)** A lot of people enjoy surfing culture but don't surf.
- **C)** People who surf don't like sharing their culture.
- **D)** Surfing is not as popular as other water sports.

LIVEWORKSHEETS