Part 2

You are going to read a magazine article about a couple who have built their own large sailing boat. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–H** the one which fits each gap (**9–15**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

A dream boat

Paul Gold has learnt the hard way how to fulfil a childhood ambition. Frank Mortimer finds out how he achieved his goal.

For Paul Gold and his wife, Sarah, 4 June 2004 was one of the most exciting days of their lives – at 5pm the boat they had made, *Shining Star*, was finally ready. For nearly a decade, almost every minute of Paul's spare time had been spent building it at an improvised construction yard close to the North Sea and the Golds' family home. Judging by its impressive size, this couldn't have been an easy task.

Paul confirmed that making it had been a real challenge. He researched the best way to go about it, seeking the advice of experienced boat makers. Fortunately, he didn't have to learn everything from scratch. **9** ____ This reliance on other people's expertise does not, however, make his achievement any less impressive.

Over the years, local residents had watched absorbed as the boat took shape. **10** ____ Now this seagoing landmark was about to be pushed into the water to sail on its first voyage.

Launching the boat proved to be almost as tricky as building it. **11** ____ And even when that was done, a wooden plank on the side of the boat gave way, which caused the boat to lean over alarmingly.

12 ____ Unshaken, Paul borrowed a small motorboat to pull it forward and managed to repair it and get it fully upright once again. *Shining Star* now made its way with great dignity onto the open sea.

Paul and Sarah's pride was visible. **13** ____ During the long years of its construction, neither of them had known for certain that *Shining Star* would float – there had always been a slight fear of failure.

Paul may never have built a boat before, but he's had a long-standing love affair with the sea. **14** ____ He and Sarah have also both been members of the local yachting club for many years.

Paul and Sarah are particularly pleased that the boat is much more roomy than other boats they have owned – it sleeps up to eight people. **15** ____ 'To get a bigger boat, we had to make it ourselves,' said Sarah. And since that day in 2004, the Golds have been living six months of the year at home and six months at sea, exploring some of the remotest islands in the world and at the same time escaping the cold and the grey skies of a northern European winter. 'It has all definitely been worth the effort,' said Paul, 'but I don't think I could go through it all again.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A As a result of this problem, the iron section just above the waterline suffered some damage.

B In fact, that's the main reason why they decided to build rather than buy one.

C It is true to say that Sarah is not as mad about boats and the sea as Paul is.

D He's always had a small boat and he's been sailing since he was sixteen.

E He stuck to an established design and was able to follow clear guidelines which he found in specialist publications.

F But their strongest emotion when they were actually able to stand on board was relief.

G In fact, it took the efforts of two men to dig out a channel deep enough to float it.

H Its tall white masts and reddish structure had become a familiar part of their landscape.

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