Read the text concerning legends and myths of Britain. For items (1–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers in your copybook.

Legends, Myths and Stories of Britain. England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland are countries which (1)___ rich in ancient legends, myths and stories. The origin of these stories and legends is often not known but these tales have been around for many centuries often (2) ___down through the generations by the spoken word alone. In this text we have tried to cover some of the more well-known or interesting legends.



Robin Hood (his statue right in Nottingham). The subject of ballads, books and films, Robin Hood (3) ___ to be one of popular culture's most enduring folk heroes. According to legend and tradition Robin Hood was a lovable outlaw who as an expert archer was adept at poaching the king's deer from his hideout in the forest of Sherwood. Stories relate how wealthy travelers through Sherwood forest were robbed and their belongings given to the poor by Robin Hood and his band of "Merry Men" (and women). Stories also tell of how Robin tricked and outwitted the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and his Henchman Sir Guy of Gisborne, and (4) ___with corrupt churchmen and officials who abused their power over an oppressed peasantry. Robin's fame and popularity were such that within a generation his true identity had been obscured by legend.



King Arthur. King Arthur is a legendary British leader of the late 5th and early 6th centuries, who was the head of the kingdom Camelot and the Knights of the Round Table. According to medieval histories and romances, he (5) ___the defence of Britain against Saxon invaders in the early 6th century. After many great battles and a huge victory at Mount Badon the Saxons' advance was halted. In the final battle (6) ___ Camlan both Arthur and Mordred, Arthur's traitorous nephew, were mortally wounded. Arthur was set upon a boat and (7) ___ down river to the isle of Avalon. Here his wounds were treated by three mysterious maidens. His body was never found and many say that he rests under a hill with all his knights – ready to ride forth and save the country again.



The Loch Ness Monster. Legends dating back to the 7th century claim that a monster inhabits the icy depths of Loch Ness, a large and very deep lake in Scotland. There (8) ___ more water in Loch Ness than all the other lakes in England, Scotland and Wales put together. Nobody knows if the gigantic, humped, dragon-like creature really exists but thousands of people visit the area each year to try and find Loch Ness Monster, or "Nessie". The first recorded sighting of the monster was in 565 AD, when it was said to have snatched up and eaten a local farmer, (9) ___being forced back into the waters by St. Columba. To this day, there is no conclusive proof to suggest that the monster is a reality. However, many respectable and responsible observers have been utterly convinced they (10) ____ a huge creature in the water.

Description of the Monster:

Shape: long neck; horse-like head; humped back (one or two humps).

Colour: dark or elephant grey.

Weight: estimated 2,500 pounds (1 lb. (one pound) = 0,45359237 kg (kilograms)

Length: 15 to 40 feet (1 ft. (one feet) = 0.3048000 m (meters)

1	**A** is	**B** are	**C** were	**D** have been
2	**A** pass	**B** passed	**C** was passing	**D** has passed
3	**A** prove	**B** proved	**C** has proven	**D** is proving
4	**A** deal	**B** deals	**C** dealt	**D** was dealing
5	**A** lead	**B** leads	**C** led	**D** has led
6	**A** in	**B** at	**C** on	**D** by
7	**A** float	**B** floated	**C** floats	**D** was floating
8	**A** is	**B** are	**C** was	**D** has been
9	**A** after	**B** earlier	**C** before	**D** formerly
10	**A** saw	**B** were seeing	**C** has seen	**D** have seen

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