4 That's the fashion

Reading understanding new words; matching sentences to gaps

1 Read the Exam Reminder. What do you need to do when you find a word you don't know?

Exam REMINDER

Understanding new words

- Don't worry if you don't understand every word in the text. You don't need to know the meaning of all the words to complete the task.
- If you find a word that you don't know and think it's important to complete the task, you can try to guess what it means. Words that come before or after the word you don't know can help you understand its meaning.

2 Read and complete the Exam Task.

Exam TASK

Matching sentences to gaps

Five sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question, choose the correct answer A–H. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

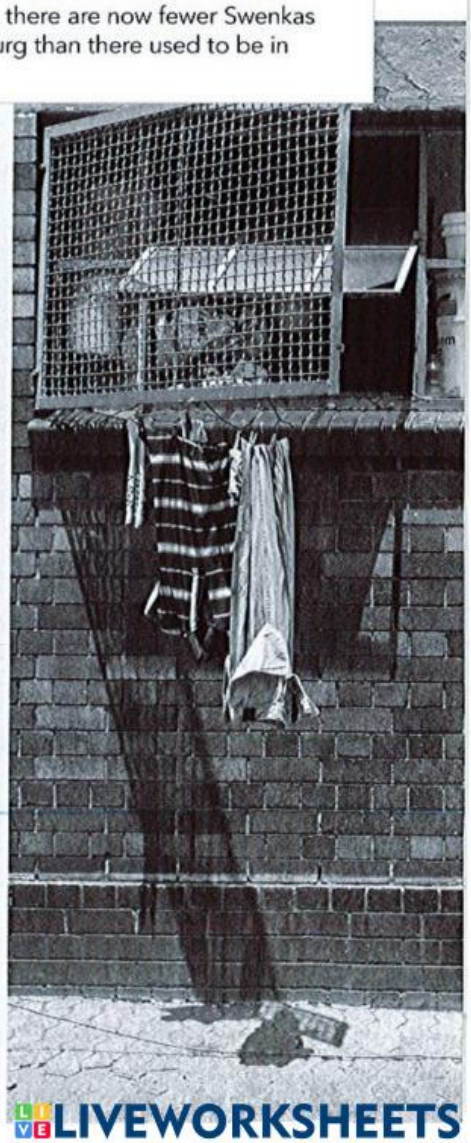
A Small items like these can be difficult to find and Swenkas spend days shopping around for them.
B This is a lot of money for someone who's earning $300 or $400 a month in a factory.
C The high cost of the clothes is the reason why many people decide not to become Swenkas.
D There are important differences between the two though.
E People needed something to help them forget about these problems.
F They also travel to other areas of the country to take part in these fashion shows.
G When the show has finished, the audience votes on the best look and the winner is chosen.
H Unfortunately, there are now fewer Swenkas in Johannesburg than there used to be in the past.

Looking good in South Africa

A lot of young men and women moved from the countryside to Johannesburg in the 1950s searching for a better life. However, many of them found themselves in jobs with low pay and difficult working conditions. Outside of work, these young people looked for a way to express their sense of pride and self-respect. **(1)** _____ For some, the solution was to become Swenkas. This describes a group of people who share looking confident and stylish as a hobby. Although they may not have much money they always want to look really smart and elegant. They're happy when other people look at and admire their clothes, just like the sapeurs in Kinshasa. **(2)** _____

For example, Swenkas are a smaller group with their own particular culture. They also have their own special look. They don't wear bright colours but prefer expensive suits, which often have the name of a famous designer on the label. There is a lot of attention to small details too, so old-fashioned hats, colourful glasses, leather shoes, gloves and big metal watches are all popular. An original handkerchief that sits in a pocket and goes well with an expensive silk tie is also essential for some. **(3)** _____ They also need to try all these things on before they finally decide on the right one to buy.

An important moment in the week is the Saturday evening fashion show, which is free to the public but not the Swenkas, who pay to enter. This money becomes the winner's prize money. The aim of every well-dressed competitor is to be smarter and more fashionable than the others. Sometimes the clothes that they're wearing can cost more than $1,000. **(4)** _____ During the contest, they walk around, dance and show their new clothes. **(5)** _____ The following week, the competition takes place again with every Swenka hoping to win the prize.



LIVEWORKSHEETS