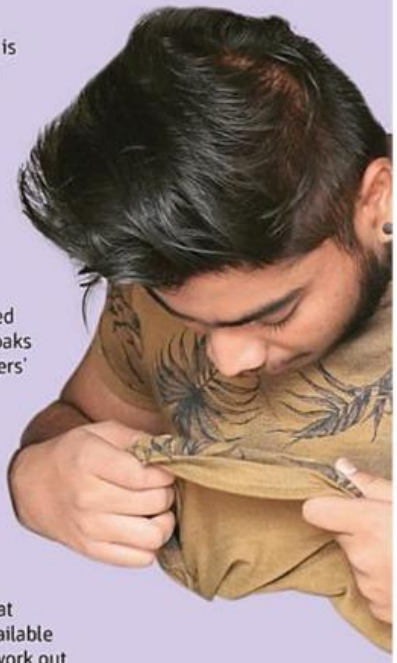
1.-Read the article quickly. Match one of the superpowers from the box, with each paragraph.

THE TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL GIVE YOU SUPERPOWERS

Have you ever dreamt of being a superhero? Until now, superpowers such as being able to fly or climb walls like a spider have been limited to comic books and movies. But all that is changing. Here are four amazing superpowers that you may soon be able to try for yourself.

_____ **A**

Binoculars? They're so twentieth century! These days you can wear contact lenses if you want telescopic vision. Thanks to four tiny metallic mirrors in the lenses, everything you're looking at appears to be three times closer than it really is. It's true that you can't see things hundreds of kilometres away like Superman can, but the power of these lenses is only going to increase with time. And sight isn't your only sense that can be improved by technology. New high-tech earbuds let you control the sounds you hear. Do you want to avoid hearing your dad's terrible taste in music while you chat to him, or listen to a private conversation on the other side of the classroom? You can do that just by adjusting the earbuds' settings on your smartphone. Cool or what?



_____ **B**

There have been invisibility cloaks in fairytales for centuries, but they now seem to be close to reality. Scientists have been developing a special metal material which can bend the light around an object in a way that makes it disappear from view. Until recently, the material could only be made in tiny sizes, but now a scientist has managed to make a piece of the material four centimetres square. No one is intending to sell cloaks made from it any time soon, but just imagine the fun when they do! Listening to teachers' conversations in the staff room, playing tricks on your friends, disappearing when it's time to do the washing up ... The possibilities are endless. Unfortunately, the possibilities for criminals are endless too, but perhaps we needn't worry too much about how popular invisibility cloaks will be. No one will be able to use them for long, because once you've taken one off and put it down, how will you ever find it again?!

_____ **C**

People may not bother going to the gym in future, when there's an easier way to get stronger: wear an exoskeleton. Like Iron Man's suit, this is a kind of wearable robot that fits around your body and gives you superstrength. One exoskeleton that's already available allows you to lift 200 kg as if it were just 4 kg. There's only one problem: no one can work out how to produce a battery that's powerful enough for this amazing invention. Scientists have suggested using a small nuclear reactor for its electrical supply, but although this could keep the exoskeleton working for a hundred years, it would have terrible consequences if something went wrong. Obviously, people are a bit nervous of trying that, so for now, you'll need to plug in a cable before you can switch on your exoskeleton and start lifting up planes like the Hulk.

_____ **D**

Imagine always being able to choose the perfect birthday present for your dad without asking him for ideas, or knowing what your friends really think of your new hairstyle. Who wouldn't want to be able to mind-read? The science on this is developing fast. Scientists already have equipment that can guess which word you are thinking of with a 61 percent success rate, and they expect the technology to be more accurate soon. It will be a life-changing development for people who are unable to communicate with speech, and a fun way for the rest of us to 'talk' to our friends without moving our lips. But the excitement of mind-reading might wear off quickly. How well would you get on with your friends and family if they knew exactly what you were thinking about them all the time?

2.-Read the article again. Match the questions (1-10) with the paragraphs (A-D). The paragraphs may be chosen more than once.

1 may not be very popular after people have used it for a while? _____

2 might be difficult to keep? _____

3 will benefit people who can't speak? _____

4 is unlikely to be available to buy in the near future? _____

5 can stop an experience that you don't like? _____

6 might help you to get honest feedback on your appearance? _____

7 could be achieved in a very dangerous way? _____

8 might encourage people to take less exercise? _____

9 might cause problems in families? _____

10 gives you a much less impressive ability than a superhero's? _____

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3.-Complete the sentences with the words from and phrases from the article.

adjust cloak fairytale play a trick
plug in reality settings wear off

1 A _____ is a traditional children's story in which magical things happen.
2 You _____ a cable to get electricity.
3 When you want to change how a machine works, you change the _____.
4 A _____ is a warm item of clothing, like a coat but without sleeves.
5 When feelings or effects _____, they disappear slowly.
6 _____ is how things really are.
7 When you _____ on someone, you do something to them that you think is funny because it makes them look silly.
8 If you _____ something, you change it slightly.

LIVEWORKSHEETS