TASK 1 - WORDBUILDING

Use the words given in capitals to form a word that fits the blank in that same line. Example 0 has been done for you.

Would you pay over the odds for a private viewing?

How much would you be willing to pay for a few moments

alone with the world´s (0) ***costliest*** painting? The Neue Gallery **COST**

hit the (1) ..... recently with its much publicised **HEAD**

(2) ..... of the painting Adele Bloch-Bauer for a record **ACQUIRE**

$ 135 million. The painting is now on public display and the gallery

charges a modest (3) ..... fee of $15 to non-members **ADMIT**

who want to come in and see the work.

The gallery has come up against a problem, however. Demand to

see this picture has been (4) ..... high, and there is **EXCEPT**

always a crowd of (5) ..... visitors gathered around it. **ADMIRE**

There is , therefore, no opportunity for quiet (6) ..... of **CONTEMPLATE**

the work; no time when you can stand in front of the picture,

(7) ..... by the movements and comments of fellow art **INTERRUPT**

lovers.

The Gallery has, however, come up with a (8) ..... . It has **SOLVE**

announced that on Wednesday afternoons the price will be hiked

to $50. This means that those able and willing to pay (9) .....**CONSIDER**

more will be rewarded with a more intimate viewing. Let´s hope

the experience lives up to their (10) ..... . **EXPECT**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK 2 – INGVAR KAMPRAD: LEADER OF THE FLATPACK

Complete the gaps 1-10 in the text with the sentences A-K. Gap 0 has been done as an example.

The Swedish furniture company Ikea has made its founder, Ingvar Kamprad, one of the world´s wealthiest people, with a fortune estimated at $18.5bn. But, instead of a chauffeur-driven limo, he drives a 10-year-old Volvo **(0)** **and whenever he flies, even long-haul, it´s in economy.** Rather than travelling by taxi, he is even been known to use Stockholm´s subway and public buses to take advantage of his pensioner´s discount. And forget holidays in St.Tropez. **(1)**_____. He once said his idea of luxury is buying the occasional nice shirt. Kamprad´s sole extravagance is having a small vineyard in Provence, which he describes, with characteristic dourness, as a `very expensive hobby´.

His frugality is not born of a desire simply to build up his billions, but also to offer a guiding example to Ikea´s 76.000 staff. His penny pinching permeates Ikea. **(2)**_____. He reasons that if Ikea is to provide customers with low prices, its brutal control of costs has to extend to every level in the company. Born in Southern Sweden, Kamprad grew up on a village farm. **(3)**_____. He traded in cigarette lighters, Christmas cards and pens, and at the age of seventeen, Kamprad set up his company, Ikea, which took its name from the initials and the first letters of his family farm Elmtaryd and nearby village Agunnaryd.

Having a company enabled Kamprad to bid for a contract to supply pencils **(4)** _____. He discovered that by buying goods in bulk he could sell them to his customers at low prices and still make a profit. Kamprad then acquired a disused factory and began turning out furniture. His low prices undercut Swedish cartels and in 1952 he opened a showroom in the town of Almhult to reassure people who felt his prices were simply too good to be true. **(5)**_____, but his breakthrough came in 1955 with the birth of a product that would become a market leader.

(6)_____, Gillis Lundgren, an early employee and later the chief designer, hit upon the idea of taking the legs off and mailing them packed flat under the tabletop. Enter the flatpack**.** The secret of Ikea´s products is functionality. The flatpack eliminated the cost of shipping vast quantities of air whenever a product was sent from a factory to shopfloor. **(7)**_____. Flatpacks allowed furniture to be made so cheaply that, **(8)**_____, it would come to seem transient and disposable. This started a revolution in interior furnishing and now more than 300 million people worldwide frequent Ikea each year even though it has only 200 branches.

Employees have described Ikea as a `cult´. The company structure is less hierarchical than similar businesses – **(9)**_____- and every year Kamprad personally hands out Christmas presents to each of Ikea´s 2,500 staff members at its Almhult headquarters. The company never releases profit figures but sources suggest that they are massive – around 18 per cent – while rival films operate on single-figure margins. Kamprad long gave up the day-to-day running of Ikea and lives with his second wife in Switzerland, apparently for tax purposes.

He also has sheltered his company from Sweden ´s taxes and death duties by creating trusts and holding companies, **(10)**_____. Flatpacks are here to stay.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TASK 3 - CLOZE TEXT - WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Complete each blank with ONE suitable word from the list supplied. Each word can only be used ONCE. There are some extra words that you do not need to use. Gap 0 is an example.

The authority which men exercise over women is a major source of oppression in our society - as fundamental as class oppression. The fact that most of the nation's wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few means that the **vast** (0) majority of women and men are deprived of their rights. But women are doubly deprived. At no level of society_____(1) they have equal rights with men.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, women were the personal property of their fathers and husbands. They had no_____(2) in their marriage. When married, they could not own property. Women had_____(3) rights at all - they could not vote, they could not sign contracts - but never was there any trace of protest. Neither_____(4) they have any control over their own bodies. Their husbands could rape and beat them without fear of legal retaliation. A woman's place was in the home_____(5) man's duty was to protect and provide for her. When they were not_____(6) to the home, they were forced by merciless industrialization to join the_____(7) levels of the labour force.

Since then, progress towards equal rights for women has been very slow_____(8). There have even been times when the wind grew stronger and blew in the opposite direction. The first law against abortion was passed in 1803. It imposed a sentence of life_____(9) for termination within the first fourteen weeks of pregnancy. In 1832 the first law was passed which forbade women to vote in elections.

_____(10), the latter half of the nineteenth century saw the gradual acceptance of women into the unions and the informal adoption of resolutions on the need for equal pay. Between 1831 and 1872 the major Factory Acts were passed, which_____(11) the exploitation of women workers, placed restrictions on hours and conditions of labour and limited their_____(12) at night. In 1882 married women won the right to own property.

Inevitably, wartime advanced the cause of women's rights - women became indispensable _____(13) workers outside the home, as they had to keep the factories and government machinery_____(14) while the men went out to fight. They were allowed into new areas of employment and were conceded new_____(15) of responsibility. In 1918 they got the vote. Again, during the Second World War, state nurseries were built on a considerable scale to _____ (16) women to go out to work. When peace came, however, women were _____(17) to hold on to their gains. Men reclaimed their jobs, and women were forced back into the home and confined to their_____(18) low-paid, menial and supportive forms of work. The government closed down most of the nurseries. Theories about maternal deprivation were clearly intended to prey on women's submissive gullibility: women who had been told it was patriotic to go out to work during the war were now told that their children _____(19) suffer if they did not stay at home. It was clearly a piece of_____(20) deception. Little progress was made for the next two decades.

LIVEWORKSHEETS