Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (17-22). There are two choices you do not need to use.

ON PARROTS

Parrots are becoming one of the most popular pets in America — and for good reason. The parrot is (17) _____ that can be taught to talk, can be easily cared for, and can (18) _____ anywhere. With the help of an energetic parrot owner, a parrot can develop (19) _____. In addition, a parrot can be trained to say 'pretty boy' or 'Polly wants a cracker,' and it also can learn to whistle or even to imitate human singing.

(20) _____ what an owner decides to teach a bird, training a parrot (21) _____, but the reward is a stream of chatter. Another reason for the parrot's popularity is that this pet does not require much care. For example, even a spoiled parrot does not need a housesitter for the purpose of daily walks and daily feeding. In fact, a parrot owner may leave his or her pet with enough food for five days and have no fear that the parrot will overeat. Still another advantage of owning a parrot is its inexpensive diet, which consists of an assortment of seeds, nuts, corn, and grain — along with an apple, banana, or carrot.

Perhaps the most likely reason the parrot is becoming such a well-liked pet is that it is a combination of tameness and wildness. Because the parrot can live (22) _____, it makes a fine, tame companion for many people. In addition, because it can be easily trained, it is a delightful performer. At the same time, its colourful feathers give it an air of the mystery of the parrot's native home, the jungle. Thus, the parrot, once a highly valued gift presented to kings and noble families, is now appreciated by a growing number of people.

A popular pets
B an extraordinary bird
C takes much patience
D create a fantasy-like atmosphere
E an enormous vocabulary
F No matter
G light year
H in almost any environment

Task 5

Read and complete the text below. For each of the empty space (23–32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

MAESTRO MYROSLAV SKORYK:
'AT TIMES IT SEEMED TO ME THAT MOSES WOULD BE MY SWAN SONG'

Lviv's Krushelnytska Opera and Ballet Theatre staged the international (23) _____ of Myroslav Skoryk's opera, Moses. The author and composer (24) _____ that the opera dealt with an international subject, and addressed all nations and peoples, especially those struggling for (25) _____ and building their nation states. Like the characters of Ivan Franko's poem (the (26) _____, written by Bohdan Stelmakh, is based on it), Ukraine is also trying to find its way in the stormy sea of life's problems. The poem was written in 1905, yet it seems to reflect (27) _____ realities.

'I had the idea of *Moses* long ago,' said the composer. 'It was (28) _____ by my father. He was a historian. It took me two years. I wrote the opera on three continents. I started in Lviv and then continued in America, and later in (29) _____. Australia. *Moses* is about a leader and a people and their relationships. Ivan Franko's poem is first of all philosophical. My task was to convey Franko's poetic (30) _____ in music. 250 persons worked on the project, almost the whole company actors, and about 2,000 people. In *Moses* my task was (31) _____ and difficult at the same time. I wanted this opera to be (32) _____. I kept its style modern but close to classical canons. Composing music is a very individual process; every composer does it in his own way. A melody can come suddenly, at any moment, even in your sleep. I think that being able to compose music and use one's talent is what you call happiness.'

23	**A** premiere	**B** debut	**C** first night	**D** matinee
24	**A** believed	**B** accepted	**C** guessed	**D** trusted
25	**A** liberty	**B** autonomy	**C** independence	**D** sovereignty
26	**A** scenario	**B** outline	**C** libretto	**D** display
27	**A** modern	**B** present-day	**C** mediocre	**D** contemporary
28	**A** advised	**B** prompted	**C** inspired	**D** motivated
29	**A** remote	**B** dismant	**C** absent	**D** faraway
30	**A** overtones	**B** nuances	**C** traces	**D** distinctions
31	**A** simple	**B** intricate	**C** elementary	**D** natural
32	**A** popular	**B** great	**C** exclusive	**D** fashionable

LIVEWORKSHEETS