PET Reading Part 5

London Parks

London is famous **(1)** ..... its parks and gardens. Some of them belong to the Crown, but they are all open to the public, and the entrance is free of charge. In St James's Park, you can watch and

(2) ..... swans, ducks, geese, and other water birds. Hyde Park **(3)** ..... to be a hunting ground and is still popular with horse riders.

Those who like a good argument should go to the Speakers' Corner to listen to individuals **(4)** ..... speeches on various subjects. Regent's Park now houses London Zoo and an open-air theatre where Shakespeare's plays are staged in summer. Not **(5)** ..... the parks are in the city centre. Greenwich and Richmond are located in the suburbs. All these areas of green give the city dwellers an excellent

(6) ..... to enjoy some peace away from traffic and crowded streets.

Modigliani – an Italian artist

Nowadays cards and posters of pictures by Amedeo Modigliani are popular with people all **(1)** ..... the world, but the artist himself did not have an easy life. He was born in Livorno, Italy, in 1884. His father was a businessman who did not make **(2)** ..... money, and his mother ran a school.

Modigliani went to art school in Florence and Venice, before moving to Paris **(3)** ..... he painted and made sculptures. His work was influenced by art from Africa which he saw in museums. He was very poor and not very strong, and after a **(4)** ..... years he gave up making sculptures. He painted people in a gentle, thoughtful style.

Many of his most beautiful paintings **(5)** ..... Jeanne, the woman he loved. Often the people in his paintings look sad or tired. Perhaps Modigliani was painting his own feelings. Although in the end he began to **(6)** ..... a little money, he was never very successful in his lifetime.

LIVEWORKSHEETS