TASK 3: WORD FORMATION

Write the correct form of the words given in brackets in the spaces on the right.

There is an example at the beginning: Gap 0.

The secret of happiness: Family, friends and your environment

Adapted from an article in *The Independent*, 15 August 2010, by Rachel Shields

How do you find **__0__ (CONTENT)** in an acquisitive society? By changing the things you spend your money on, says a US academic.

We've suffered horrendous job cuts and falling investment values, and watched the high streets grow **__1__ (INCREASE)** unattractive because of empty shopfronts, even as we face public sector job losses and the **__2__ (POSSIBLE)** of a double-dip recession. We might be forgiven for allowing ourselves a moment of misery. And yet, a growing school of thought believes that we have actually gained something from the last few years of **__3__ (ECONOMY)** gloom; that we are starting to value the things that matter: our friends, homes and the world we live in. Even more remarkably, they suggest that these things are making us happier than the conspicuous **__4__ (CONSUME)** and hedonism of the boom years.

While, arguably, everyone could be forgiven for battening down the hatches and looking after number one, it seems that across the UK people are becoming less **__5__ (MATERIALISM)** and more outward-facing: volunteering, joining clubs and caring for the environment in record numbers.

From more Brits spending their weekends involved in wholesome outdoor pursuits instead of scouring the high street for the latest must-have item, to the **__6__ (GROW)** in household savings – which rose to 6.9 per cent of disposable income in the first quarter of 2010, up from less than zero in the first quarter of 2008 – experts believe there is **__7__ (EVIDENT)** that people have realised that happiness may not lie in the relentless pursuit of more, and better, "stuff".

The latest figures from the British Retail Consortium show that **__8__ (RETAIL)** selling big-ticket items such as flat-screen TVs, carpets and kitchens are reporting negative like-for-like sales when compared with last year, while the number of people who walk for leisure increased by almost a million, rising 10 per cent between 2006 and 2008, and the number of **__9__ (RECREATION)** cyclists rose by 6.4 per cent between 2008 and 2009.

Although we may be on the cusp of a "new" happiness movement, the quest for it is as old as mankind, and has preoccupied some of the finest minds in history, all of whom have had differing theories. While a definitive answer to the question of what makes us happy might have eluded everyone from Socrates to Thomas Aquinas, a US academic now believes she has the answer.

Elizabeth Dunn argues that spending money **__10__ (WISE)** is a sure-fire route to happiness, which is clearly highlighted in her new paper, "If Money Doesn't Make You Happy Then You Probably Aren't Spending it Right".

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LIVEWORKSHEETS