Use of English PART 1

A. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A struggle **B** combat **C** threaten **D** contest

Why people laugh?

Sunday May 4th will be World Laughter Day. Dr Madan Kataria, who introduced this annual event, says we need more laughter in our lives to **(0) ……** the global rise of stress and loneliness. But surely that strange sound that we make periodically can't be the **(1) ……** to such problems.

If an alien were to land on our planet and **(2) ……** a stroll among a crowd of earthlings, it would hear a lot of 'ha-ha' noises. It might wonder what **(3) ……** this strange habit served. If we ask ourselves what **(4) ……** a good laugh, the obvious answer is that it is a response to something funny. But one scientist, Robert Provine, says humour has surprisingly little to **(5) ……** with that. Instead, it lies at the **(6) ……** of such issues as the perception of self and the evolution of language and social behaviour.

Provine realised that you cannot capture **(7) ……** laughter in the lab because as soon as you **(8) ……** it under scrutiny, it vanishes. So, instead, he gathered data by hanging around groups of people, noting when they laughed.

He collected 1,200 laugh episodes — an episode being **(9) ……** as the comment immediately preceding the laughter and the laughter itself. His analysis of this data **(10) ……** some important facts about laughter. "It's a message we send to other people — it **(11) ……** disappears when we're by ourselves," he says. "And it's not a choice. Ask someone to laugh and they'll either try to **(12) ……** a laugh or say they can't do it on command."

1. A way	**B** answer	**C** end	**D** response
2. A make	**B** get	**C** walk	**D** take
3. A reason	**B** purpose	**C** idea	**D** meaning
4. A results	**B** leads	**C** prompts	**D** concludes
5. A go	**B** bring	**C** do	**D** set
6. A root	**B** steam	**C** head	**D** back
7. A complete	**B** authentic	**C** contemporary	**D** current
8. A place	**B** lay	**C** stand	**D** keep
9. A defended	**B** decided	**C** defined	**D** depicted
10. A revealed	**B** investigated	**C** displayed	**D** declared
11. A absolutely	**B** constantly	**C** undoubtedly	**D** virtually
12. A offer	**B** pretend	**C** fake	**D** imagine

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A path **B** room **C** way **D** space

Staying in a hotel made of ice

A draught was finding its **(0) .....** into my sleeping bag. I wriggled down and pulled the neck cord tighten Inside, I was encased in thermal underwear, a woollen polo neck and winter pyjamas. I needed the **(1) .....** because it was — 50C in my room, an icy cave in Austria's highest hotel, an igloo at 2,700 m in the Alps.

The Schneedorf ('snow village') is one of a **(2) .....** of igloo hotels built each year in the Alps, along similar **(3) .....** to the well-known Icehotel in Lapland. Last season, a UK tour operator started **(4) .....** customers a night in the Schneedorf.

We arrived on skis, with a rucksack of extra **(5) .....** to put on, having completed our last ski run at 3:30pm. You can take a bus from the village, but **(6) .....** the Schneedorf's allure is skiing to its door and starting the next day high on the slopes.

Inside, it is magical, with candlelight **(7) .....** on the domed ceiling of the 'lounge' and beautiful sculptures carved on the walls. Furniture is **(8) .....** to stools of upturned tree trunks and ice-benches, both covered with sheepskin, plus an ice-bar and wooden tables. A candlelit corridor **(9) .....** to the bedrooms. Beds are built of packed snow, with sheepskin-covered air mattresses, and decoration **(10) .....** of ice-encased roses.

Our hosts welcomed their guests with warm drinks. They had fired up the sauna and soon we had all piled in. How the mood **(11) .....** as we warmed up. Supper was meat stew, which **(12) .....** faster than we could eat it.

1. A all	**B** whole	**C** amount	**D** lot
2. A handful	**B** set	**C** pack	**D** band
3. A styles	**B** lines	**C** models	**D** ideas
4. A providing	**B** advertising	**C** suggesting	**D** offering
5. A covers	**B** layers	**C** levels	**D** wrappings
6. A half	**B** part	**C** most	**D** much
7. A running	**B** splashing	**C** dancing	**D** hopping
8. A controlled	**B** rationed	**C** restrained	**D** limited
9. A takes	**B** directs	**C** leads	**D** passes
10. A involves	**B** consists	**C** includes	**D** contains
11. A lifted	**B** rose	**C** increased	**D** climbed
12. A melted	**B** cooled	**C** thawed	**D** chilled

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A involved **B** shaped **C** modelled **D** painted

Ireland

A damp island on the fringes of the North Atlantic, Ireland has always been **(0) ……** by the elements. How its wild inhabitants got there is the subject of **(1) ……** debate. Why, for example, does the island have species, such as spotted slugs, that are **(2) ……** from Britain but found in northern Spain and Portugal?

The **(3) ……** that the island's wildlife is not merely a subset of that of the British Isles is intriguing, and, when added to the cultural landscape and weather-beaten coasts, makes it a uniquely attractive **(4) …… .** Memorable experiences are at the visitor's **(5) …… .** For instance, commuters on Dublin's urban rail system regularly catch a **(6) ……** of seals, porpoises and bottlenose dolphins.

While Ireland is small, there are endless nooks and crannies waiting to be explored, and many surprises **(7) ……** in wait. Here, for example, is my **(8) ……** of the top wildlife hotspots. Vast **(9) ……** of uninhabited bog define the Donegal uplands. Remote and forbidding, this is a landscape of resilience in the **(10) ……** of isolation. At its heart is Glenveagh National Park, where nearly ten years ago the skies began to resound once again to the **(11) ……** of golden eagles. The species was **(12) ……** to the Park from Scotland after not having been seen in the area for more than a century.

1. A living	**B** alive	**C** lively	**D** live
2. A vacant	**B** absent	**C** removed	**D** away
3. A fact	**B** issue	**C** thing	**D** topic
4. A objective	**B** destination	**C** target	**D** venue
5. A kneecaps	**B** eyebrows	**C** toenails	**D** fingertips
6. A glance	**B** sight	**C** glimpse	**D** view
7. A lie	**B** stay	**C** get	**D** stand
8. A lot	**B** pick	**C** turn	**D** take
9. A extensions	**B** grounds	**C** expanses	**D** exteriors
10. A wake	**B** face	**C** field	**D** case
11. A cries	**B** cheers	**C** clucks	**D** chatter
12. A revitalised	**B** revived	**C** rediscovered	**D** reintroduced

LIVEWORKSHEETS

D. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A bring **B** work **C** run **D** keep

The value of walking

New research reveals that walking just 9.5 kilometres (six miles) a week may **(0) .....** your brain sharper as you get older. Research published in the October 13 online issue of *Neurology* **(1) .....** that walking may protect aging brains from growing smaller and, in **(2) .....**, preserve memory in old age.

'Brain size shrinks in late adulthood, which can **(3) .....** memory problems,' study author Kirk Erickson of the University of Pittsburgh said in a news release. 'Our findings should encourage further well-designed scientific **(4) .....** of physical exercise in older adults as a very **(5) .....** approach for preventing dementia and Alzheimer's disease.' For the study, the team asked 299 dementia-free seniors to record the **(6) .....** they walked each week.

Four years later, the participants were tested to see if they had developed **(7) .....** of dementia. Then after nine years had passed, scientists **(8) .....** the participants' brains to measure size. At the four-year test, researchers discovered subjects who walked the most had **(9) .....** their risk of developing memory problems by 50 per cent. At the nine-year checkpoint, those who walked at least 9.5 kilometres a week, had brains with a larger **(10) .....** than those who didn't walk as much.

This is not the first study to **(11) .....** the benefits of walking in seniors. For example, last spring. Harvard University found that women who walked regularly at a **(12) .....** pace had an almost 40 cent lower risk of stroke.

1. A informs	**B** provides	**C** suggests	**D** notifies
2. A result	**B** turn	**C** sequence	**D** case
3. A account	**B** lead	**C** set	**D** cause
4. A trials	**B** attempts	**C** searches	**D** courses
5. A indicative	**B** promising	**C** fortunate	**D** ideal
6. A distance	**B** length	**C** duration	**D** extent
7. A signals	**B** factors	**C** signs	**D** features
8. A skimmed	**B** scanned	**C** screened	**D** sounded
9. A depressed	**B** declined	**C** reduced	**D** dropped
10. A volume	**B** amount	**C** dimension	**D** quantity
11. A advertise	**B** promote	**C** respect	**D** admire
12. A brisk	**B** hard	**C** crisp	**D** brief

LIVEWORKSHEETS

E. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A comparison **B** combination **C** association **D** agreement

Photography competition

Now in its sixth year, the Insight Guides Travel Photography Competition, run in **(0) .....** with the *Independent* newspaper, is going from strength to strength. 'Places were hotly **(1) .....** this year', says Insight Guides picture editor, Steven Lawrence.

'We **(2) .....** liked winner Steve McDonald's use of light, and the way in which he took a very well-known subject from an interesting and unusual **(3) .....**'

This year's entrants worked to the theme of 'Earth', **(4) .....** three images photographed within the past year, either digitally or as prints. Steve McDonald, 54, a British Airways steward, won first prize, a professional **(5) .....** worth $3,000 for one of Insight Guides' **(6) .....** books. Second prize went to geologist Robin Andrews, 22, who will use the Canon camera he has won to photograph his **(7) .....**: volcanoes. Peter Cain, 33, a civil servant, in third **(8) .....** , also wins a Canon camera for his images, taken at Everest base camp. For the first time, the competition was **(9) .....** to under-18s. The winner in this category, Aiden Heeley-Hill. 17, was delighted to receive first prize for his image taken on a family holiday in Norway. He wins the **(10) .....** to spend some time working with a professional photographer.

The **(11) .....** were presented last week at Stanford's bookshop. Winners were **(12) .....** to a night at a smart hotel and a celebratory meal with their partners and the judges.

1. A competed	**B** contested	**C** fought	**D** debated
2. A absolutely	**B** remarkably	**C** particularly	**D** utterly
3. A fashion	**B** state	**C** pose	**D** angle
4. A submitting	**B** admitting	**C** committing	**D** permitting
5. A proposal	**B** commission	**C** assignation	**D** portfolio
6. A oncoming	**B** incoming	**C** overcoming	**D** upcoming
7. A excitement	**B** joy	**C** happiness	**D** passion
8. A place	**B** part	**C** degree	**D** rate
9. A possible	**B** available	**C** open	**D** clear
10. A promise	**B** fortune	**C** prospect	**D** chance
11. A rewards	**B** winnings	**C** awards	**D** offerings
12. A valued	**B** treated	**C** delighted	**D** entertained

LIVEWORKSHEETS

F. For questions 1—12, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

EXAMPLE: A set **B** put **C** done **D** made

In just 30 days, you too can write a masterpiece

Or maybe not. National Novel Writing Month is **(0) .....** to start very soon. Hundreds of thousands of **(1) .....** novelists around the world will put pen to paper - or fingers to **(2) .....** - hoping to turn out a 50,000-word book in only 30 days.

The first such competition was **(3) .....** 11 years ago when 21 friends in America decided they had to take drastic action if
they were ever to **(4) .....** their literary ambitions. Now up to 200,000 books are **(5) .....** to be uploaded on the writing month website this year. And **(6) .....** there are plenty of tales of great novelists spending years crafting their masterpieces, many of the literary world's most popular works were actually **(7) .....** out in a few weeks.
Lindsey Grant, who helps **(8) .....** the writing month website, said that 55 novels written under the scheme have reached publication. "The idea is to get the **(9) .....** drafts of the novels down," Ms Grant said. "But many people then **(10) .....** on to rewrite." Some time ago. author Sebastian Faulks wrote a James Bond thriller, Devil May Care, in only six weeks — using the same work pattern as Bond's creator, Ian Fleming. "I enjoyed the rush," he said. "There was a way in which my own **(11) .....** to the finish line mirrored the chase of the plot. Novels that have been written quickly can retain a slightly torn-off, uneven **(12) .....**, like life."

1. A hoping	**B** wishing	**C** intending	**D** aspiring
2. A software	**B** program	**C** keyboard	**D** monitor
3. A kept	**B** held	**C** spent	**D** passed
4. A gain	**B** achieve	**C** fill	**D** complete
5. A expected	**B** supposed	**C** considered	**D** thought
6. A provided	**B** however	**C** although	**D** because
7. A knocked	**B** kicked	**C** splashed	**D** pulled
8. A handle	**B** control	**C** run	**D** work
9. A crude	**B** plain	**C** odd	**D** rough
10. A ago	**B** bring	**C** lead	**D** catch
11. A search	**B** pursuit	**C** race	**D** hunt
12. A factor	**B** quality	**C** feature	**D** value

LIVEWORKSHEETS