Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (27-32). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Magnificent Castles

27

Marksburg Castle

Built around seven centuries ago, the castle was initially called Burg Braubach. It is the only medieval castle on the Rhine River which withstood numerous enemies' attacks due largely to being situated on the high cliff. Throughout the centuries, it was the residence of German nobility, and for some time, the castle served as a prison. Therefore, apart from the ancient furniture and weapons, there are various kinds of torture devices displayed in its dungeons.

28

Alhambra Castle

It may be somewhat surprising to see the castle that strongly resembles Arabic palaces in style in the Spanish territory. And it won't be quite right to call it just a castle as it is actually a large complex comprising three beautiful palaces, flourishing surrounding gardens, shops, military barracks, and even several mosques! Although most of the buildings of the complex suffered great damage at different times in the past, its beautiful Islamic Medieval architecture is being carefully restored and preserved day by day.

29

Bran Castle

Like many other old castles all over the world, Bran Castle used to serve different purposes, being the customs point on the Eastern border of Europe, the fortress protecting the lands of Eastern Europe from the Ottoman invaders, and, for a short period, the property of Hungarian kings. According to some legends, Count Dracula himself once stayed in the castle and went hunting in the nearby forests! Whatever the truth, you will be fascinated by its gorgeous Gothic architecture and breathtaking views of the Transylvanian landscapes.


Himeji Castle

LIVEWORKSHEETS

30

Himeji Castle

Located in the centre of Himeji City, Japan, the castle was built in 1333 and expanded gradually until the 1600s. Unlike many massive and gloomy stone fortresses, Himeji Castle looks charmingly airy owing to its delicate architecture. It was constructed merely of wood and covered with a thick layer of white plaster, which reinforces the construction and makes it fireproof. Another interesting feature of the castle is the complicated garden maze around it, designed to protect the fortress from unwanted guests.

31

Bunratty Castle

The castle, constructed in 1425 and restored in 1954, is one of the Irish surviving architectural treasures. Apart from exploring its impressive rooms decorated with ancient furniture and tapestry, everyone can join the legendary Medieval Banquet there and enjoy the traditional Irish food and drinks! What is more, tourists have a great opportunity to travel back in time and experience the atmosphere of the nineteenth-century living village, strolling along the cobbled Irish streets in the Folk Park built around the castle.

32

Kamianets-Podilskyi Castle

According to historical sources, the fortress was built in the fourteenth century. Now, the ancient castle is one of the Seven Wonders of Ukraine and is an officially recognised UNESCO Heritage Site. The fortress boasts seven well-preserved towers, each of which has its own name. The highlight of the tour around the site is a night excursion to the towers and dungeons. As well as that, you can spot the views of the castle watching *Taras Bulba* or *Ivanhoe*!

Which of the castles _____?

A is surrounded by a labyrinth

B was completely ruined by fire

C is believed to have hosted a mystical person from the past

D appears in a film about the famous Transylvanian nobleman

E stayed well-preserved thanks to its location

F was used as a filming location

G offers a walk around an old reconstructed rural settlement

H has religious buildings nearby

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 7

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (33-38). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Ages and Values

There is a commonly held opinion that people are born with certain fixed personality traits **(33)**_____. Others claim that our character is shaped till we turn thirty. However, the most recent research has shown that our personal growth is a life-long process.

This way, at each stage of our life, we tend to pursue different goals and seek different emotional experiences. For example, we are most vulnerable as kids, expecting warmth, care and love from people around us. And among other things, we have a strong need for entertainment, joy and excitement, **(34)**_____.

As we grow older and get into our teens, friendship and romantic relationships become the main focus. Everything we do is triggered by passion. We often go from one extreme to the other, **(35)**_____. At this age, most teenagers, **(36)**_____, just try to assert their independence and personal views this way.

Having reached adulthood, we face a variety of life challenges and gain more and more experience day by day. On the one hand, this makes us more reserved and cautious; on the other – more mature and brave. Marital status and career begin to matter to us more than ever, and we are doing our best **(37)**_____.

And finally, nearing retirement, we acquire those precious wisdom and patience, **(38)**_____. What is more, we finally slow down and start to see the true value of things in our life.

A both of which enable us to find common ground with others more easily

B that determine their behaviour and reactions throughout their entire lives

C to meet social expectations

D whose behaviour seems outrageously rebellious and stubborn

E to avoid responsibility and live life to the fullest

F viewing boredom as one of our worst enemies

G both of which cause even more confusion and embarrassment

H feeling miserable at one moment and jumping for joy the other min

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Task 8

Read the texts below. For questions (39-48) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

House with Chimaeras

Though most homes are designed to fit properly into the urban style, there are a few **(39)**_____ who prefer standing out. One of them was Vladyslav Horodetskyi, with his famous House with Chimaeras built on a very steep hill in the **(40)**_____ of Kyiv, within walking distance of the capital's main street – Khreshchatyk.

The building received its name because of mythological sculptural ornaments and hunting trophies on the **(41)**_____ which look down on us from above.

From the one street, the house has three floors, from the other side – six! And the number of rooms varies from one floor to another.

The house was **(42)**_____ in accordance with the movement of the sun across the sky. The windows of cooks and waiters' rooms are in the southeast façade, as the servants had to wake up with first light. And on the balcony, the owners could admire the **(43)**_____ view of the sunset.

Nowadays, the House with Chimaeras, being opposite the office of the President of Ukraine, is open for the public.

39	**A**	builders	**B**	artists	**C**	architects	**D**	architectors
40	**A**	heart	**B**	suburbs	**C**	countryside	**D**	outskirts
41	**A**	outside	**B**	roof	**C**	porch	**D**	lawn
42	**A**	decorated	**B**	designed	**C**	equipped	**D**	maintained
43	**A**	damp	**B**	run-down	**C**	functional	**D**	picturesque

LIVEWORKSHEETS

(Un)attractive

I noticed Jason once I entered the hall. Tall, handsome, well-built with a flawless complexion, he gave the impression of being supremely **(44)**_____. His sense of humour made him stunningly attractive, and I knew lots of people who looked up **(45)**_____ him. To tell the truth, I used to be one of those who longed for his attention.

Jason always had a **(46)**_____ circle of friends, but what he also had was a tendency to be cruel, even ruthless at times, when he was **(47)**_____ sorts. He never hesitated to **(48)**_____ his mind, which led to our total misunderstanding. Well, appearances can really be deceiving.

44	**A**	devastated	**B**	confident	**C**	embarrassed	**D**	humble
45	**A**	at	**B**	on	**C**	of	**D**	to
46	**A**	wide	**B**	big	**C**	round	**D**	huge
47	**A**	of	**B**	out	**C**	of out	**D**	out of
48	**A**	say	**B**	tell	**C**	speak	**D**	talk

LIVEWORKSHEETS