20. **Lisa ..... the house when her husband came home.**

a) paints b) has painted c) was painting

End of Section I (Grammar). *Correct:* _____

SECTION II: Reading Comprehension

Reading Task 1

You are going to read a page from a brochure with advertisements for four unusual leisure experiences. For questions 1-7, choose from the advertisements (A-D). The advertisements may be chosen more than once or not chosen at all.

Do Something Different

A - Indoor Skydiving
If you have always wanted to try skydiving, but are afraid of flying, here is the answer - indoor skydiving. You will feel like you are freefalling from a plane, even though you are only about two feet off the ground, as a giant propeller blasts air at 200 mph, suspending you in the airflow. It is a freefall experience that everyone must try, at the world's biggest skydiving wind tunnel, in Bedfordshire, England. Compared to other similar experiences on the market, you will get more 'flight time' in the wind tunnel and, when you finish, a DVD containing footage of your flight for you to remember the experience. This facility also caters to international skydiving teams, so be assured that you'll be in the safest hands. The tunnel was originally built over fifty years ago to study aerodynamic forces, and later to test the strength of aeroplane parts such as ejector seats. Four decades later, the tunnel was restored. A reasonable level of fitness is required in order to participate. Spectators can watch the dive from the free viewing gallery, but the loud noise makes it unsuitable for very young children.

B - The Cathedrals Express Steam Train
Step back into the 19th century as you take a train ride on the Cathedrals Express, which runs from central London to some of England's most beautiful cathedral cities. It's the perfect experience for romantic couples, Harry Potter fans and those who want to relive the good old days. As you travel, you will dine on superb food while sitting at a table with lovely views of the countryside. The train is an exact replica of one that operated during Victorian times, and the carriage interiors are beautifully decorated. It is an unusual sight, so expect people to wave at you as you go by. Of course, you may wish to wave back! When the train pulls into the terminus, you are released from the fantasy for a short spell, as you have the chance to shop or see the sights. Trains and stations have ramps for wheelchair users. Spectators are welcome to see the train depart and meet it on its return.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C - Traditional Circus Skills
Do you want to learn some new skills? Are you fed up with the usual routine and want to do something a little more exciting than walking around the shopping centre on Saturday mornings? Then roll up, roll up - come and join the circus! During your session at Britain's top circus skills school, you will learn about the physical strength required for the trapeze and acrobatics, practise your coordination skills while juggling and attempt to acrobalance (otherwise known as tightrope walking). All the instructors are professionals with first-hand knowledge of the techniques and equipment used. You'll be learning the basics in no time, so you can impress all your friends with your new skills when you get home. It is recommended that you wear casual clothes that don't restrict your movement - a tracksuit and trainers would be ideal. Participants must be at least 14 years old, and although they don't need to be in absolutely tip-top shape, a reasonable level of fitness is required if you want to get the most from this course. Spectators are welcome throughout. Unfortunately, there is no disabled access at the school.

D - Scuba Diving
Are you having trouble finding things to do with the kids? Here's an idea. At the Aqua Fun Programme, young adventurers are introduced to the thrill of breathing under water. They are first taught the basic procedures for scuba diving, including safety and communication with fellow divers, and familiarised with the equipment before dipping their toes into the water. All the instructors are qualified Diving Instructors. Then, under constant supervision, they get to dive and swim around in a swimming pool, at a maximum depth of only 6m, but still, experience what it would feel like to be in a natural diving environment. Parents are welcome to watch as their children learn to scuba dive and enjoy splashing around making bubbles underwater. Children don't have to be strong swimmers and previous experience is not needed. You must bring your own swimwear, but all other equipment will be provided.

Which of the advertisements mention(s):

1. something participants in the experience must bring with them? A - B - C – D
2. giving you something to take home with you? A - B - C – D
3. giving you the chance to take a break from normal life? A - B - C – D
4. what participants will learn before the start of the activity? A - B - C – D
5. regret that a specific type of visitor cannot enter the place? A - B - C – D
6. that the place has been used for more than one purpose? A - B - C – D
7. something which makes it possible for the disabled to participate? A - B - C – D

A - Indoor Skydiving, B - The Cathedrals Express Steam Train, C - Traditional Circus Skill, D - Scuba Diving

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading Task 2

You are going to read a newspaper article about a politician who made a film about climate change. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-H the one which fits each gap (1-7). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

The Accidental Movie Star

Former Vice President of the U.S.A. Al Gore has made a film he hopes will help to change the way we view climate change. Al Gore has been concerned with climate change, or 'climate crisis' as he calls it, for the majority of his political career. As the years passed and he became more passionate about this issue, he started travelling the world in order to educate people about the effects of global warming using computer slideshows. Free of charge, he explained to his audiences that the world is facing a 'planetary emergency' and that it isn't too late to stop it if appropriate action is taken now.

It was during this time of touring and giving lectures that Gore was spotted by Hollywood producer Laurie David, who asked him to turn his slideshow into a documentary which he would play the starring role. {1 _____} Eventually, though, David managed to persuade him. The result was a fascinating documentary combining references to Gore's own life story with horrifying predictions about the future of our planet.

Little did Gore know that just one year later he would be walking along the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival and later collecting an Oscar for 'Best Documentary'. {2 _____ } Advertised as 'the scariest movie you'll ever see,' it concentrates on the potentially terrifying consequences of climate change.

'An Inconvenient Truth' certainly gives us much to consider. For example, is there a link between the frequency of strong hurricanes and global warming? Why was 2005 the hottest year ever recorded? Could whole cities such as San Francisco one day be submerged in water due to rising sea levels? {3_____ } As the title of the film suggests, however, it may be inconvenient for us to have to think about the future of the planet, but think we must.

Published at the same time as the release of the film, Gore's book of the same title contains additional information and scientific analysis to further support his claims. {4 _____} Gore is delighted that some schools are even using the DVD to help them teach awareness of environmental issues to their students.

As pessimistic as the film may seem, it ends on a positive note. {5_____} If Gore was going to present a problem, he wanted to offer a potential solution, too. His main hope is that people accept the reality of the crisis and then turn that knowledge into action.

Gore leads by example. {6_____ } He realises, however, that most people need a little more help when it comes to changing their habits. For this reason, he has also been working hard to encourage large shops to sell more environmentally friendly products.

So can this one man's efforts really make a difference? {7 _____ } It may not seem as if the decisions of individuals can achieve very much, but put them all together and they may add up to something that will, literally, change the world.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A. The movie owes its success to its ability to hold our attention.
B. He insists on using biodiesel vehicles and has decided to become carbon neutral, which means that he reduces the amount of carbon dioxide he produces every day.
C. Well, according to Gore, if we are clear about what the problem is, then we are more likely to introduce changes into our daily lives, such as choosing the 'greenest' light bulbs or cars.
D. Whilst both the film and the book have largely been well received by critics, they have been criticised by some as being 'exaggerated' and 'over-the-top'.
E. The aim of the film certainly seems to be to 'shock' people into action, which may or may not be the best way to tackle the issue of global warming.
F. The profits from both the film and the book are now funding other campaigns to spread the message about global warming.
G. As Gore himself says, "It's not too late to solve this crisis, and solving it means avoiding the worst of the consequences and reversing this trend towards catastrophe."
H. At first, Gore was reluctant, as he has always been a very private person, despite being used to being in the public eye.

End of Section II (Reading Comprehension). *Correct:* _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS