

Part 2

Questions 9 to 18 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer A, B, C or D to fill in each blank. For each question, mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Living in the countryside can be very difficult for teenagers. (0) _____ nearest friend lives miles away and it's impossible to get into the town to go shopping or attend a club. Thirteen-year-old Fiona Timson, who lives in Carneath in Wales, says, "Everyone else in my class (9) _____ to have such interesting weekends. They meet each other by chance when they're out shopping, and they decide there and then to do something cool together. That never happens to me."

Fiona's mum, Helen, (10) _____ it's a problem. "We moved here because it was quiet and we knew we wouldn't have to worry about her going out alone. But we possibly made the wrong choice. Fiona (11) _____ ever leaves home, not because she's scared, but because there is simply nowhere for her to go. The village is tiny, and most of the people living here are old. I can't drive her around because we only have one car, and my husband (12) _____ it for work." Fiona can't spend the evening with friends because the last bus to Carneath is at ten past five in the afternoon. She even has to leave her school orchestra practice early in order to catch it.

The Country Kids organisation aims to help children like Fiona, and their families. A (13) _____ from Country Kids gives families money for four taxi rides per month, up to a distance of 25 miles each. This allows children like Fiona to attend an after-school club once per week or visit friends on Sundays. Country Kids also organises trips to theatres and sports events in nearby cities on weekends. The parents don't have to do anything. A minibus comes directly to the house and picks the kids up.

To (14) _____ for a grant from Country Kids, children must be between the ages of eleven and sixteen. They must also live in a village with a (15) _____ of less than 1,000 people. The village must be more than 20 miles from a town. The family's income must also be below a certain level. For Fiona's school friend Emma, who lives in nearby Dolbury with a population of 894, it's perfect. (16) _____, Fiona misses out. The population of Carneath is 1,159.

The number of families applying to Country Kids for a grant is increasing, and its president, Judith Sankey, is finding it more and more difficult to (17) _____ funding. "There are so many great organisations looking for money. A lot of people feel that curing diseases and helping animals is more important than the work we do, so they prefer to give their money to them. We're always worrying that we won't be able to (18) _____. But the families we help really do appreciate what we do, so I hope the organisation can continue to run in the future."

(Source: www.examenglish.com/BI/b1/reading_country_kids.htm)

- 0 A They
 (B) Their
 C Them
 D Theirs
- 9 A looks
 B seems
 C suggests
 D pretends
- 10 A grasps
 B notices
 C ensures
 D realises

- 11 A hardly
 B faintly
 C slightly
 D normally
- 12 A uses
 B applies
 C manages
 D manipulates
- 13 A gift
 B grant
 C subsidy
 D contribution

- 14 A assess
B qualify
C rectify
D quantify

- 15 A folk
B society
C numbers
D population

- 16 A However
B Moreover
C Fortunately
D Unfortunately

- 17 A find
B realise
C detect
D discover

- 18 A keep at
B plod on
C carry on
D force upon