Part 1
Questions 1–5

Read the text below by Omar Mahmoud, a high school student, about his day out at an amusement park. For questions **1–5**, circle the correct answer **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

My big day out

My brother and I have always loved amusement parks, and we used to visit our local one regularly with a good friend when we were younger. Sadly, it's now gone. However, last September, we discovered that a new park had opened on the other side of Cairo and that it had the best rollercoaster ride ever. Immediately we knew we had to go.

At the beginning of the school holiday, we set a date. The big day came. Luckily, Dad was able to take us there. When we arrived, the first thing I noticed was how busy it was. Still, it was probably the last opportunity we had as there were only a few days left before the start of the new school term. The park was always open later on Fridays and Saturdays but, in mid-tourist season, as it was then, it was impossibly crowded at those times.

We headed straight for the rollercoaster, to be there before the queue got too big and before people with more expensive tickets started to go ahead of us. Then the wait for the ride began. The attendant didn't know what he was doing and was directing people to the wrong places. But finally, it was our turn. Higher and higher we slowly climbed until we were right at the top and could see the entire park. Although it was for less than a second, we seemed to be sitting on the edge forever. Then, without warning, we were shooting down and the ground came rushing up at us. It happened so fast, all I saw was a blur of colour and there was screaming all around me. Amazing! Another turn and then the world spun upside down. Around and around we went. But then, before I knew what was happening, it was all over! I couldn't believe it. I looked at my brother and he was the sickly shade of green I felt. Then slowly, a smile came across his face. 'Go again?' I nodded.

1 Omar had wanted to visit the new amusement park ever since

A he was young.

B the old park closed.

C he heard about it.

D a friend recommended it. [1]

2 The boys went to the park on that day because

A they had been offered a lift.

B school was starting the next day.

C they had previously arranged the visit.

D it was open for longer than on other days. [1]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Why did it take so long for the boys to get on the rollercoaster?

A So many people were in the queue.

B The attendant was inexperienced.

C There was a problem with the ride.

D Other people pushed in front of them. [1]

4 Omar made one complaint about the ride. What was it?

A It stayed at the top for too long.

B It went down too suddenly.

C It twisted around too much.

D It came to an end too quickly. [1]

5 What would Omar say to a friend about his day at the amusement park?

A The rollercoaster ride was worth the wait.

B The park was better than he had expected it to be.

C The crowds made him feel uncomfortable.

D The visit would have been more enjoyable without his brother. [1]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 2
Questions 6–10

Read the text below and choose the word that best fits each space. For each question **6–10**, circle the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

My father

My school was in the nearest village, and we didn't have a car of our own. We couldn't afford one. The walk **(6)** _____ only half an hour and I didn't mind that. My father came with me. And when school ended in the afternoon, he was always there, **(7)** _____ to walk me home.

The world I lived in consisted only of the filling station, the workshop, the caravan, the school and, of course, the woods and fields and streams in the countryside around. **(8)** _____ I was never bored – it was impossible to be bored in my father's company. Plots and plans and new ideas came flying off him like sparks from fireworks.

On a lovely still evening, **(9)** _____ there was no breath of wind anywhere, my father said to me, 'This is just the right weather for a fire-balloon. Let's make a fire-balloon.'

He must have planned this beforehand because he had already **(10)** _____ the four big sheets of tissue paper and a pot of glue at Mr Witton's bookshop in the village. And now, using only the paper, the glue, a pair of scissors and a piece of thin wire, he made me a huge, magnificent fire-balloon in less than fifteen minutes.

6	**A** took	**B** spent	**C** made	**D** left
7	**A** asking	**B** standing	**C** trying	**D** waiting
8	**A** Despite	**B** But	**C** Since	**D** As
9	**A** although	**B** if	**C** when	**D** until
10	**A** given	**B** brought	**C** taken	**D** bought

[5]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 3
Questions 11–15

Read the text below. For questions **11–15**, complete each gap. Write **ONE WORD** only in each gap.

A camel ride to the pyramids

Many people who visit the pyramids choose to see them on camel back. There is nothing quite **(11)** _____ a camel ride in the desert; gently swaying from side to side on **(12)** _____ of these magnificent creatures. Riding a camel around the pyramids at sunset will **(13)** _____ only give you the experience of a lifetime, but will also allow you to take amazing photos. You can organise any trip you want, **(14)** _____ a one hour trek around the Great Pyramid to a multi-day safari. And, if you book in advance, there are some amazing deals to **(15)** _____ found.

[5]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 4

You receive this email from an English-speaking friend. Write a reply to your friend, answering the questions in the email.
Write **40–50** words.

From:	Sam Wilson
Subject:	Your favourite book

Hi

I've just finished reading a really good book. Tell me about your favourite book. Why do you like it? Can you describe the main character? What happens in the story?

Write back soon.

Sam

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[10]

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ADAM'S HOT AIR BALLOON FLIGHT

The flight in the balloon lasted for **(14)** .....

Adam could see as far as the **(15)** ..... from the balloon.

Adam didn't recognise a local **(16)** ..... from the air.

Adam was surprised that it was **(17)** ..... in the balloon basket.

Adam didn't like having to **(18)** ..... in the basket.

The balloon finally landed on a **(19)** .....

Advice

14 *What kind of word are you looking for? How long would a flight last, do you think?*

15 *What does Adam say? 'I could see all the way ...'*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

You will hear an interview with a teenager called Amy Manero, who is talking about her interest in music, particularly jazz piano. For each question, choose the correct answer **A**, **B** or **C**.

Tip! The questions come in order of the text. Read each one carefully before you listen so that you don't lose your place while you're listening.

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8 When did Amy have lessons with a piano teacher?
- **A** at the age of four
- **B** before she started secondary school
- **C** after getting advice from her school music teacher

9 How did Amy feel at her first big public event?
- **A** excited because she was wearing a wonderful costume
- **B** nervous because it was her first time on stage
- **C** surprised because the audience was very big

10 What does Amy say about playing jazz with the school band?
- **A** She was better at it than the rest of the players.
- **B** She put lots of effort into learning about it.
- **C** She enjoyed it as soon as she started.

11 Amy gives piano lessons so that she can
- **A** help people who couldn't normally afford them.
- **B** encourage lots of young people to play the piano.
- **C** improve her own playing technique.

12 Why does Amy write a blog on the internet?
- **A** to get some experience for becoming a journalist
- **B** to tell people about her daily life as a musician
- **C** to recommend events for people to go to

13 Why does Amy love music so much?
- **A** People can understand it whatever their language.
- **B** She meets people she likes through playing it.
- **C** It brings together people of different ages.

Advice

8 When did Amy start having piano lessons? When did she give up?

*9 Did Amy know a lot of people would come and watch her? Why does she say **I had no idea ...?***

LIVEWORKSHEETS

"You've worked hard — now it's time to show what you know! Believe in yourself and do your best." *Mahmoud Hassan*

LIVEWORKSHEETS