

3

Having fun

Reading Part 3

- Be careful with negative verb forms or words that have opposite meanings.
- Check your answer by trying to work out what's wrong with the others.

Exam advice

Jason talks about GEOCACHING

Geocaching is a great hobby, where you have to try to find hidden containers in the countryside from information that's posted on the internet by other people. Using an app with a map, you can find the location and race your friends to be the first one there and open the container. It's surprising what people leave inside and there are some hiding places that I would never have thought of.

My initial experience with geocaching was quite an adventure. My whole group was new to the activity, so it wasn't the best-planned trip. The first problem was with technology. My phone didn't have enough memory to download the app, so I ended up having to share with a friend. This meant that either we had to go at the same speed or one of us got left behind and wasn't able to join in. That one was often me when I felt tired.

Since then, I have become quite a fan and I even create my own geocaches, where I put objects such as badges, sweets or even sometimes money, for others to find. There's a real community of people who are into playing. They have set up clubs to get together to play and then go for a meal afterwards. There are numerous blogs about the best gifts to replace anything you take or where there might be a new geocache. You might wonder what the farmers and others who live in the countryside think about this invasion of hunters but in general they seem quite happy as long as the visitors respect the environment and their privacy.

So, if you want to try something new and get out in the fresh air, call a few friends and take them for a day's hunting. It's perfect for families with children, especially those who protest when their parents try to get them off their screens and outside. The motivation of going from one hiding place to another as fast as possible means they walk a long way without realising, and even enjoy spending time with their parents!



1 Read the text. For each question, choose the correct answer.

- Jason thinks geocaching
 - helps people to use technology.
 - takes a long time to arrange.
 - shows people have a lot of imagination.
 - prepares people for races.
- Jason says the first time he went geocaching
 - he had difficulties remembering where to go.
 - he forgot to take some essential equipment.
 - the people he went with were more experienced than he was.
 - he couldn't participate as much as he wanted to.
- Geocache players
 - need to be very organised.
 - exchange ideas about the game.
 - often live in the countryside.
 - want to protect nature.
- Jason suggests that geocaching
 - is good for relationships.
 - is best for small groups of people.
 - doesn't work well in the city.
 - isn't suitable for lazy people.
- What might Jason say to a friend who wants to try geocaching?
 - You'll need a good map and be careful of people who don't like you to walk on their land.
 - Make sure you have the right equipment and don't forget to bring some gifts to put in the boxes.
 - It's important to win and you'll get some amazing prizes if you are able to find the right locations.
 - If you don't like walking, you'll find this boring but you can always chat to your friends online and eat good food.