Part 5

You are going to read an article about a race between two famous brothers. For questions **31–36**, choose the answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

An unusual race

To raise money for charity, a newspaper and a TV company challenged brothers Jonny and Alistair Brownlee, champion triathletes, to take part in a unique race that would set man against car, and brother against brother. In the wild and mountainous Yorkshire Dales of northern England, Jonny and younger brother Alistair would race to the same point, Jonny in a car on roads, Alistair across country on a mountain bike.

'I'm looking forward to it,' Jonny said, as the brothers took their places on the start line. 'I've never done anything like this before: it's exciting! These roads have beautiful views – and also it's very cold at the moment, so I'll be able to sit in the car and stay nice and warm.' Alistair was similarly eager – though in contrast to Jonny's jeans and sweatshirt, he was decked out in full winter cycling gear. Not that the cold was denting his confidence. 'To be honest,' he said, 'I've seen his driving before, so I'm not sure he's even going to make it. I might just stop for a cup of tea halfway up.'

The race started at the beautiful Semerwater lake in Wensleydale and was to finish at Yorkshire's highest road, Fleet Moss, some 350 metres up. No problem for the car, perhaps – but with Alistair's first couple of miles involving a 25 per cent incline, the younger Brownlee brother had his work cut out from the start. Barely time for a quick handshake and they were off. As Alistair sprinted away on his bike, heading for a track going straight up the hill and then across country to Fleet Moss, Jonny jumped in the car and was soon on the road. The next time the brothers would see each other would be at the finish line.

Jonny's early confidence took an immediate blow. Barely 15 seconds into the drive and he faced his first obstacle. Lumbering out of a field and into the road was a giant tractor. 'Welcome to Yorkshire,' he complained to the cameraman in the back of his car. 'If Alistair beats me, it's all down to this farmer!' Tense moments later, the tractor safely dealt with, Jonny was back in control.

Alistair, meanwhile, was struggling with the slope. Barely a couple of miles in and, as his brother relaxed, he was forced to dismount and carry his bike up the hill, past walls and over fences. Bemused sheep gazed, as the Olympic champion kept up a steady pace, at the bizarre sight of a man in a field with a bike on his shoulders. And then, finally, the summit was reached. Over the other side was open ground, and with the sun coming out and the land spread before him, a chance to show what he was made of. Head down, feet on the pedals, Alistair was picking up speed. *line 51*

In the car, his brother faced another local obstacle. The villages in this part of Yorkshire have stood since well before the invention of the car – and the roads that link them were not exactly made for speed. Jonny attempted to negotiate another absurdly narrow corner. The car slowed to a crawl, then passed through a stream that had formed on the road.

Clear of the last village, the car was on a straight race to the finishing line. Neither brother knew how close the other was. As Jonny roared the engine and sped through the final straight to Fleet Moss, Alistair was flying across his last field and back onto the road himself – approaching the finish from the other side. Head down, legs pumping... and then a squeal of brakes as he reached the line. And then, finally, Alistair looked up. 'Is he here?' he asked the waiting crowd. 'No? Really?' The head went back, the arms up. 'Yes!' Minutes later, the car pulled up and Jonny stepped out. 'Well done,' Jonny said with disappointment. 'I'm gutted.'

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31 The writer explains that before the race the brothers were alike in

A being dressed for difficult conditions.
B having plenty of enthusiasm for it.
C feeling anxious about the weather.
D believing in their own ability to win.

32 What is suggested about the start of the race?

A The brothers appeared very uncertain of the route.
B Alistair's training had been insufficient.
C Jonny had a noticeable advantage.
D The brothers tried to avoid eye contact with each other.

33 What is suggested about Alistair in the fifth paragraph?

A He objected to the situation he found himself in.
B He was relieved the hill was easier than expected.
C He welcomed an opportunity to prove his ability.
D He was distracted by the behaviour of some animals.

34 What does 'Bemused' mean in line 51?

A annoyed
B puzzled
C distressed
D disappointed

35 In the sixth paragraph, what do we learn about Jonny's progress?

A He had to briefly break the speed limit.
B He almost drove into some water.
C He had to get the car through a tight space.
D He nearly lost control of the car.

36 How did Alistair react when he reached the end of the race?

A He worried his brother had got lost.
B He celebrated by jumping off his bike.
C He congratulated his brother on his performance.
D He was uncertain who the winner was.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 6

You are going to read an article about a dam removal project. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**37–42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Removing a dam to restore a river

Journalist Richard Lovett is taken to see how a river has come to life again after a dam has been removed.

Just outside the small town of Stabler in Washington, hydrologist Bengt Coffin surveys a mountain river he helped to revive. Today, the clear waters of Trout Creek run fast between banks covered in young alder trees. But just five years ago, an eight-metre-high concrete wall blocked the river at the site. This dam and the reservoir behind it had changed the river completely and made it difficult for fish such as the endangered steelhead trout to return to where they were born in order to breed. For one thing, the reservoir was full of sediment – mud, sand and gravel. It was Coffin who led the US Forest Service effort to remove the dam.

This is all part of a growing trend in the United States. An increasing number of dams are being removed, for financial and environmental reasons. **37** Some schemes take a slow path, restoring river flow over months or years. Others use explosives and other engineering techniques to drain reservoirs within hours.

At Trout Creek, Coffin and his colleagues decided to take the cautious route when removing the ageing Hemlock Dam. **38** The dam had been designed to include what is called a fish ladder, which allows fish and other animals to bypass the dam and swim upstream, but it was poorly built by modern standards and the number of fish using it had steadily declined.

A bigger concern was the reservoir, which had been steadily filling in with sediment. **39** Coffin holds a hand above his knee to make the point. In the midsummer sun, temperatures in the water could reach 26°C; 'Too warm for steelhead,' he says.

Coffin and others worried that flooding the river with all that sediment would harm the steelhead further downstream. The solution was to divert the river into a big pipe and then hire a fleet of dumper trucks to carry away all the sediment. **40** They then reinforced its banks with logs to stop them from eroding.

All those efforts seem to have worked. Just seven hours after water was allowed to flow back, Coffin's team could clearly see the first steelhead venturing into the new channel upstream from the old dam site. But there is another sign of success which Coffin is keen to reveal. **41** The rounded stones on it range from the size of potatoes to loaves of bread, and make walking difficult. But Coffin is thrilled to see them because they are newly arrived, having just been washed in by the current.

The stones in the river provide nesting spots for the steelhead and a habitat for the insects that they eat. **42** To illustrate this, he turns over a couple of rocks and points out six types of insect clinging to the underside, including caddisfly larvae and a stonefly. 'The year after the dam was removed, these wouldn't have been here,' he adds with satisfaction.

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A The water there had become so shallow that it was possible for people to wade all the way across.

B 'People pay attention to the big fish,' Coffin says. 'Yes, they're an important part of the system, but they're not the only things.'

C One result of these projects has been an unanticipated research opportunity to study how to minimize the damage caused by releasing huge floods of water and decades of sediment.

D However, the reservoir lost its water and much of its mud, sand and gravel in three hours.

E Coffin leads me through patches of alder trees that were planted after the dam was removed, then crosses a rocky beach by the river.

F In the process of doing this, the workers rediscovered the river's original channel along the reservoir bottom.

G Built back in 1935, the structure provided power and irrigation for a nearby tree nursery that shut down in 1997.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 7

You are going to read an article in which four people talk about giving up successful careers to do something very different. For questions **43–52**, choose from the people (**A–D**). The people may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which person

is not always confident that they have done the right thing?	43
is pleased to have proved doubters wrong?	44
says they found success more easily in their first career than in their second?	45
regrets not having changed careers sooner?	46
refers to a time when they needed to gain confidence?	47
mentions a sense of amazement when looking back at the past?	48
admits that they changed career too suddenly?	49
describes an urge to return to a childhood interest?	50
says that skills developed in their first career proved useful?	51
mentions feeling envious at one point?	52

LIVEWORKSHEETS

I gave up my career for something very different

A Mike Donne

I started doing magic tricks for family and friends when I was about seven, and by sixteen I was performing at big public events. I was also good academically, and studied law at university. Ten years after my degree, I was a busy lawyer with no time for magic, although I missed it. Then, out of the blue, a couple of old friends asked if I'd let them use some of my old material in a touring magic show they were setting up. I agreed but it bothered me that they were doing something I'd always loved, while I was in a job I had very little passion for. So, I joined them. I was very rusty initially, and I had to practise for several months before I felt able to perform in public, but I'm now one of the main acts. Funnily enough, it's been far tougher to make it as a magician than as a lawyer, but I've realised that this is what makes me feel alive.

B Kristina Mayer

I used to work for a bank and made enough from that to be in a position to buy my own apartment when I was 22. After a few years, however, dissatisfaction set in. I was just sitting at a computer, manipulating figures, and I longed to get out into the fresh air and move around. Then, one weekend, some friends talked me into going surfing with them. Surprisingly, it appealed to me so much that I ended up spending my days surfing and doing restaurant work in the evenings. I'm now taking part in competitions and I promote surf gear as a professional surfer. At times I can hardly afford to pay the rent, and I sometimes wonder whether leaving the bank was such a good idea, but then I remember I'm doing my favourite thing in the world.

C Carl Johnson

Five years ago I was an accountant, well-paid but feeling unfulfilled in my life. Then, my cousin asked if I'd help out at his burger restaurant one weekend when he was short of staff. I'd always liked burgers ever since I was small, but I was surprised at how much I enjoyed making them. Two weeks later I quit my job, hired a van and some equipment, and started selling burgers at street markets. It would've been better to have taken more time doing some proper background research, but what I knew about accounting came in handy, and my enthusiasm made up for my inexperience. I've now acquired a second van and taken on a couple of assistants, so the business is growing. It's incredible to think how much my life has changed.

D Agnes Porter

I was a very creative child, but I was taught that success lay in other directions. So I worked hard and ended up as human resources manager of an international company. It was well-paid but I dreamed of starting my own business. So during one holiday last year, I decided to experiment and made cakes for a couple of wedding receptions. They turned out to be very popular and, within a month, I'd resigned from my job and was making cakes full-time. Pushing myself hard to do well is in my nature, so I still work a lot, but I feel more in control of things now. People used to say that having my own business was an unrealistic dream, so demonstrating I could achieve it has been very satisfying. It's just a pity I didn't do it several years ago.

LIVEWORKSHEETS