

LOVE AT FIRST TEXT It's amazing what you can find in THELONDONPAPER – the (0) _____ news, the hottest celeb gossip, and possibly (1) _____ your future wife! The dating column Lovestruck in THELONDONPAPER, a free evening newspaper distributed across London, is hugely popular (2) _____ commuters. It tries to match those (3) _____ eyes met across the bus, tube or train carriage. (4) _____ Brett May, 36, texted into Lovestruck after blonde Susan Benedict, 30, caught his eye outside his shop in Islington, he didn't believe that she'd (5) _____ get in touch. The pair had never met, but Susan regularly walked (6) _____ Brett's video store and they often smiled at each other. Susan, an accounts manager, was on the train (7) _____ back to Essex when she saw the message in the paper and instantly knew it was for her. "I was grinning (8) _____ the way home as I knew it was him," she said. "The next day when I went to his shop, I pulled the article out and asked him if he wrote it." Brett was delighted and wasted (9) _____ time arranging their first date. (10) _____ now dated for 14 months, Brett proposed on New Year's Eve (thelondonpaper)

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|-------------|------------|------------|----------|---------|
| A) ACTUALLY | D) EVEN | G) HOWEVER | K) PAST | N) WITH |
| B) ALL | E) HAVING | H) BETWEEN | L) WHEN | |
| C) LATEST | F) HEADING | I) NO | M) WHOSE | |

BERMUDA TRIANGLE PLANE MYSTERY 'SOLVED' Two of the so-called Bermuda Triangle's most mysterious events in the late 1940s may have been solved. A great many ships and planes are said to have vanished without trace over the decades in a vast triangular area of ocean with (0) _____ (imagine) corners at Bermuda, Florida and Puerto Rico. But a new examination for a BBC series provides plausible (11) _____ (explain) for the disappearance of two British planes in the area, with the (12) _____ (lose) of 51 passengers and crew. One plane probably suffered from catastrophic technical (13) _____ (fail) as a result of poor design, while the other is (14) _____ (like) to have run out of fuel. Sixty years ago, (15) _____ (commerce) flights from London to Bermuda were new and perilous. It would require a refuelling stop on the Azores before the 2,000-mile flight to Bermuda. The planes would have been operating at the (16) _____ (limit) of their range. Today planes arriving at the tiny Atlantic island need sufficient reserve fuel to divert to the US East Coast 700 miles away, in case of (17) _____ (emerge). And the planes of the post-war era were far less (18) _____ (rely) than today's airliners. British South American Airways (BSAA), which operated the route, had a grim (19) _____ (safe) record. In three years it had had 11 serious accidents and lost five planes with 73 passengers and 22 crew members killed, sometimes in mysterious circumstances. For example, on 30 January 1948 a BSAA Avro Tudor IV called Star Tiger disappeared without trace. Twenty-five passengers and a crew of six were on board the plane. The official investigation into the (20) _____ (disappear) concluded: "What happened in this case will never be known and the fate of Star Tiger must remain an unsolved mystery."

HIRED AFTER 26 YEARS AND 300 APPLICATIONS It took him a staggering 26 years and more than 300 failed applications. But yesterday John Evans was at (0) _____ celebrating - after finally landing himself a job. The 46-year-old bachelor was (21) _____ redundant in 1983 when the steel plant where he worked closed down. (22) _____ the various courses he has taken and the extra qualifications he has gained in order to boost his CV, he has been unemployed ever (23) _____. Mr Evans said his job prospects had been hindered by disability. At the age of 16 he had a lengthy stay in hospital after (24) _____ diagnosed with epilepsy. Reluctant to sit back and collect benefits, he worked at Rotherham General Hospital (25) _____ a volunteer. Now, after almost

three decades of trying, the former clerk is preparing to start work as a care assistant at a nursing home for (26) _____ elderly. 'I couldn't believe (27) _____ I was hearing when they told me I'd got the job,' he said yesterday. 'It still hadn't really sunk in when I finally put down the phone. I suppose my confidence (28) _____ simply disappeared after so many rejections. But I had this belief that if I kept on applying, (29) _____ long it took, I would get a job one day. It's paid (30) _____ and my confidence has grown already, although I'll be a little nervous on my way to work.' Mr Evans, who starts work on Monday, said he had been turned down for dozens of jobs. He had not even been hired for a role as a production worker at a factory.

Your task is to fill the gaps in the summary with one word only.

THE PIANO TUNER A little bit of patience and a lot of skill is the key to perfect tuning. Has it ever occurred to you that when you hear a piano played at a concert or on a recording, you hear the tuner's work as much as that of the pianist? Usually we are only remembered if something goes wrong, and then there are no bouquets or subsequent royalties on CD sales! The tuner has to make sure not only that the instrument is in tune but also that it's performing correctly. It has to be 'regulated' and 'voiced' as the artist requires, which is not always easy to do. What tuners need most of all is quiet, which at some concert halls can only be achieved in the middle of the night. You would be amazed at how little understanding there can be from both amateur and professional venues. At some places it is thought obligatory to put out the audience chairs while the piano tuner is working! When you arrive you often find that the rehearsal is overrunning and the conductor needs 'just 15 more minutes', thereby reducing your working time – sometimes you have to beg them to finish as you see the time quickly ticking away. No sooner have you started work than inevitably various members of the orchestra return early and sometimes even start practising while you're trying to tune! The audience also often enters too early and takes no account of the poor tuner, to the point where you can barely hear. Among many members of the public, the image of the piano tuner is not good – an old man with case and stick. However, today's tuners are dynamic people who travel worldwide to offer their skills to top concert halls and pianists.

SUMMARY Pianists are not the only people responsible for the success of a concert, but the contribution of the (0) _____ is often overlooked. Their job is to ensure that the (8) _____ sounds exactly as it should. Ideally, they would need absolute (9) _____ for their work. At some venues, however, this is rather (10) _____ to get. People working in the concert hall, the public, or even (11) _____ can make a lot of noise. Another thing that is necessary for doing the job properly is (12) _____, but often there is too little of this, too, between the (13) _____ and the concert. Contrary to popular belief, piano tuners have a rather dynamic lifestyle.

DEATH IN THE VIENNA WOODS It was a scandal that shook an empire. At 7am on January 30th, 1889, the Archduke Rudolf, heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was found dead together with his mistress, Baroness Marie Vetsera in the Imperial hunting lodge at Mayerling in the Vienna Woods, fifteen miles southwest of the capital. Was it suicide as (0) _____ or was it murder? The police closed their investigations with surprising haste, and the dossier on the investigations (22) _____ in the state archives as it should normally have been. Members of the Imperial household were sworn to secrecy. Yet, despite these attempts to cover up, almost at once (23) _____ in Vienna of a politically motivated assassination. The death of the Crown Prince had grave consequences for the history of Europe. Undoubtedly, it (24) _____ in the developments that led

to the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand by a Serb nationalist at Sarajevo in June 1914 and the subsequent drift into the First World War. Unlike his conservative father, the Emperor Franz Joseph, Rudolf was reform-minded and liberal. His education (25) _____ by one of his tutors, Father Jacint Rónay, who taught the young Rudolf about philosophy, the ethics of power and the history of the AustroHungarian monarchy. Rónay (26) _____ in the Hungarian Democratic Revolution of 1848 to 1849; he had narrowly escaped capture and lived in England as an exile for almost two decades. With his writings and lectures during this period, he (27) _____ as a radical philosopher. Rónay was much impressed by the maturity of the young Rudolf and, as well as shaping his thinking in a liberal mould, instilled in him a deep sense of his historical responsibility. Using various pen names, Rudolf began to write newspaper articles and pamphlets (28) _____ pan-German Austrian policies and spelling out his own radical ideas about internal reforms and foreign policies. By the end of 1888, Rudolf (29) _____ the German Kaiser Wilhelm and the Emperor Franz Joseph, as well as powerful pan-German members of the Vienna establishment. So were the rumours true? If so, who exactly were the paymasters who hired the hitmen for that January night in 1889? We may never know. What we do know is that Rudolf (30) _____ : Wilhelm did try to create a Greater German Reich by force of arms and, in the process, totally destabilized the whole of Europe for the next half century.

- A openly criticising
- B foresaw the future
- C the official explanation claimed
- D established an international reputation
- E wild rumours began to circulate
- F had been hugely influenced
- G on opposite sides
- H had been involved
- I was a serious challenge
- K had seriously upset
- L was not deposited
- M was a key event