

READING PART NINE / QUESTIONS 50–64

15 POINTS / 1 POINT PER QUESTION

Read the article about buried treasure.

For questions 50–64, choose the correct answer: A, B or C.

BURIED TREASURE

What if we told you that you have nine opportunities to find real buried treasure across the United States? If you would like to join the search, there's a 50 _____ book full of clues to help you. Called *The Secret*, the book includes 12 puzzles, each leading to hidden treasure.

The man behind *The Secret* was a writer named Byron Preiss, who buried 12 boxes in 12 different states in 1982. Each box is buried about two feet deep 51 _____ the ground, and inside is a key that can be exchanged for a jewel (worth about \$1,000 in 1982). Each puzzle in the book 52 _____ a drawing and a cryptic* poem, which together lead to the place with the buried treasure.

The aim of Preiss' project was 53 _____ a lot of copies of the book. It worked. When the book was first published, the treasure hunt was 54 _____ popular and people bought hundreds of thousands of copies. Preiss had believed that



the treasure would be found really 55 _____ and people would not have much trouble solving his puzzles. 56 _____, he was wrong. To this day, only three of the 12 boxes 57 _____. Three teenagers found the first box in Chicago just one year after Preiss published *The Secret*. Then nothing happened for 21 years. A second box was found in Cleveland in 2004, but by then most people had given up. It seemed 58 _____ to solve the puzzles: they were just too difficult.

Some years later, a TV company made a programme about the almost-forgotten challenge. People got excited and the book 59 _____ again, even though the challenge is even more difficult today. People 60 _____ want to find the treasures must not only study the clues left by Byron Preiss, but also connect the clues to a world that has changed a lot since 1982. You can be sure that 61 _____ is not easy to find them now. Nevertheless, a third box was found just 62 _____ months ago by a family in Boston.

Nine treasure boxes still wait. Will anyone 63 _____ find them? Some may be lost forever, buried under new roads or houses. We cannot know for sure because Byron Preiss died in a car accident 15 years ago, taking the answers with him. No one now 64 _____ the locations of the treasure, and only the clues in the book remain.

*cryptic – tajemný, šifrovany





50	A whole	B enclosed	C total
51	A in	B of	C to
52	A contacts	B consists	C contains
53	A sell	B to sell	C sold
54	A much	B such	C very
55	A quick	B quicker	C quickly
56	A Although	B However	C Despite
57	A was discovered	B have been discovered	C have discovered
58	A hopeful	B impossible	C useful
59	A published	B was published	C was publishing
60	A which	B who	C whose
61	A ---	B it	C there
62	A a few	B a little	C couple
63	A be able to	B can	C manage
64	A doesn't know	B hasn't known	C knows