The First Chess Champion of the World

Most chess historians agree that the first chess world championship **(21)** _____ place in 1886 in the United States. On one side was an Austrian chess champion Wilhelm Steinitz, who for many years was **(22)** _____ to be one of the best in the world. Playing against him was Johannes Zukertort from Poland, living in the UK, and another player who many believed at the time was one of the world's greats. According **(23)** _____ the contract, the match would be for the championship of the world and would **(24)** _____ of 20 games played in three different cities: New York, St Louis and New Orleans. Steinitz won 10–5 and was world champion until 1894. Steinitz was **(25)** _____ in how the game should be played and many of his ideas had a big influence **(26)** _____ the modern game.

21. **A.** set	**B.** took	**C.** went	**D.** laid
22. **A.** held	**B.** placed	**C.** looked	**D.** thought
23. **A.** with	**B.** to	**C.** for	**D.** in
24. **A.** contain	**B.** make	**C.** include	**D.** consist
25. **A.** keen	**B.** attracted	**C.** interested	**D.** excited
26. **A.** in	**B.** at	**C.** to	**D.** on

The Penny Black

In 1840, The Penny Black became the (21) …… sticky postage stamp in the world. Before this the (22) …… of posting something in the UK was very expensive. This depended on distance and how many sheets of paper were being sent and was paid by the person receiving the post. The idea of paying in advance was (23) …… to parliament and in 1839 this became law. A (24) …… was held to find the best way of sending post. The first suggestion attempted was a special envelope or 'lettersheet' with a stamp attached, but this wasn't (25) …… and in the end the stamp itself was used with a picture of Queen Victoria and the price – one penny. However, the colour was a problem as it was difficult to cancel the stamp after it had been (26) …… This was eventually changed to red and black ink was used to cancel it.

21	**A** basis	**B** first	**C** beginning	**D** start
22	**A** money	**B** amount	**C** cost	**D** payment
23	**A** recommended	**B** said	**C** played	**D** ordered
24	**A** match	**B** prize	**C** competition	**D** race
25	**A** dear	**B** popular	**C** famous	**D** common
26	**A** near	**B** worn	**C** passed	**D** used

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Emma Watson

The actress Emma Watson grew up near Oxford in the south of England and trained as an actress at the Stagecoach School in Oxford.

Although she had only acted in a few school plays, in 2001, she was lucky enough to get the **(21)** ..... of Hermione in the Harry Potter film **(22)** ..... . This was the part which first **(23)** ..... her famous. She appeared in all eight of the Harry Potter films from 2001 to 2011. After the Harry Potter films, Emma **(24)** ..... to work in films, but also **(25)** ..... a few years studying English Literature at university. She acted while she studied, and since 2012 she has continued to develop her career and has appeared in **(26)** …. very successful films.

21.	**A.** title	**B.** person	**C.** role	**D.** hero
22.	**A.** set	**B.** series	**C.** group	**D.** collection
23.	**A.** produced	**B.** created	**C.** caused	**D.** made
24.	**A.** continued	**B.** kept	**C.** stayed	**D.** remained
25.	**A.** passed	**B.** spent	**C.** gave	**D.** allowed
26.	**A.** several	**B.** plenty	**C.** lots	**D.** few

The Black Mamba

A bite from the Black Mamba is (21) ..... "the kiss of death" in South Africa and it is (22) ..... a very dangerous snake. The venom can kill a person within 30 minutes to a few hours (23) ..... medical help. It is one of the world's fastest snakes as well and can travel at up to 16 kilometres an hour, though it uses this speed to (24) ..... danger rather than to attack. In fact, the Black Mamba is a rather (25) ..... creature and will avoid people if possible. It can measure anywhere between two and four metres long and, (26) ..... on the area where it lives, can be a different colour, from brown to green to grey. It gets its name from the inside of its mouth, which is ink black.

21.	**A.** said	**B.** made	**C.** called	**D.** titled
22.	**A.** certainly	**B.** exactly	**C.** just	**D.** fairly
23.	**A.** outside	**B.** besides	**C.** away	**D.**without
24.	**A.** break	**B.** escape	**C.** lose	**D.** run
25.	**A.** shy	**B.** brave	**C.** afraid	**D.** soft
26.	**A.** relying	**B.** choosing	**C.** depending	**D.** taking

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Surfing

Surfing grew throughout the 20th century to **(21)** _____ a popular sport all over the world, but surfers have been around for many years. The explorer James Cook saw surfing in action in 1778 during an **(22)** _____ to the Pacific. In fact, surfing took **(23)** _____ in the same areas then that have since become popular surfing resorts now, such as Hawaii and Tahiti. Surfing wasn't encouraged by local officials **(24)** _____ the 19th century but young Hawaiians took up the activity again in the early 1900s. Following the invention of lighter surfboards, surfing attracted people around the world. The 1960s saw a huge increase in the **(25)** _____ of surfers as the activity was promoted through the media and popular music. The hobby quickly became the professional sport it is now, and
(26) _____ and national organisations were created that organised competitions and raised money to hold events.

21. A. turn	**B**. become	**C**. play	**D** create
22. A. expedition	**B**. move	**C**. travel	**D**. drive
23. A. part	**B**. point	**C**. position	**D**. place
24. A. while	**B**. along	**C**. during	**D**. for
25. A. number	**B**. sum	**C**. group	**D**. total
26. A. near	**B**. close	**C**. local	**D**. next

LIVEWORKSHEETS