

**Task 6**

Read the texts below. For each of the empty space (34–45) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

### Male Birds Belt out Their Song by Putting a Little Muscle into It

Some male songbirds can sing (34) \_\_\_\_\_ notes than females because they have stronger muscles to make the sounds. Some scientists used to think it was all about how well the birds could force air out of their lungs, but new research says it has more to do with muscles in the (35) \_\_\_\_\_ throats.

There's a reason the boy birds are better singers. They have (36) \_\_\_\_\_ a mate. The more varied their songs, (37) \_\_\_\_\_ it will stand out from other boy birds who are also singing in hopes of finding a mate. Varied songs also are easier to hear over noises, like a rushing stream or the noisy calls of other birds.

Although all birds (38) \_\_\_\_\_ knowing certain calls, songbirds learn how to sing from their parents. That ability is only found in songbirds, humans and a few other mammals like dolphins, whales and bats.

So think about muscles the next time you hear a bird singing. Muscles (39) \_\_\_\_\_ just in your arms and legs, or in a bird's wings. They also help us make a variety of sounds.

34	A much	B the most	C more	D many
35	A songbird	B songbirds'	C songbird's	D songbirds
36	A attracted	B attracting	C been attracted	D to attract
37	A better	B the better	C best	D the best
38	A are born	B will be born	C to be born	D born
39	A weren't found	B weren't finding	C aren't finding	D aren't found

## Why do songs get stuck in our heads?

Having a song, tune, or commercial jingle stuck in one's head is a phenomenon (40) \_\_\_\_\_ as having an earworm. Most people have had an earworm at one time. The experience is harmless and unrelated to both obsessive-compulsive disorder and endomusia, the (41) \_\_\_\_\_ of music that is not really there. Certain songs – simple, repetitive, or oddly incongruous – have properties that act as mental mosquito bites in that they produce a cognitive "itch." The condition also arises when people struggle (42) \_\_\_\_\_ forgotten lyrics or how a song ends. To scratch a cognitive itch, the brain repeats the song, which then traps the hapless victim in a repeated cycle of itching and scratching. Everyone has his or her own list of demon tunes that haunt. Earworms occur more often among women, musicians, and individuals who (43) \_\_\_\_\_ to worry. Earworms also vary across situations, striking when people (44) \_\_\_\_\_ or under stress. How can you make an earworm go away? Thinking of something else or actually listening to the song in question are thought to help, but there is presently no research evidence showing what works best. Fortunately, (45) \_\_\_\_\_ episodes eventually dissipate on their own.

40	A	Knew	B	known	C	has known	D	knows
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41	A	hears	B	heard	C	hearing	D	is hearing
42	A	remember	B	remembers	C	remembered	D	to remember
43	A	tend	B	tending	C	tended	D	tends
44	A	tiring	B	have tired	C	are tired	D	tired
45	A	much	B	most	C	the most	D	more