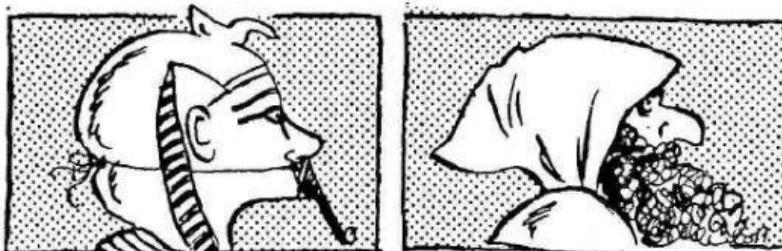


## The origins of money

About 3,800 years ago, a woman from one of the (1)\_\_\_\_\_ families in Sippar, Iraq, decided to buy land with a (2)\_\_\_\_\_ inheritance: a huge silver ring. The (3)\_\_\_\_\_ was recorded on a tablet which was found by (4)\_\_\_\_\_ in the 19th century. Other pieces of gold and silver have also been (5)\_\_\_\_\_ and there is a strong (6)\_\_\_\_\_ that this was the first money ever used. At this time, huge (7)\_\_\_\_\_ were being constructed in the towns of Mesopotamia, and (8)\_\_\_\_\_ were needed to do the work. It seems that these builders were (9)\_\_\_\_\_ paid with little tokens which could be exchanged for goods. (10)\_\_\_\_\_ , these tokens were replaced by heavy (11)\_\_\_\_\_ of silver. We know from written (12)\_\_\_\_\_ that have survived down the centuries that the (13)\_\_\_\_\_ people used to carry around large bags that contained these pieces of silver. The silver made people's lives (14)\_\_\_\_\_ than before and this is how money was born.

WEALTH  
VALUE  
SELL  
RESEARCH  
IDENTITY  
POSSIBLE  
BUILD  
SPECIAL  
PROBABLE  
GRADUAL  
WEIGH  
DESCRIBE  
RICH  
SIMPLE

## The importance of beards (for men and women!)



For many adolescent boys, the (1)\_\_\_\_\_ to grow a beard is an important moment in their lives. It changes their (2)\_\_\_\_\_ dramatically, but more (3)\_\_\_\_\_ , it shows they have become men. A beard, of course, is something that women, with few (4)\_\_\_\_\_ , cannot have. One such woman, St Wilgefortis, was (5)\_\_\_\_\_ to discover that she had (6)\_\_\_\_\_ a beard, and that God had answered her (7)\_\_\_\_\_ to be delivered from men. Even though a beard can be (8)\_\_\_\_\_ , it is a badge of status. In Ancient Egypt, important people, (9)\_\_\_\_\_ women, tied metal beards to their chins. A beard can suggest a man has both (10)\_\_\_\_\_ and power. It is not (11)\_\_\_\_\_ that adolescent boys wait so (12)\_\_\_\_\_ for the first hairs to start growing on their face or feel such (13)\_\_\_\_\_ the first time they stand in front of the mirror, about to begin their first (14)\_\_\_\_\_ shave.

ABLE  
APPEAR  
IMPORTANT  
EXCEPT  
DELIGHT  
GROW  
PRAY  
COMFORT  
INCLUDE  
KNOW  
SURPRISE  
ANXIOUS  
SATISFY  
PAIN

## The best basketball player in the world

If you haven't heard of Lauren Jackson, you can be (1) \_\_\_\_\_, but she is quite (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the most talented basketball player in the world. In 1998, at the age of 17, she became the top (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in Australia and helped her team to win the (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Her coach, Tom Maher, says she is one of the most (5) \_\_\_\_\_ players he has ever seen. More impressive than her physical (6) \_\_\_\_\_, however, is her mental approach. She is, says Maher, a fantastic (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and a great team person. The Australian team is (8) \_\_\_\_\_ based around her and it is only a matter of time before she is (9) \_\_\_\_\_ internationally. Her physical (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is not complete yet, so her potential is still not (11) \_\_\_\_\_ realized. With a few more years of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ she will become one of the all-time greats.

FORGIVE  
POSSIBLE  
SCORE  
CHAMPION  
ATHLETE  
ABLE  
LEARN  
TOTAL  
FAME  
DEVELOP  
FULL  
GROW

## Lifts

In New York in May 1854, an American (0) ..... engineer ..... Elisha Otis, decided to give a public (56) ..... of his latest invention. He rode high into the air on a platform and ordered the supporting rope to be cut. To the (57) ..... of the hundreds of (58) ..... the platform did not fall to the ground. Otis had invented an automatic (59) ..... mechanism which prevented the platform from falling if the rope or chain broke. This led to the (60) ..... of passenger lifts, or elevators as they are called in the United States.

Otis's invention has had a (61) ..... effect on the appearance of modern cities. It made possible the (62) ..... of skyscrapers and department stores, which began to appear at the end of the (63) ..... century. Since Otis's time, there have been many (64) ..... in lift design. Some lifts are now on the outside of hotels and office blocks, giving passengers a splendid view of their (65) ..... and the fastest ascend at 610 metres a minute.

ENGINE  
DEMONSTRATE  
ASTONISH  
LOOK  
SAFE  
PRODUCE  
DRAMA  
BUILD  
NINE  
IMPROVE  
SURROUND

## Spiders

You may have an (0) ..... instinctive ..... dislike of them but spiders deserve a little respect. They are one of the most (56) ..... groups of animals ever, having existed for over 300 million years in almost every habitat, from cold, (57) ..... regions to hot deserts and jungles. Your respect may turn into (58) ..... when you know more about them.

One of the most (59) ..... spiders is the jumping spider, so called because of its astonishing (60) ..... to leap through the air to catch its prey. This spider rarely spins a web because it hunts its prey as a cat hunts (61) ..... It is found mostly in tropical regions where the largest and most (62) ..... types exist. Jumping spiders have eight eyes, and can detect the (63) ..... movement in any direction. They can judge (64) ..... with great accuracy and usually catch their prey on the first jump. They can even catch insects in (65) .....

INSTINCT  
SUCCESS  
MOUNTAIN  
ADMIRE  
IMPRESS  
ABLE  
MOUSE  
COLOUR  
SLIGHT  
DISTANT  
FLY

## THE END OF THE SECRETARY

It may seem (0) .....unbelievable....., but it is quite possible that the days of the secretary are coming to an end. There is (56) ..... to suggest that professional people such as doctors, (57) ..... and managers are dealing with (58) ..... personally rather than having a secretary do it. And the reason is simple: modern technology.

Until recently, secretaries were extremely (59) ..... for typing letters to (60) ..... and clients, for arranging meetings and dealing with travel (61) ..... . Answering the telephone was also another of their major (62) ..... . However, with the introduction of e-mail and mobile phones, managers are able to do more and more of these (63) ..... themselves. Many companies (64) ..... have fewer secretaries than they did five years ago. However, (65) ..... does not seem to have increased as a result. Rather, secretaries are finding new positions as personal assistants and even managers themselves.

BELIEVE  
EVIDENT  
LAW  
CORRESPOND

USE  
CUSTOM  
ARRANGE  
RESPONSIBLE  
ACTIVE  
CURRENT  
EMPLOY

## ZOOS

The days when people would go to a zoo simply for (0) .....amusement..... are long gone. Today, when we place greater (56) ..... on the survival of animals in the wild, zoos have a duty to inform the public and improve our (57) ..... of the environment and the problems faced (58) ..... by large numbers of animals. Today's zoos also play a role in the (59) ..... of threatened species, breeding animals for release in the wild. Many zoos also fund (60) ..... research into animals and their behaviour. The way animals are treated in zoos has changed, too. Many intelligent animals suffer from (61) ..... in captivity and their keepers now try to improve the (62) ..... state of the animals in their care. They do this by, for example, providing the animals with a (63) ..... of different food or by changing the animals' (64) ..... routine. Although some critics of zoos remain (65) ..... , there can be no doubt that animals in zoos today enjoy a more comfortable existence than in the past.

AMUSE  
IMPORT  
KNOW  
WORLD  
PROTECT  
SCIENCE  
BORE  
PSYCHOLOGY  
VARY  
DAY  
CONVINCE

There can't be many people who are (0) .....unaware.... of e-mail, even if they have never actually sent one. Although there are some (56) ..... between e-mail and letters, there are also many differences. The first is that e-mail is delivered (57) ..... , so it can be a very (58) ..... means of communication when speed is important. This speed means that e-mail is more (59) ..... for communicating over large distances. Another difference is that e-mail tends to be (60) ..... informal. People are much more likely to use language which they would consider (61) ..... for a formal letter. Words spelled (62) ..... in an e-mail are less likely to be checked than in a letter. One (63) ..... for this is that an e-mail seems to be less permanent than something written on paper. We can be sure that the future (64) ..... of e-mail will have all kinds of (65) ..... effects on the way we communicate.

AWARE  
SIMILAR  
INSTANT  
EFFECT  
PRACTICE  
RELATIVE  
SUIT  
CORRECT  
EXPLAIN  
DEVELOP  
EXPECT

For questions 56–65, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

### Exploring the depths of the ocean

The (0) upper part of the sea is full of life. There are many  
colourful fish and plants. Sunlight (56) ..... penetrates this part of  
the ocean but 600 metres down there is complete (57) .....  
Because of the (58) ..... of light; the extreme cold and the  
immense pressure, there are few (59) ..... things at this depth.  
Military submarines cannot (60) ..... go deeper than 900 metres  
but research submarines, some (61) ..... and others with robots  
on board, can go much deeper. (62) ..... fish and plants have been  
discovered at depths of 6,000 metres. (63) ..... used to think that  
there was no (64) ..... of life at such depths but volcanic gases  
escaping from cracks in the ocean floor provide (65) ..... and  
chemical nutrients that support strange life forms.

### Violent Weather

Thousands of storms occur (0) daily all over the world, often accompanied  
by thunder and lightning. The (56) ..... storms can cause considerable  
damage and inconvenience. Transportation and (57) ..... systems are often (58) ..... and delays.  
In (59) ..... with storms, cyclones (also called typhoons) occur extremely  
(60) ..... only about 30–100 times a year, but their winds can reach 200  
kph, which makes them very (61) ..... Cyclones occur in regions near the  
equator and are (62) ..... outside tropical areas. Nowadays, advanced  
radar equipment (63) ..... weather forecasters to predict the path of a  
cyclone with (64) ..... People who are living in places that will be hit by  
the cyclone can be given a (65) ..... to evacuate the area or at least to  
take shelter. Unfortunately, nothing can be done to protect their homes and property.

### Unusual beliefs

Despite the fact that this is now the 21st century, an

(1) ..... number of English people appear  
to (2) ..... in the paranormal. What is  
the (3) ..... for this?  
(4) ..... have found the answers to many of  
our questions, but the more (5) ..... we make,  
the more we want to know. The (6) ..... need  
for (7) ..... that we have appears to be very  
strong. For this reason, a belief in the (8) .....  
of aliens, and especially, the (9) ..... of contact  
with alien life forms is (10) ..... common.

INCREASE

BELIEF

EXPLAIN

SCIENCE

DISCOVER

PSYCHOLOGY

SECURE

EXIST

POSSIBLE

EXTREME