ARE YOU BORED?

A. Are your children complaining they have nothing to do in the holidays? Here are some suggestions to help you keep them happy. Children as young as four can learn to climb on indoor walls and they don't need special equipment to get started. Young people gain a sense of responsibility and team skills through climbing and at the same time they may develop a real liking for a new pastime. Some of the indoor climbing centers have been established inside old buildings, and even experienced climbers find the artificial walls really exciting. The trick in learning to climb is to keep your weight on your feet and to keep looking down to see where to put your feet next. It's normal to feel frightened when you first start. **(1)**_____. However, if your children don't want to get out and all they want is to stay indoors and play with the computer, there is no need to feel guilty because those games can help improve coordination and problem-solving abilities.

B. Why not try a museum? Not all museums are boring. There are now many museums which have interactive exhibits in which you can take part in various activities. For example, in one museum visitors can work on a production line in a factory or talk into a video-phone to find out what happens to the rubbish we throw out. If you want to be an astronaut, you can explore the solar system in a space workshop, and in another museum you can experience what an earthquake feels like. There is also a theatre museum that has workshops where teenagers can play the great romantic parts like Romeo or Juliet. They can put on fancy dresses and the workshops are run by professional actors. But if you like extreme experiences you may want to visit a theme park. Not far from London is a theme park full of exciting and adventurous rides. **(2)**_____. This is the first ride of its kind in the world and involves a drop of fifteen metres in total darkness!

C. Another popular activity is a visit to a zoo. In most cases, the parks offer far more than just watching animals in the wild; very young children especially enjoy taking part in the feeding times for animals, which are usually advertised at the entrance to the park. But if you really can't take your children away from the tv set, why not encourage them to explore the medium itself? There is a national museum of photography, film and television which allows visitors to develop their own photographs. **(3)**_____. The star attraction, however, is the museum's Imax cinema, the only one of its kind in Britain, showing an amazing film of the US space station. Another museum runs workshops which show how computers work and what cars will look like in a hundred years' time. And if this weren't enough, another museum allows children to design their own animated film!

PART THREE: COMPLETE THE TEXT BY PUTTING THE SENTENCES (A-D) IN THE CORRECT PLACE (1-3). THERE IS ONE EXTRA SENTENCE WHICH YOU DO NOT HAVE TO USE.

a. The main attraction is a new indoor roller coaster suitable for anyone over the age of eight

b. Moreover, these activities are very popular among children of all ages

c. But you have to focus your mind on what you're doing and not think about falling

d. In the same museum you can visit a studio to see how TV programs are made

PART FOUR: FOR QUESTIONS 4-10 CHOOSE THE PARAGRAPH FROM THE TEXT (A-C). PARAGRAPHS MAY BE CHOSEN MORE THAN ONCE.

Which paragraph mentions …

4. an activity that is beneficial for a person's skills?

5. an activity to make children take up a new hobby?

6. a place where you can see the schedule for an activity?

7. an activity in which you can learn about recycling?

8. a place that isn't usually considered very funny?

9. how you feel when you do this activity for the first time?

10. a place where you can see how people will travel in the future?

LIVEWORKSHEETS