Reading choosing the correct sentences; matching sentences to gaps

1 **Read the Exam Reminder. Which words will be helpful to identify the missing sentence?**

Exam REMINDER

Choosing the correct sentences

- Remember to read the complete text first to get a general understanding.
- Then read the missing sentences and identify any reference words, e.g. *that, him, them.*
- Read each paragraph again to identify where the missing sentence might go.
- Make sure that the reference words you have underlined match the ideas before and after the gap.
- Begin with the sentences that are easiest to place in the article.

Inspiring others to achieve something special

Although not internationally famous, Kirsten Bruhn has provided inspiration to many through her sporting achievements. She was born in north Germany and her family had always been keen swimmers, so it was not surprising that by the age of ten, Kirsten had already competed in several swimming events. After finishing high school and spending a year in the US as an au pair, she began planning her next steps. **(1)** _____ But her life was about to change dramatically.

Kirsten and a friend were on a motorcycle trip on the island of Kos in Greece. They had been riding up a steep mountain when her friend lost control of the bike and it went off the road. As soon as she opened her eyes, Kirsten realised that she was unable to move. She was flown back to hospital in Germany where they found her back was badly injured. Several operations were carried out over several months. **(2)** _____ The devastating news marked the beginning of a new chapter in Kirsten's life.

At first, she thought about all the things she would miss out on because of the accident, such as running and dancing. Although she did eventually learn to walk a little with support, her movement was severely limited. **(3)** _____ Her solution was to return to swimming. The pool was a place where she felt comfortable and was able to move more freely than anywhere else.

During her two-year **rehabilitation** period, she worked hard, although swimming had now become a way of staying fit and **mobile** rather than the competitive activity it had been before her accident. She came up with a personalised training programme that allowed her to build up strength in her legs, which had badly damaged **nerves** from the accident. **(4)** _____ This came in 1992 when, with encouragement from a swimming colleague, she entered her first sports competition for people with disabilities. From there, she never looked back, and numerous German national titles were followed by Paralympic gold medals. It was a period of great personal success and pride for her family.

Although swimming took priority in her life, Kirsten was also able to develop a career as a health insurance specialist. She was lucky to have an employer who allowed her time off to continue her sport training. **(5)** _____ Evidence of this can be found in the T-shirts and jewellery that she has designed, as well as some impressive oil paintings. She saw this creative activity as a way of taking a break from the water, where she was training six times a week.

Kirsten's motto is 'Do not dream your life, live your dreams.' Her energy and sense of fun mean she is looked up to as a role model, particularly by young people who have suffered life-changing events similar to hers. **(6)** _____ Her influence and inspiration look set to increase in the future: she has promised her father (also her former coach) that she will become a swimming trainer when she retires from competitions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Read and complete the Exam Task.

Exam TASK

Matching sentences to gaps

Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap **(1–6)**. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

A Her search for a good coach to prepare her for the competitions ended when she contacted her trainer from her school days.

B Kirsten understood this right from the start but never completely accepted it.

C One of them was to move to Hamburg to follow her dream and study graphic design.

D She usually explains to them that feeling fit and happy in the water has had a positive effect on other areas of her life such as her creativity.

E At the end of these it became clear that she would have difficulty walking again.

F And despite having to abandon her original dream of becoming a graphic designer, she remains a very creative person.

G However, her wish to remain active was so strong that she began to look for an opportunity to swim in races again.

LIVEWORKSHEETS