

Read the biography of a famous person and choose the correct variant.

## ***A COMPUTER PRODIGY, AN ENTREPRENEUR, A PHILANTHROPIST AND JUST A GOOD GUY***



**M**ark Elliot Zuckerberg is an American computer programmer and Internet entrepreneur. He is best known (1) \_\_\_\_\_ co-creating the social networking site Facebook, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of which he is chief executive and president. Facebook was founded as a private company when Mark Elliot Zuckerberg and his associates were Harvard students. In 2010 Zuckerberg was named *Time* magazine's Person of the Year.

Born (3) \_\_\_\_\_ an ordinary American middle-class family young Mark can boast (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a happy and busy childhood. He excelled (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the classics taking (6) \_\_\_\_\_

Latin, ancient Greek, Hebrew and French.

When a high school student he transferred his attention (7) \_\_\_\_\_ sciences winning prizes in Math, Astronomy and Physics. He also dedicated enough time (8) \_\_\_\_\_ sports to become a fencing star and captain of the school fencing team. Zuckerberg has been (9) \_\_\_\_\_ computers and software designing since his middle school years. Having received his first programming lessons from his father, Mark later studied with a private tutor who was the first to call him a prodigy.

The boy was keen (10) \_\_\_\_\_ developing computer programs, especially communication tools and games. While other kids were playing computer games, Mark was busy (11) \_\_\_\_\_ creating them. Yet he never said goodbye to his other interests, often quoting ancient

Latin and Greek poems (12) \_\_\_\_\_ memory or practicing with his fencing team.

In his final high school year Zuckerberg built a music player that made use (13) \_\_\_\_\_ artificial intelligence to learn the user's listening habits. Microsoft and other computer giants tried to recruit the young prodigy, but he chose to enroll (14) \_\_\_\_\_ Harvard University. There he studied psychology and computer programming.

What we now know is that Facebook was built for fun. Initially the site contained pictures of several male and female students offering visitors (15) \_\_\_\_\_ the site to choose the hottest one. Mark Zuckerberg took both the idea and the site name from Face Books – editions which included photos and contact details of everybody who lived in the student dorms.

Facebook took (16) \_\_\_\_\_ immediately. The college even had to shut it (17) \_\_\_\_\_ as it had overwhelmed Harvard server and prevented students (18) \_\_\_\_\_ accessing the Internet. There were some complaints of privacy violation as well. So Zuckerberg apologized and got (19) \_\_\_\_\_ updating his site spreading it to other Universities. He chose blue as Facebook's dominant color because of his red-green color blindness.

Facebook's popularity grew and Zuckerberg and his team turned (20) \_\_\_\_\_ offers by major corporations to buy it. Mark says money doesn't really mean that much (21) \_\_\_\_\_ him. What he cares (22) \_\_\_\_\_ is the mission of making the world open.

A movie based (23) \_\_\_\_\_ Zuckerberg and the founding years of Facebook was released in October, 2010. The film stars Jesse Eisenberg as Mark and neither idealizes nor romanticizes his personality. At first Zuckerberg was critical (24) \_\_\_\_\_ his portrayal by the film but later he became quite gracious (25) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

He is a billionaire now, and he contributes extensively (26) \_\_\_\_\_ various charities and foundations in addition (27) \_\_\_\_\_ his own "The Start-up Education Foundation". Together with Bill Gates he signed a document known as the *Giving Pledge*. They promised to donate to charity (28) \_\_\_\_\_ least 50% of their wealth and called (29) \_\_\_\_\_ others (30) \_\_\_\_\_ the wealthy to follow them.