Proficiency

Section R3 - Reading (10 marks) 1.

Read the passage about The Native Languages of Britain. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the extracts A - H, the one which fits each gap. There are two extracts you do not need to use. One of them has been done for you as an example.

A - What happened to the Celtic speakers who were forced to the West?

B - Of course there were plenty of other dialects as well and some of them lingered until late medieval times.

C - They would, however, have noticed the arrival of German tribes called the Angles and Saxons in 449AD, as these people forced them to the west of the island and took over their country.

D - The contribution to the English language by the Vikings is often ignored; scholars today estimate that as many as 30% of English words are of Scandinavian origin.

E - However, language societies all over the area have helped regenerate the culture and there are now about 5,000 people who can speak Cornish reasonably well.

F - Their efforts, along with the enlightened language policies of various governments and other organised groups have ensured language survival so far.

~~**G**~~ - *To understand how this situation came about it is necessary to go back nearly 2,000 years to the year 44AD, when Britain was conquered by the Roman Empire.*

H - However, the language is not limited to use in culture and history. On the contrary, supporters and speakers of the language have embraced modern life.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

The Native Languages of Britain

Over 300 languages are spoken in London today but this is the result of relatively recent immigration to Britain. These languages would not be considered native British languages. Many visitors to Britain, however, are surprised to learn that there *are* other native languages spoken in the British Isles. They may only be distantly related to English, but some of these languages are relatively popular and making a serious contribution to British culture. ***example*** 1. G

The people now known as the Britons, spoke various Celtic languages at the time. The upper class learned Latin to gain favour with their Roman rulers but the ordinary people continued speaking their Celtic languages and many of them may not have even been aware of the Roman departure in 420AD. 2. The forms of early German spoken by the Angles and Saxons eventually became *Anglish* or what today we call English and it is still the dominant language in Britain. It has many accents and dialects, but it is spoken throughout the country and many speakers of other languages know it.

3. They are still there and many of them are still speaking Celtic languages. We can divide these languages into two sub-families. Firstly, there are the so-called *Goidelic* languages - Scottish Gaelic, Irish Gaelic and in the Isle of Man, Manx Gaelic. Irish Gaelic is the official language of the Republic of Ireland and is actively encouraged by the government. Scottish Gaelic has fewer than 60,000 native speakers but efforts are being made to maintain it, as is the case with Manx Gaelic.

The second group of Celtic languages is known as the *Brythonic* group. Shortly after the arrival of the Angles and Saxons, many Britons fled to northern France to the area that we call Brittany. This is where Breton is still spoken by about 260,000 people. Breton is most closely related to Cornish, the language historically spoken by the people of Cornwall in the south-west of England. In 2009 the Cornish language was branded 'extinct' by UNESCO, the cultural section of the United Nations. 4.

The jewel in the *Brythonic* crown, however, is Welsh. A million people can speak Welsh and half of them are native speakers. There are Welsh radio stations and TV channels, Welsh newspapers and books and - crucially - Welsh language primary schools where children get thorough teaching in their own language and therefore in their own culture and history 5. If you want to talk about things digital or financial then that is quite normal in Welsh. It isn't just for talking about traditional farming or sheepdogs.

The fact that any of these minority languages have survived is a result of the resilience of the people who speak them. 6. Only time will tell whether all these languages can survive indefinitely. In the end, if people see no future for their children in speaking Gaelic then they will let them drift away into English and something will have been lost.

Anglia Examinations Sample Paper

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Section R3 - Reading (10 marks) 2.

Read the passage about Billy Butlin and his Holiday Camps. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the extracts A - H, the one which fits each gap. There are two extracts you do not need to use. One of them has been done for you as an example.

A - So they took advantage of the existence of the British Empire and sailed for Cape Town in South Africa.

B - Holidays, which had once only been enjoyed by the wealthy, were now available to everybody.

C - Knowing that the Bahamas was a desirable holiday destination for Americans, Billy bought a hotel there.

D - His family assumed that he would go to Cambridge University, like his father before him, with a view to becoming a clergyman, in true family tradition.

E - One such game, hoopla, was one where the player had to throw a ring over a block of wood to win the prize displayed on the block.

F - He struggled to fit in at school and soon dropped out to work briefly in a department store, before enlisting into the army.

~~**G**~~ - *In the 1950s and 60s there was hardly anyone in Britain who hadn't heard of him.*

H - Within a few years Billy had his own travelling fair and very soon he was building permanent fairgrounds in holiday resorts.

Anglia Examinations Sample Paper

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Billy Butlin and his Holiday Camps

It was an unusual sequence of events that made Billy Butlin a millionaire and a household name in the UK. [***example*** 1. G] He may not be quite so well-known among the younger generation today, but anyone over the age of 60 would remember him as a successful and popular entrepreneur.

Billy was a product of slightly unusual family history. His father, William, was the son of a clergyman in a rural Gloucestershire village. The family was well-respected and Billy's father had a fortunate childhood. He was considered to have a good future ahead of him. [2.] This indeed seemed to be the case, and for a while his life continued to be easy and comfortable, and William graduated with a degree in theology.

It was at this point that a travelling fair arrived in the village. Like many other local boys, Butlin's father was fascinated with the fair with its exotic animals, colourful rides and beautiful girls. In 1896, William Butlin shocked his parents by announcing that he had fallen in love with a girl from the fair and was going to get married. William's father was outraged; this was socially unacceptable and the young couple could certainly not live anywhere near the village. [3.] They set up home and their son, Billy Butlin was born there in 1898. Earning a living was hard; the marriage didn't last and in 1905 Billy's mother returned to England, without her husband but with her young son. She returned to the only life she knew, that of the travelling fair. As a result, the grandson of a church clergyman became a travelling showman.

As he grew up, Billy worked in all areas of the fair. While still a teenager, he showed a talent for mathematics and realised that some of the games of skill at the fair were not very attractive to the customers. [4.] As the ring would only just fit over the block, the chances of winning were approximately 1 in 10. Billy set up his own stall using smaller blocks, which made the chances of success just 1 in 3. Customers loved it and although Billy had to give out more prizes than other stallholders, the number of customers meant that he made far more profit than anyone else. [5.] He had become a rich man.

In the back of his mind was an incident that had happened when he was 20. He had been on holiday in a hotel in Wales. The weather had been terrible but to his dismay the young Billy found he was not allowed to stay in the hotel between 10 and five o'clock. This was normal practice at the time but it gave Billy an idea. He did nothing about his thoughts until 1938 when an act of parliament gave all workers in Britain a week's paid holiday. [6.] Billy saw his chance and had some accommodation built at one of his fairgrounds. An advertisement in the national press promised "a week's holiday for a week's pay" and places quickly sold out. He quickly hired outgoing young people to entertain the holidaymakers. He dressed them in red jackets and called them Redcoats. Over the years many successful people in the entertainment industry began their careers as Redcoats at one of the 10 holiday camps Billy Butlin built.

Billy Butlin eventually sold his holiday camp empire for millions of pounds. The son of a fairground girl and a clergyman's son had become richer than he could ever have imagined.

Anglia Examinations Sample Paper

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Section R3 - Reading (10 marks) 3.
Read the passage about juggling. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the extracts A - H, the one which fits each gap. There are two extracts you do not need to use. One of them has been done for you as an example.

A - It diverts your mind from whatever you are desperate for and absorbs you completely in the activity.

B - And at the other end of the age spectrum, children and teenagers are usually quick to enthuse about it too.

C - Juggling, on the other hand, is both.

D - It utilises body mechanics in which we normally do not engage, moving the body in new ways to maintain range of motion.

E - Juggling usually comes easily to such people, although this isn't to say that they don't need to work at it.

F - When children can get up and juggle successfully for their friends, their self-esteem soars.

~~**G**~~ - *This makes it the perfect exercise for any traveller.*

H - You can't just throw all the balls up in the air and hope everything comes together- you need to think it through and concentrate.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Juggling

Juggling may bring circus clowns to mind and seem slightly ridiculous, but don't underestimate it as a way to help take your mind off the stresses of daily life. It is well-known for improving hand-eye co-ordination, but the benefits don't stop there.

Firstly, juggling is a truly portable workout. The equipment required for it is minimal, and scarves or balls can easily fit into your bag, briefcase, or suitcase. *example* 1. G What's more, juggling may be the only aerobic exercises you can do in a tiny space - and it doesn't even feel like exercise. Many people are surprised to learn that it burns 280 calories per hour. However, it is very different from running on a treadmill, lifting weights, or doing push-ups. Simply put, these exercises aren't fun, and they aren't usually entertaining to watch either. 2.

You don't often hear about coordination as an essential element of fitness, but juggling is a very popular activity with athletes. This actually makes perfect sense. Someone who must connect racquet to ball, catch or hit a speeding baseball, or shoot into a basket needs to develop a high level of co-ordination. 3. Quite the contrary, in fact. By learning more challenging juggling patterns and moves, they can take their coordination to even higher levels.

Sedentary people, even those that have trouble walking from lack of activity, can also benefit from juggling. It's a gentle, no-impact workout that is not stressful on the joints, which makes it a great fitness activity for older people. 4. It has an infinite number of patterns and levels of challenge, which presents an immediate temptation to a young generation raised on video games.

As well as its physical benefits, recent research has demonstrated that juggling can even affect the size of your brain. Several studies have shown a connection between juggling and changes in the brain's cell bodies and nerve fibres. Juggling sharpens your focus and concentration by engaging your problem-solving skills. 5. This intense focus which is required for juggling will then filter into other areas of your life that require the same type of close attention. What's more, juggling is the ultimate in stress relief. When you are learning, you are immediately absorbed in the activity, making it almost impossible to think of anything but the task at hand, thus clearing your mind when you are overwhelmed.

Juggling helps ward off cravings too. Do you ever hit that afternoon 'slump' where you are not really hungry but eat an unhealthy snack anyway? Juggling for just a few minutes can take your mind off that craving and give you a burst of energy to combat the need for chocolate, sugary drinks, or any other food. 6.

And finally...it's a laugh! Juggling makes exercising with family and friends easy. It's the perfect way for a family to exercise together, because everyone can workout at their own level. Friends can share new juggling moves they have learned and help each other to troubleshoot problems so it's also an excellent team-building activity because it gets people having fun together.

Anglia Examinations Sample Paper

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Section R3 - Reading (10 marks) 4.
Read the passage about eclipses. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the extracts A - H, the one which fits each gap. There are two extracts you do not need to use. One of them has been done for you as an example.

A - He realised that it was caused by an element in the Sun unknown on Earth. He named it "helium", after the Greek word for Sun.

B - Satellite based observations have contributed enormously to our understanding of the Sun and have generally taken the place of observations that were previously undertaken during total solar eclipses.

C - Eventually, however, they ran out of things to exchange and, with no food supplies, their future looked bleak.

D - As totality approaches, a mysterious kind of twilight begins to descend and birds and animals start behaving strangely.

E - People would produce great noise and commotion - drumming, banging on pans, shooting arrows into the sky - to frighten the beast away and restore daylight.

F - This is the reason why the moon appears large enough to be able to completely hide the sun from view.

G - *Even though the sun returned, the angry ruler ordered the unfortunate men to be killed.*

H - This lack of understanding meant that it was often given great religious or spiritual significance.

Anglia Examinations Sample Paper

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Eclipses

A solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the earth and the sun and casts a shadow on the earth. The sun and moon appear to be the same size in the sky but their sizes are actually very different - by coincidence, the sun is about 400 times larger than the moon but the sun is also about 400 times further away. [1.] The sun disappears and the sky darkens within minutes. An eclipse of this kind happens rarely and only lasts for a brief moment in time.

Anyone who has witnessed a total solar eclipse will tell you what a dramatic sight it is. It is not surprising that in ancient times, before there was a scientific explanation of the event, it was viewed with fear or even terror. [2.] Eclipses were often seen as signs of a forthcoming natural disaster or the death of a ruler, so offerings of crops or animals were made to the gods or spirits to please them.

One Chinese myth involved an invisible dragon or other demon that consumed the sun during an eclipse. [3.] In India, people immersed themselves in water up to their necks, believing this act of worship would help the sun and moon defend them against the dragon. In Japan, the custom was to cover wells during an eclipse to prevent poison from dropping into them from the dark sky.

Because the exact date, time and place of solar eclipses can now be accurately determined for thousands of years into the past (and future), we can see how history has been influenced by the drama of an eclipse. The earliest record of a solar eclipse comes from ancient China, over 4,000 years ago. The story goes that two royal astronomers had neglected their duties and failed to predict the event, so the emperor was unprepared. [***example*** 4. G] An eclipse in the Persian Empire around 585 BCE ended a five-year war between two ancient kingdoms, when the final battle finished abruptly due to a solar eclipse. It was seen as an omen, indicating that the gods wanted the fighting to stop.

Lunar eclipses, when the earth moves between the sun and the moon, so that the moon is in shadow, have also featured in history. When Christopher Columbus made his fourth voyage to the new world, his ship became stranded in Jamaica. Initially, he and his crew managed to trade with the islanders for food. [5.] Looking at his star charts, Columbus noticed that a lunar eclipse was about to happen, so he gathered the islanders together and said that God was angry and would cover the moon. When this actually happened, the islanders were so impressed and frightened that they continued feeding the crew!

However, it is the solar eclipse that has perhaps made some of the most important advances in science. During an eclipse in 1868, French astronomer Pierre Janssen noticed a mysterious yellow line coming from the eclipse, which he could not identify. The English astronomer Norman Lockyer also noticed the line. [6.] The discovery of one of the most abundant elements in the universe had been made. The total solar eclipse continues to thrill those lucky enough to see one. A total solar eclipse still allows astrophysicists to make valuable scientific measurements, particularly when coordinated with measurements from observatories in space.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS