



I. Read the text:

Wordstars

Rebecca Taylor was just eight when her book was accepted by a publisher with the promise of a fat cheque to come. Even so her book, *The Kidnapping of Mittens*, which was inspired by the real-life adventures of her two cats, exceeded Rebecca's wildest expectations. Published by Penguin three years ago, the book has sold 1,000 hardback copies and is about to go into paperback. Rebecca's final cheque should exceed £ 2,500.

Rebecca is very fortunate. New authors rarely get any book published before the age of twenty. Yet each year a handful of teenagers surprise us all and write books which make it on to a publisher's list.

Victoria Coren, whose father is a writer, got a regular column in a national newspaper after winning a competition when she was sixteen. Her work was spotted by a publisher and she was asked to expand her pieces into a book called *Love Sixteen*, which is a humorous look at the problems of being a teenager.

Victoria, who is now nineteen, insists that her father's reputation had nothing to do with her success. But she does acknowledge his influence in other ways. 'He bought me a plastic typewriter when I was just three', she says. 'He was always encouraging me to read and write. And when I saw what fun he had I decided, more than anything else, I wanted to be a famous writer too.'

A. Mark the following statements True (T) or False (F):

1. Rebecca got a cheque for £ 2,500 when she was eight. _____
2. Her book is based on the things her cats do. _____
3. She was surprised the book did so well. _____
4. Very few teenagers are successful in getting their books published. _____
5. According to the text, Victoria's father writes a column for a national newspaper. _____
6. Victoria wrote an amusing book about being a teenager. _____
7. She thinks her father had nothing to do with her success. _____
8. She wants to be as funny as her father. _____

B. Answer the following questions:

1. How is Rebecca's book called?
2. How old was Victoria when she won the competition?
3. What did Victoria's father buy her when she was three?

II. Match the words or phrases which have a similar meaning.

1. emigrate
2. interpret
3. cooperate
4. work out
5. impress
6. compete

- a. fill with admiration
- b. find a solution
- c. work together
- d. try to win
- e. move abroad
- f. change words into another language