1 SPEAKING **Look at the blog and the photos. What kind of game do you think the people are playing? What do you think happens?**

2 **Read the blog post quickly and check your ideas from exercise 1.**

> **Reading Strategy**
> Multiple-choice questions may test:
> - factual information (detailed or general).
> - the writer's opinion.
> - the writer's intention.
>
> You can sometimes (but not always) tell what a question is testing by reading the first part without the options (a–d).

3 **Read the Reading Strategy and the questions in exercise 4. Then answer the following questions.**

1 Which questions in exercise 4 ask about ...
   a the writer's intention?
   b the writer's opinion?
   c factual information?
2 How did you decide on the answers to question 1?
3 Which question in exercise 4 is about the whole blog post?

4 **Read the blog post again. Choose the correct options (a–d).**

1 To take part in geocaching you need
   a a mobile phone with GPS.
   b a mobile phone with GPS and a toy or gift.
   c a mobile phone, a toy or gift and a logbook.
   d nothing – just yourself!
2 The activity of geocaching
   a began in the 19th century, but only became popular after 2000.
   b was originally only popular in one region of England, but now has fans all over the world.
   c was called 'letterboxing' when it was first invented.
   d has similarities with a 19th-century game.
3 When you find a gift in a geocache, you
   a make a note of the gift on the website.
   b can borrow the gift, but have to return it.
   c are allowed to take the gift if you replace it with something else.
   d take a photo of the gift as proof that you have found it.
4 The writer thinks that the most enjoyable kind of geocaching is when
   a you have to find a public webcam.
   b you have to find a series of geocaches.
   c you have to find a geocache and then hide it in a different place.
   d you simply have to find one geocache.
5 The writer believes the 'Fumble after Dark' event
   a is less fun than geocaching with a couple of friends.
   b would be a very enjoyable event to attend.
   c is only suitable for adventurous people.
   d needs to attract more people.
6 The writer has written the blog mainly to
   a suggest that people try geocaching.
   b explain the differences between letterboxing and geocaching.
   c publicise a geocaching event in Sweden.
   d warn the reader that geocaching is addictive.

5 VOCABULARY **Match the prepositions below with definitions 1–5. Underline them in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the blog.**

Prepositions across all along all over below beside by

1 lower than _____
2 at many points on something long _____
3 in many parts of a place _____, _____
4 next to _____
5 near; at the side of _____

➳ **Vocabulary Builder** Prepositions of place: page 122

6 SPEAKING **Work in pairs. Would you like to play this game? Why? / Why not? Use the adjectives, verbs and phrases below to help you.**

Adjectives addictive boring difficult exciting exhausting healthy time-consuming

> **Explaining preference**
> I'd find it ... It sounds really ...
> I'd like to play it because ...
> It appeals / doesn't appeal to me because ...
> I'm (not) really into ... I'd rather ... I can't stand ...
> I don't mind ..., but ...

7 SPEAKING **Share your opinions with the class.**



LIVEWORKSHEETS

GPS CHALLENGE

1.24 CLAUDIA'S BLOG

Dear Friends,

Sorry I haven't blogged for a while. I've been a bit busy lately. You'll find out why … But first of all, have you ever heard of geocaching? It's a kind of treasure-hunting game that uses a GPS device – usually your smartphone – to find small containers called geocaches. These are hidden all over the world – but usually people start with geocaches that are close to their home. The great thing about geocaching is that it leads you to some beautiful and amazing places that you probably didn't know about. I can definitely recommend it – it's healthy and it's fun. Although I should warn you that it's also seriously addictive!

So how does it work, exactly? Well, the first step is to go to the geocaching website or download the geocaching app onto your phone. Then you choose a geocache and you start looking. People have been hiding geocaches for more than ten years, so there are literally millions of them around the world. There are sure to be some near your home, wherever you live. (There are geocaches across all seven continents, including Antarctica!) Some are very hard to find. They may be hidden beside a river, up a tree, or even below the ground.

Geocaching is quite a new game: it began around the year 2000. However, similar games did exist in the past. For example, in the middle of the 19th century, a game called 'letterboxing' became popular in the south of England. People who enjoyed walking in the countryside began to hide boxes all along the route. These boxes contained postcards addressed to themselves. When other walkers found a box, they collected the cards and posted them. This often took many weeks, because the boxes were often hidden in remote places, not by the paths.

In geocaching, the boxes don't contain postcards. They contain a logbook, where the person who finds it can write their name and the date. (They also record the find on the website.) As well as the logbook, geocaches often contain a toy or gift. You are welcome to take this, provided you replace it with something you have brought with you.

The basic game just involves finding a geocache and recording it online and in the logbook. However, there are lots of variations. For example, there are multi-cache challenges, where each cache contains the co-ordinates for the next cache, until you reach the final cache containing the logbook. There are also 'travelling caches', where each person who finds the cache then hides it in a different location and updates the information on the website. And there are 'webcam caches'. When you do these, you don't find a physical container or logbook; you find a public webcam and then capture an image of yourself on the webcam as proof that you have been successful. I've tried all of these types, and personally, I've enjoyed the multi-cache challenges the most.

Geocaching is an activity you can do alone or, like me, with a couple of friends. But there are also geocaching events where you can get together with hundreds of other fans of the game. For example, the 'Fumble after Dark' event is held every November in Sweden and sounds like great fun. About a thousand geocachers get together for a day of talks and presentations about geocaching. And then they head outside into the darkness for some night-time adventures! I've been enjoying my geocaching experiences so much that I'm seriously thinking about going to 'Fumble after Dark' next year. So why don't you get into geocaching too, and I might see you there!

Bye for now!!

Claudia

LEARN THIS! Prepositions of place

a We use *on* with surfaces. We use *in* with three-dimensional spaces.
1 _____ *a box* 2 _____ *the floor* 3 _____ *the cupboard*
4 _____ *the wall*

b We often use *in* with large areas or spaces. We often use *at* to talk about a place where something happens.
Turn right 5 _____ the crossroads. Kate lives 6 _____ London.
I met Joe 7 _____ a party. Sam's playing 8 _____ the park.

c *Between* means 'in the space that separates two or more things'. *Among* means 'in the middle of' or 'surrounded by'.
She got lost 9 _____ the crowds of people.
Andorra lies 10 _____ France and Spain.

d *Opposite* means 'facing something but on the other side'. *In front of* means 'near to the front of'.
The teacher stood 11 _____ the class.
The bank is 12 _____ the chemist's.

Underline the correct prepositions.

1 The shop is on the left hand side of the road, **opposite** / **in front of** our house.
2 The plates are **on** / **in** the shelf and the knives are **on** / **in** the drawer.
3 We stopped for lunch **at** / **in** the motorway service station.
4 Didcot lies **among** / **between** Reading and Oxford.
5 Janet lives **at** / **in** the north of England.
6 The cottage is hidden **among** / **between** the trees.
7 I missed my train because there were so many people **opposite** / **in front of** me in the queue for tickets.

LIVEWORKSHEETS