Exercise 5

Read the information. Then match the paragraph headings with the paragraphs.

In the IELTS Reading test, you may be asked to match headings with paragraphs.

First, it is a good idea to pay attention to any key words in the headings. Then, look at the paragraphs quickly, to find out what kind of information they contain. Next, read each paragraph in detail and decide which heading fits best.

The annual Busójárás celebration

Agnes Kovacs travels to a small Hungarian town to witness a local festival that has entertained people for hundreds of years

A The costumes are intentionally frightening. Several people walk around the square of the small town wearing masks. The faces are red, with small eyes and large pointed teeth. Then, there are the horns. In some of the costumes, they look like goat's horns. Other masks have bull's horns. The people wear huge cloaks made of sheepskin, which make them look bigger than they really are. With the sticks and rattles they carry to make noise with, they look like monsters.

B This carnival has been a tradition in southern Hungary for several centuries. The town of Mohács was the site of a famous battle between the Hungarians and the Ottoman Empire 500 years ago. The Turkish army was far superior at the time and would eventually overrun most of Hungary. However, the small town of Mohács managed to repel the invaders, albeit briefly. Legend has it that the townspeople dressed up as monsters and managed to drive away the Turks.

C The carnival is a celebration of continued life and combines historical events with ancient traditions of chasing away the winter darkness. It is held at the end of each winter and, as in many other winter festivals around Europe, a man-like figure is constructed from straw. On the final night of the carnival, the man is paraded through the town and set on fire. People from the town hold hands and dance around the burning man until dawn.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

i Rituals that have continued to the present day ii A connection between the carnival and historic events iii The effect of the things people wear during the carnival

1. Paragraph A _____
2. Paragraph C _____

Paragraph B _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS