Reading 4

Part 1

Вы проводите информационный поиск в ходе выполнения проектной работы. Определите, в каком из текстов **A–F** содержатся ответы на интересующие Вас вопросы **1–7**. Один из вопросов останется без ответа. Занесите Ваши ответы в таблицу.

1. Why were ravens considered to be scary and dangerous birds?

2. Why is keeping a raven as a pet really difficult?

3. How do ravens entertain themselves?

4. What is a raven's essential diet?

5. How can you distinguish a raven from a crow?

6. Why are ravens important for Great Britain?

7. What tricks do ravens play to get and save their food?

A. For intelligence, ravens rate up with chimpanzees and dolphins. These birds have the largest brain of any bird species. Ravens can push rocks on people to keep them from climbing to their nests and play dead to scare other ravens away from a delicious meal. If a raven knows another raven is watching, it hides the tasty bits. It pretends to put the food in one place but hides it in another.

B. It's amazing to watch ravens sliding on snow-covered roofs. For fun, they also roll down snowy hills. Ravens often play keep-away with other animals like wolves, foxes and dogs. They even make toys—a rare animal behaviour—from sticks, pine cones, golf balls, or rocks to play with each other or by themselves. When they feel bored, they mock other creatures like crows, cats and dogs and find it very amusing.

C. According to surveys, the ravens are one of the main reasons why tourists come to see the Tower of London. Nobody knows when the ravens first appeared there but there is a belief that at least six ravens must always remain on the territory of the Tower. Otherwise, the British Monarchy may fall. To prevent the birds from flying away their wings are clipped every three weeks.

D. In the past, in some cultures, people were truly afraid of these dark birds. In Germany, ravens were considered to be the incarnation of criminals' souls. In Sweden, ravens were thought to be the souls of murdered people. And in Denmark, people believed that it was dangerous to look at ravens because you could turn into a raven yourself.

E. Sometimes people find injured ravens and take them home, but it's really challenging. These birds require a lot of care, a lot of freedom and a lot of time. Ravens are wild creatures, and they cannot be treated like cats and dogs are. If the bird is strong and healthy, it is unfair and cruel to keep it in captivity. In some countries it's even illegal. So if you really love and admire these birds, enjoy them from a distance.

F. These birds are often confused with each other because they are both black birds. Even people who are well aware of the differences between them can get confused. Ravens are larger than crows, with thicker beaks and longer tails. Ravens have a deeper voice than crows.

Part 2

Прочитайте текст. Определите, какие из приведённых утверждений **10−17** соответствуют содержанию текста **(1 − True)**, какие не соответствуют **(2 − False)** и о чём в тексте не сказано, то есть на основании текста нельзя дать ни положительного, ни отрицательного ответа **(3 − Not stated)**. В поле ответа запишите одну цифру, которая соответствует номеру правильного ответа.

Tea

Everybody knows that Britain is a tea-drinking nation. Tea is more than just a drink to the British − it is a way of life. Many people drink it first with breakfast, then mid-morning, with lunch, at tea-time (around 5 o'clock), with dinner and finally just before bed. As a nation, they go through 185 million cups per day! No less than 77% of British people are regular tea drinkers; they drink more than twice as much tea as coffee.

A legend says that tea was discovered in China in the third millennium BC. When a Chinese Emperor was having breakfast in his garden, a tea leaf fell into his cup with hot water. The water became coloured and the Emperor was delighted with the taste of the new drink. To Britain, tea came much later. It happened in the 17th century, when the British ships landed on the shore of China and came back with a load of tea.

Tea drinking became fashionable in England after Charles II married the Portuguese princess Catherine of Braganza. She adored tea and introduced it to the royal court. Just as people today will copy celebrities, people in the 17th and 18th centuries copied the royal family. Tea drinking spread like wildfire, starting first among the nobles and then spreading to wealthy businessmen who liked to sit down for a nice "cuppa" in coffee houses. Tea was an expensive product. It was only for the rich and often kept under lock and key.

In the 17th century the British really had two daily meals − breakfast and dinner. Dinner was the heaviest meal of the day, and was usually served in the afternoon. The custom of eating a regular "afternoon tea" began during the 1700's, as people began serving dinner later and later in the evening. For the aristocracy, or at least for the Duchess Anna Maria of Bedford, 6 hours between meals was simply too long. She began to ask for a cup of tea and light snacks to be served around 5 pm, and then began to invite guests to join her. The custom of "afternoon tea" was born, and it spread among the upper classes and then among the workers, for whom this late afternoon meal became the main of the day.

The first tea shop for ladies was opened by Thomas Twining in 1717 and slowly tea shops began to appear throughout England making the drinking of tea available to everyone. The British appreciated the new drink for its taste. It was also believed that tea cured lots of diseases. However, the most important thing was that drinking tea prevented lots of diseases − to make the drink people used boiled water and drank less raw water.

For centuries now, tea has been the national drink of Great Britain. Tea has so thoroughly integrated itself into British culture that during World War II the government was seriously afraid that the country's morale could suffer from the lack of tea and made a special decision to ration it.

Tea has worked its way into language too. Nowadays people have tea breaks at work, even if they drink coffee or cola. Many people call the main evening meal tea, even if they drink beer with it. When there is a lot of trouble about something very unimportant, it is called a storm in a tea cup. When someone is

upset or depressed, people say they need tea and sympathy. In fact, tea is the best treatment for all sorts of problems and troubles.

In Britain coffee is more popular than tea.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

In the 17th century a Chinese Emperor sent tea to the British royal family as a present.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

At first the tea was drunk only by the royal family and the wealthy people.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

The "afternoon tea" tradition was started by a woman.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

The working people never joined the "afternoon tea" tradition.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

In the first tea shops tea was sold as a medicine for lots of diseases.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

During World War II the British government prohibited drinking tea.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated

Tea has influenced the English vocabulary.

1) True

2) False

3) Not stated