Part 5

You are going to read a magazine article about a teenager who goes on a road trip across the US with his parents and twin brother. For questions **31–36**, choose the answer (**A**, **B**, **C** or **D**) which you think fits best according to the text.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Our Family Great American Road Trip

By Jack Morgan

When most people think of a leisurely family vacation, I guess a cross-country adventure through nine western states in the US plus a Canadian province doesn't automatically spring to mind. However, my parents clearly weren't looking to put their feet up as they organized our summer vacation this year. My dad seemed to have taken it upon himself to plan the modern teenager's worst nightmare: the *ultimate family bonding trip*. 'Not enough people do this anymore' was the line he and my mother spouted in the weeks leading up to our vacation as my twin brother and I shot each other horrified glances that screamed, 'Well, there are probably good reasons why!'

Mid-June arrived. We crammed our car full of suitcases, coolers, and a wild assortment of clothing to combat whatever Mother Nature threw at us. Though I was thrilled, I was sure going to miss my privacy for the next two weeks. But I already had a few coping strategies up my sleeve. With barely enough room left for us inside the car, we set off on 'The Family Great American Road Trip'. As we left behind our spacious home in favor of more 'cozy' accommodation for the next five thousand miles, I wasn't the only one in the car wondering what we were getting ourselves into...

We shot straight west, out through the Oklahoma panhandle. Though still close to home, we were
ne 31 not without our fair share of adventures. My family finally stopped for the night near a town in Oklahoma, under the darkest star-filled skies in the nation, but only after nearly being blown off the highway in a dust storm. We quickly learned the rule of the road: cattle get the right-of-way! The next day, we were up at dawn and moving again. I sensed a pattern forming.

Desert gave way to mountains. The days began to blend together, but each adventure was still distinct. We left our footprints in the Great Sand Dunes, and moved on to Pagosa Springs, Colorado. The unpleasant smell of sulfur in that otherwise welcoming tourist town gave us a taste of what we were going to experience later in our journey. Clinging to the mountainside at one point as we climbed to our next destination, we learned that what are marked as jeep roads are best left to jeep drivers. The fusion of ancient and modern could be seen everywhere we stopped. Dodging construction traffic just became routine. Disappointment turned to laughter as we posed by the enormous 'CLOSED' signs in front of the Four Corners Monument.

We passed countless wind farms on our way to Yellowstone National Park, where we watched the setting sun cast its shadows over bear habitats close to the roads. 'Bear jams', policed by park volunteers, were simply expected while driving through, when traffic would back up to let one cross. And our own close encounter with one on the road (and an anxious park ranger) left us with some unforgettable memories. As we drove on through the park, life back home faded away, and even the hotel we stayed in that night, with all its inconveniences, couldn't dent our enthusiasm – a creaky, rustic 95-year-old building with no internet or cell phone services. However, in exchange for putting up with these, I got to experience the most *line 71* wonderful views I've ever seen.

After watching a rainstorm blow through from a cozy perch in our hotel in Canada, my family and I made our free-fall back south again. My parents had been right. You don't have to escape to some exotic foreign land to discover something remarkable. It was bittersweet to be home together again, but at least I hadn't fought with my brother in our one hundred hours on the road! Three thousand photos chronicling our crazy journey waited to be sifted through and rediscovered. And I knew that for me, the things I'd remember would be the unplanned, the spontaneous.

31 Jack suggests in the first paragraph that his parents

A had waited until their sons grew up to make such a long journey.
B wanted to recreate the type of holiday they themselves had once enjoyed.
C were aware that the trip would offer them little chance of relaxation.
D seemed frustrated by their sons' protests about the proposed trip.

32 In the second paragraph, Jack explains that

A there were problems he had not anticipated.
B his family were all equally excited about what lay ahead.
C his family were prepared for any kind of weather.
D he was looking forward to the challenge of living without home comforts.

33 What does Jack mean when he says they were 'not without our fair share of adventures' in line 31?

A They had already had a good number of adventures.
B They each felt they would like to have more adventures.
C They had experienced more adventures than they had hoped.
D They felt they had been unfairly deprived of any adventures so far.

34 In his description of the trip in the fourth paragraph, Jack sounds

A eager to discover what lay further along the route.
B confused about what he had done on each day.
C impatient about the number of times they had to stop.
D willing to make the best of unexpected setbacks.

35 What does 'these' refer to in line 71?

A memories
B inconveniences
C wonderful views
D phone and internet services

36 What does Jack conclude that going on the trip had taught him?

A how important it is to prepare for chance occurrences
B to appreciate the beauty of the natural world
C how hard it can be to get on with close family
D to value what your own country has to offer

Part 6

You are going to read an article about poetry. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**37–42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Poetry

Teenager Peter Rayner writes about his new-found love of poetry.

Until about a year ago, if you mentioned the word 'poetry' to me, my instant reaction would always have been the same: 'Boring!' And I'm sure the response would be the same from many people my age. But then recently I've discovered that by rejecting poetry so completely, I've really been missing out.

It's not that I was previously unaware of poetry. I've been lucky enough to grow up in a household where my parents and older sister love literature, and I've always loved reading, especially crime novels – I read one a week, on average. **37** [ ] They seemed to have little to say about what I was feeling.

Then one day I came across an anthology of poems for young people. On the first page, the editor had written an introduction in which he explained that poems are not just there to be studied in classrooms. **38** [ ] He reckoned that poetry often helps people to find some kind of peace when times get tough. I was really struck by that, and began to think that maybe poetry did have relevance for me after all.

After I'd read the book, I started to see that poetry is all around us, whether we realise it or not. If you don't believe me, just think of song lyrics, rap and football chants. There were so many times I'd been swept away by the lyrics of various rappers and bands. **39** [ ]

So there it was – I'd actually been listening to poetry all along! This made me start reading poetry seriously for the first time. **40** [ ] That was a great feeling. Poems spoke to me directly whilst still offering food for thought. I even started to write my own terrible raps! Poetry was now definitely cool as far as I was concerned.

41 [ ] Did you know, for example, that spoken word performances, combined with music, were the major literary form of the ancient world? They were popular with Greek storytellers who'd tell their stories while a musician accompanied them on the harp. I suppose the modern day equivalents would be poetry performed to a reggae soundtrack, poems about social observations, or poets drawing on influences from the hip hop scene.

Anyway, I started trawling the internet to see if there were any performance poets who were my age. I found myself googling them and it wasn't long before I discovered some teenage poets who were performing alone or with musicians. **42** [ ] I've seen some of them live and they're brilliant. I've now been inspired to have a go at writing more serious poetry and maybe one day I'll try performing it too.

A Their stuff has really taken off online and even at music festivals.

B Poems, however, just never appealed to me in the same way.

C And I could understand it without having to be taught what it meant.

D In spite of this, I began writing them myself.

E All of this is nothing new.

F Reading them can provide support for us at any time in our lives.

G I'd simply never, ever thought of them as poetry.

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Part 7

You are going to read an article in which young people talk about the environment. For questions **43–52**, choose from the people (**A–D**). The people may be chosen more than once.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet.**

Which person

gives an example of what has inspired positive feelings in people about their local area?	**43**	
thinks there should be no choice about adopting green measures?	**44**	
feels people their age could spread the word effectively about environmental matters?	**45**	
has problems persuading young people that green issues are important?	**46**	
initially had trouble finding a green organisation to join?	**47**	
explains that receiving recognition for something encouraged them to change their habits?	**48**	
shows an understanding of why people aren't focused on green issues?	**49**	
understands that the previous generation has witnessed the development of current environmental issues?	**50**	
recognises that making major changes could prove unaffordable?	**51**	
admits not applying what they'd been taught to their daily lives?	**52**	

Young people and the environment

A Julia

We're always being bombarded by news about celebrities in the media, but the same can't really be said for the latest on global warming, can it? Maybe if things like that hit the headlines more often, there'd be more involvement. My generation is very creative, finding different ways to interact with people using social media, music and so on. And if that creativity could be put to good use to pass on the eco message, maybe more people would take note. But instead they're delighted that the temperature seems to rise each summer – they sit around in the local park soaking up the sun and don't bother to think about what the cause of this might be – and I do get that. But perhaps if the consequences of not taking care of the environment were more apparent, it wouldn't be so easy to disregard.

B Harald

I'm aware that what my parents have seen gives them a different take on things to me – like climate change, which has been an issue all their lives. And I still haven't fully faced up to the reality of what we're doing to the Earth – I know that's not great. But recently I did take part in a competition about living more sustainably – and I won a prize. That kind of reward for improving my lifestyle motivated me to have a good think about what I could do. And I really do believe that raising awareness can start with just one person, and then spread. Recently there was a project near me to take a piece of disused land and turn it into a community garden. Just that was enough to get the attention of young people – it made us proud of our patch.

C Mina

In my city there was very little interest in raising environmental awareness until very recently so, as a result, it was hard for me to meet like-minded people, but luckily there's an active group in my area now with which I'm quite involved. And in school science classes, we're always talking about global warming, but on an everyday basis I know I've been guilty of not thinking about what I was doing to benefit the planet. I think that it should be a legal obligation to protect the environment so it becomes something we simply have to do, otherwise people just won't change, especially if it costs them money. But it's not all bad news. In local supermarkets now, you're encouraged to bring your own bags to reduce plastic waste, which is a positive move.

D Finn

In my area, it can be hard to buy stuff like organic food. Instead, like in most big cities, there are lots of companies that don't contribute positively to the environment, but you just know it'd need an impossibly massive budget to create the kind of change that would really make a difference. Solar panels and hydroelectricity are available but the government seems to be doing very little to ensure that enough use is made of them. My city's in a vulnerable location being at sea level, so these issues can't be ignored, but we've relied on oil since forever, and because of this people are unwilling to switch to alternative energy sources, even though I think that would make sense. I'm really interested in the environment but it can be hard getting others my age to share my views – that's a huge frustration for me.