

- 1. Read the text about extreme weather and choose the correct missing sentence for each gap. There is ONE EXTRA SENTENCE that you don't need to use.**

### **Extreme weather**

The summer of 2022 has seen record-breaking heatwaves in countries as widespread as India, the UK, Brazil and Australia. The high temperatures have resulted in many serious problems. Wildfires have destroyed vast areas of vegetation across Europe and sometimes houses or entire towns. 1 \_ First, scorching temperatures draw moisture from the ground, resulting in tinder-dry conditions. Then, lightning from storms, which also increase in hot weather, may supply the spark that sets the vegetation alight.

Meanwhile, in China, the heatwave resulted in power cuts. 2 \_ The drought has affected crop production everywhere, which is forecast to be up to fifty per cent lower for some crops in Europe. This will result in food shortages and higher prices.

Increasing temperatures have also increased the incidence of floods, devastating New Zealand and Pakistan this year. 3 \_ In Asia, the monsoon rains have become more unpredictable. Dry periods have occurred at critical planting times, while sudden downpours have destroyed homes and drowned out entire crops. Cyclones are also more common.

Human-induced climate change is now accepted as the reason behind these extreme weather events. Emissions caused by the burning of fossil fuels have been trapping heat in the atmosphere since the start of the industrial era. Climate experts say that extreme temperatures are now ten times more likely a result of climate change, and future temperatures may well be higher. 4 \_ Whether or not we meet the emissions targets set by the Paris Agreement in 2015 will affect billions of people across the globe.

5 \_ However, even in this case, the heat index is forecast to reach dangerous levels ten times more often. When this happens, the effects of heat on the body make it increasingly difficult for humans to maintain a safe body temperature. The conditions will be unprecedented for people working outdoors in countries where it is already as hot as this, such as Sub-Saharan African farmers.

Poorer countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, experiencing increasingly extreme weather events, are looking to richer countries for more finance. 6 \_ With limited means themselves, they are forced to choose between rebuilding or developing ways to cope with future climate crises. Richer countries have promised funding, but developing countries still need to receive it or receive it in the form of loans they cannot repay.

- a.** The best-case scenario is that countries manage to keep global temperatures to less than 2°C above preindustrial levels.
- b.** How much so depends hugely on our ability to reduce carbon emissions in the next few years.
- c.** The weather across the globe has always been variable, but those variations are becoming more extreme.
- d.** This event is due to the lakes that supply the hydroelectric power stations drying up.
- e.** Although humans sometimes are the cause of these fires, climate plays a large part in the extent of their damage.
- f.** This is because more moisture evaporates into the atmosphere, resulting in more and heavier drops that fall in a shorter space of time.
- g.** These countries claim they are bearing the brunt of climate change caused by richer nations.

- 2. Read the following texts and match them to the most suitable heading from the list supplied. Each heading can only be used ONCE. There are three headings you will not need.**

**eBay tips for selling successfully**

**Text 1**

Getting that first bid is critical, as buyers are more likely to jump in if there are already bids on auction. Buyers may lose interest if they assume an item is overpriced. Many successful sellers set a low opening bid to jumpstart bidding and increase their final selling price.

**Text 2**

Specifying reasonable shipping and handling costs in your listing is essential for smart selling. eBay's free Shipping Calculator provides real-time shipping costs to buyers all over the world, so you can increase your chances of success. Remember that a long wait can be both boring and frustrating for customers.

**Text 3**

Maximizing your item title is a must if you want to sell your product. Be sure to include key words that buyers will search for, such as unique or descriptive attributes, and always check your spelling. Your item title is critical in helping users find your items, so use each character wisely.

**Text 4**

A good description is concise, well organized, and easy to read. Create bold section headlines, bulleted lists, and be sure to include item style/type, brand, condition, and other attributes. Think about your listing from the buyer's perspective – the more information you provide, the more likely buyers are to place a bid.

**Text 5**

A picture really is worth more than a thousand words! Use clear, well-lit photos from a variety of angles to accurately showcase your item. Use good lighting and an uncluttered background to get the most out of your photo. Add additional photos to showcase details and unique features of your item.

**Text 6**

Always respond quickly to any buyer questions. Include extras or a handwritten note in the box to really surprise and delight your customers. Make sure to leave feedback for your buyer so they'll do the same for you. Successful communication is one of the keys to successful business.

**Text 7**

After the sale make sure that you pay for shipping, print labels on your home printer, and schedule free carrier pick-up-all online and at no additional charge – so you can save money, time, and a trip to the post office! We make it easy for you, so please make it easy for us.

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**Take the reading comprehension test**

- a. A modest start is more intelligent
- b. A well-planned explanation can attract buyers
- c. Attractive and correct descriptions are essential



- d.Delivery prices can help you sell
- e.Exchanging messages will help you sell
- f.Once you sell a product follow the procedures
- g.Put your photographs in the background
- h.Request your buyers' opinion
- i.Reserving a product can be difficult
- j.Show what it looks like

**3. For questions 1-9, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.**

**Vera Neumann: fabric designer**

Vera Neumann was a designer and businesswoman whose products (1)..... their way into the homes of people across the USA.

Vera was born in Connecticut in 1907 and showed artistic (2)..... from an early age. After attending art college in New York, she got a job as a textile designer, but didn't like being (3)..... what to do. Determined to develop her own styles, Vera started to produce tablecloths each item printed by hand in her kitchen.

But it was her scarves that (4)..... Vera's name. Good fabric was in short (5)..... during the Second World War, but Vera was lucky enough to (6)..... across some silk left over from the manufacture of parachutes. Vera used it to design scarves with floral, abstract and geometric designs. These were an (7)..... success when they appeared in department stores and during the 1950s they were the (8)..... of fashion, being worn by celebrities such as the film star Marilyn Monroe. By 1960, the company which Vera had (9)..... was employing 200 staff and producing 130 patterns per season.

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|----------------|----------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 A found      | B arrived      | C fetched     | D reached  |
| 2 A training   | B talent       | C expert      | D gift     |
| 3 A led        | B directed     | C told        | D forced   |
| 4 A got        | B did          | C gained      | D made     |
| 5 A supply     | B availability | C quantity    | D delivery |
| 6 A fall       | B come         | C happen      | D run      |
| 7 A acute      | B urgent       | C instant     | D extreme  |
| 8 A height     | B peak         | C top         | D crown    |
| 9 A worked out | B put on       | C carried off | D set up   |