

Test 1 Reading and Use of English Part 2

Follow the exam instructions, using the advice to help you.

For questions 9 – 16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap.

Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: **0 A T**

Blue diamonds

Blue diamonds are the world's most expensive diamonds, with some valued (0) over 350 million US dollars. However, no one knew (9) recently precisely where these rare stones came from.

Most diamonds are formed from pure carbon under extreme heat 150 to 200 kilometres underground, and (10) is thought that volcanic eruptions bring them to the earth's surface. Research by scientists has revealed, however, that blue diamonds were probably formed somewhere (11) 600 and 800 kilometres down, in a part of the earth's interior known (12) the lower mantle.

These researchers analysed 46 blue diamonds, all of (13) contained minerals only found in the lower mantle. (14) only were these stones formed four times nearer the earth's core (15) normal diamonds, but they also contain an element called boron that is mostly found on the earth's surface. What seems to have happened, (16) to the researchers, is that billions of years ago, rocks containing boron were carried down into the lower mantle by movements of the earth's tectonic plates, and were eventually returned to the surface by volcanic action.

Advice

- 9 Read the whole sentence and think about what word can collocate with 'recently'.
- 10 This is part of a passive structure. There's no mention of who thinks this about diamonds.
- 11 The word you need combines with 'and' two words later.
- 12 Here you need a preposition to go with 'known'.
- 13 The word here refers back to '46 blue diamonds'.
- 14 Read the whole of the sentence. The word needed here is part of a structure which holds together the two parts of the sentence.
- 15 Look at the first half of this sentence, from (14) to 'diamonds'.
- 16 The word you need here is part of a fixed phrase. You may not think of it as grammar.