

Practice 4

Questions 1 to 10 are based on the following passage.

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer A, B, C or D to fill in each blank.

Rice Planting

Have you ever wondered about the amount of hard work involved before we can get rice? For many of us, the rice that we get (0) _____ our plates is just a matter of washing the rice, putting it in a rice cooker and waiting for about half an hour.

Planting rice is not an easy (1) _____. Farmers have to do many things before we can get the white, clean rice onto our plates. Before planting the rice plants, a farmer has to prepare the field. He (2) _____ to make the bunds and plough the land. While he is getting the field ready for planting, he also has to prepare the seedlings (3) _____ he is going to plant later. He has to (4) _____ the paddy seeds onto the plot of land which is called a nursery. The nursery is usually (5) _____ the farmer's home. In the nursery, the seedlings will grow for about a month.



When the seedlings have grown to about ten centimetres high, they are then (6) _____ to the field which the farmer has ploughed. This is the time when the farmer has to ensure that there is the correct (7) _____ of water in the field. Too much or too little water may kill the plants.

The farmer will (8) _____ fertilisers on the young paddy plants after a few weeks. This is to make certain that the plants will grow well and produce a lot of paddy. If (9) _____ goes well, the paddy will be ready for harvesting in about three months. However, this (10) _____. Some varieties of paddy will take a longer time to ripen.

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|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0 A in | B on | C from | D with |
| 1 A task | B effort | C labour | D activity |
| 2 A has | B had | C have | D having |
| 3 A whom | B when | C where | D which |
| 4 A spray | B spread | C scatter | D stretch |
| 5 A in | B near | C within | D between |
| 6 A taken | B transferred | C transported | D transplanted |
| 7 A volume | B amount | C number | D quantity |
| 8 A spraying | B sprayed | C sprays | D spray |
| 9 A nothing | B anything | C something | D everything |
| 10 A varies | B diverges | C differs | D contrasts |