Section 3

DIANA: So, Tim, we have to (1) …… of our work experience on a farm

TIM: Right. My farm was great, but (2) …….. was hard.
One problem was it was miles away and I don't drive. And also, I'd really wanted a placement for a month, but I could only get one for two weeks.

DIANA: I was lucky, the farmer let me stay on the farm so I didn't have to travel.
But finding (3) …… to apply to wasn't easy

TIM: No, they don't seem to have websites, do they. I found mine through a friend of my mother's, but it wasn't easy

DIANA: No.

TIM: My farm was mostly livestock, especially sheep. I really enjoyed (4) ……... I was up most of one night helping a sheep (5) …….. …

DIANA: On your own?

TIM: No, the farmer was there, and he told me what to do. It wasn't (6) ……., but I managed. It was a great feeling to (7) ……. to its feet and start feeding almost straightaway, and to know that it was OK.

DIANA: Mm.

TIM: Then another time a lamb had broken its leg, and they got the vet in to set it, and he talked me through what he was doing. That was really useful.

DIANA: Yes, my farm had sheep too. The farm was in a valley and they had (8) …….. called Suffolks, although the farmer said they'd had other breeds in the past

TIM: So were they bred for their meat?

DIANA: Mostly, yes. They're quite (9) …….

TIM: My farm was (10) ……. and they had (11)……. sheep, they were Cheviots.

DIANA: Oh, I heard their wool's really sought after

TIM: Yes. It's very hardwearing and they use it for carpets

DIANA: Right.

TIM: I was interested in the amount of supplements they add to (12)…….. nowadays. Like, even the chickens got extra vitamins and electrolytes in their feed.

DIANA: Yes, I found that too. And they're not cheap. But my farmer said some are overpriced for what they are. And he didn't give them as (13) ……., just at times when the chickens seemed to particularly require them.

TIM: Yes, mine said the same. He said certain breeds of chickens might (14) ……. than the others, but the cheap and expensive ones are all basically the same.

DIANA: Mm

TIM: So did your farm have any other livestock, Diana?

DIANA: Yes, dairy cows. I made (15) ……. when I was working in (16) …….. Some cows had been treated with antibiotics, so their milk wasn't suitable for (17)

……, and it had to be put in (18) …….. But I got mixed up, and I poured some milk from the wrong cow in with the milk for humans, so the whole lot had to be thrown away. The farmer wasn't too happy with me.

TIM: I asked my farmer how much he depended on the vet to (19)……. I'd read reports that (20)…….. is being affected as farmers are (21)…….. Well, he didn't agree with that, but he said that actually some of the stuff the vets do, like minor operations, he'd be quite capable of doing himself.

DIANA: Yeah. My farmer said the same. But he reckons vets' skills are still needed.

DIANA: Now we've got to give a bit of feedback about last term's modules – (22) …….., apparently. Shall we do that now?

TIM: OK. So (23) ……..

DIANA: Well, my heart sank when I saw that, especially right at the beginning of the course. And I did struggle with it.

TIM: I'd thought it'd be hard, but actually I found it all quite straightforward. What did you think about (24) ……?

DIANA: OK, I suppose

TIM: Do you remember what they told us about pet food and the fact that there's such limited checking into whether or not it's contaminated? I mean in comparison with the checks on food for humans – I thought that was terrible.

DIANA: Mm. I think the module that really impressed me was the animal disease one, when we looked at (25) …… in different parts of the world, like camels and water buffalo and alpaca. The economies of so many countries depend on these, but scientists don't know much about the diseases that affect them.

TIM: Yes, I thought they'd know a lot about ways of (26) …… those diseases, but that's not the case at all.

I loved (27) …….. Things like helping birds that have been caught in oil spills. That's something I hadn't thought about before.

DIANA: Yeah, I thought I might (28) …… on something connected with that.

TIM: Right. So …