Part 4

Woman: Erik, you've recently returned from a cycle trip with your dad across the USA. Why did you want to do this ride?

Erik: I suppose the usual reason for doing something as mad as cycling five thousand kilometres in just (1)_____ is to make thousands of pounds for various (2)_____ . We certainly did that, and spent large amounts of time with each other too, which was wonderful. We decided to go, though, because we fancied doing something really different during the (3)_____.

Woman: What made you choose to go across the USA and not other countries?

Erik: We'd thought about going through Central Asia, but you need lots of different visas, all of which take ages to (4)_____. With the USA, there was none of that – one country means one visa. It's a shame that I didn't get to practise speaking any other languages, though. I'd wondered about how (5)_____ some of the cities would be, but they were fine.

Woman: How did you feel as you (6)_____?

Erik: I was expecting to be so keen to set off that I wouldn't be able to (7)_____. When the time arrived, though, my Dad and I both felt pretty calm, which I found quite amazing. I don't think either of us had any worries about not finishing the ride – we were very confident.

Woman: What was a typical day like?

Erik: Every day was different. Some were good and some were quite difficult, but all were good (8)_____. It wasn't actually how far we rode that made a day good or bad, it was more what happened. Having a long conversation with some of the (9)_____ seemed to make us even happier than feeling the sun on our faces.

Woman: And how did you and your dad get along?

Erik: We're always got on really well, so although we didn't agree about everything on the trip, we were always able to deal with any (10)_____, which didn't happen often. And although we spoke about a few of the things that are important to us, over the two months we learned it was OK to spend a few hours saying absolutely nothing, too.

Woman: And have you got plans for doing more cycling?

Erik: I'm in my final year at school now, and I need to do well to get to university, so it wouldn't be the best time for me to go cycling across (11)_____, or wherever. Rather than just going out on weekend rides, though, I'd much prefer to enter some (12)_____– over shorter (13)_____ of course! I've never tried that before.

Woman: Good luck, Erik!

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