UNIT 6: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

3. What problems do people experience when they learn your language?

no walk in the park	*real minefield*	*scratching their heads*	*worth the effort*

Honestly, the biggest headache is the pronunciation — the tones are a (1) _____, and one wrong pitch can change the meaning entirely. Then there's the slang and idioms, which can **leave** learners (2) _____. And of course, the writing system is (3) _____; memorising so many characters feels like climbing a mountain. So it's tricky, but that's what makes it (4)_____.

completely off track	*learning curve*	*trip most people up*	*walking a tightrope*

To be honest, the tones (1) _____— it's *like* (2) _____, where one slip changes the whole meaning. Then there's the slang, which can *throw you* (3)_____. And if you add the complex writing system into the mix, you've got quite *a steep* (4) _____.

entirely different	*feel lost in*	*nailing the pronunciation*	*nightmare to memorise*

I think the trickiest bit is (1) _____. The tones are unforgiving — one tiny mistake and you've said something (2) _____. Plus, our idioms don't always translate well, so learners can (3) _____ *conversation*. The characters are another story — they're beautiful but can be *a* (4) _____.

challenge in itself	*struggle with*	*stumbling block*	*tangled up in*

Most people (1) _____ the tones — they're a real (2) _____. Even advanced learners can get (3) _____ idioms or informal expressions. And, of course, the writing system is a (4) _____; it's not something you can master overnight.

no small feat	*out of their depth*	*packed with*	*walking through*

I'd say the biggest challenge is the *tonal system* — it's a bit like (1) _____ *a linguistic minefield*, where one wrong tone can change the meaning completely. On top of that, our idioms are (2)_____ cultural references, so even fluent speakers can feel (3) _____. And let's not forget the characters — they're stunning to look at, but memorising them is (4)_____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

at a loss	*biggest hurdles*	*deeply rewarding*	*good grasp of*
grappling with	*keeping up*	*linguistic tightrope*	*mix of*
over the long haul	*stumbling block*	*throw in*	*without a map*

Well, I'd say that one of the **(1)** _____ for people learning my language is mastering the pronunciation, because the tones can be a real **(2)** _____. A single slip in pitch can completely change the meaning of a word, so learners often feel as though they're ***walking a*** **(3)**_____.

Another common issue is **(4)** _____ idiomatic expressions and cultural references. Even if someone has a **(5)** _____ grammar and vocabulary, they can still find themselves **(6)**_____ ***for words*** when locals **(7)** _____ slang or figurative phrases.

On top of that, the writing system can be quite a tall order, especially for those whose first language uses a different script. Memorising hundreds, if not thousands, of characters can feel like ***climbing a mountain*** **(8)** _____.

And finally, I think many learners struggle with **(9)** _____ ***their momentum***. It's easy to start with enthusiasm, but sustaining that energy **(10)** _____ requires discipline, exposure, and, to be honest, a fair amount of *blood, sweat, and tears*.

So, in short, the challenges are *a* **(11)** _____ *linguistic complexity and cultural nuance*, which makes learning my language *both demanding and* ***(12)*** _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS