

# READING PRACTICE

## READING

### IN THIS UNIT YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO

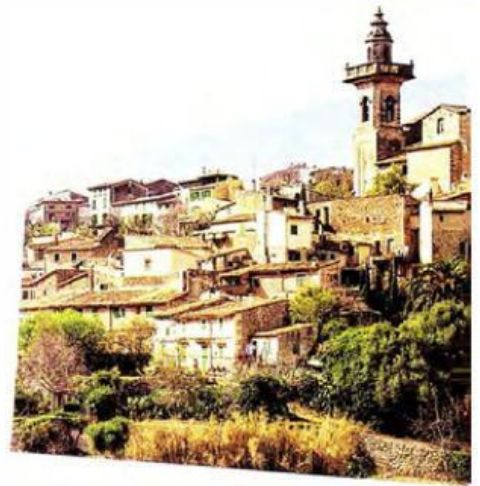
- deal with matching headings tasks
- identify the main idea of a paragraph
- understand the meaning of prefixes.

### LEAD-IN

- 01** Read the paragraph below about the island of Mallorca. With a partner, discuss why some of the underlined nouns are preceded by *the*, and others have no article. Do you know any other article rules for geographical features?

Mallorca, the biggest of the Balearic Islands, is situated in the Mediterranean Sea, some 300km from the Valencian coast of Spain, and is an exciting mix of urban energy, rural adventure and coastal calm. Although it isn't popular with the Spanish as a tourist destination, it annually welcomes people from all over Europe (particularly from the United Kingdom, France and Germany), who may head for Alcudia Beach, or go hiking in the Tramuntanas, a mountain range that runs from the northeast to the southwest of the island. The busy capital city, Palma de Mallorca, contrasts entirely with the traditional rural towns and villages in the heart of the island, such as Algaida or Binissalem.

- 02** Think of a geographical area in your country and write a short paragraph like the one above, paying special attention to the correct use of articles. Swap your paragraph with a partner and correct each other's work where necessary.



## MATCHING HEADINGS

- 03** Look at this title and discuss with a partner what you might expect to read in the passage.

### The World's Most Unusual Towns and Cities



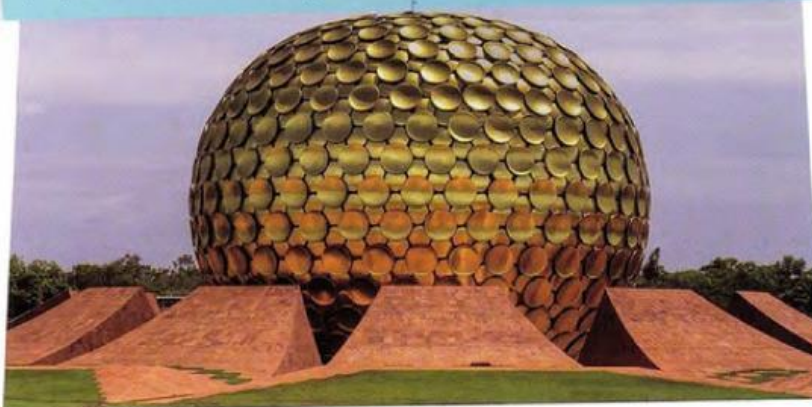
This type of task requires you to choose a heading which correctly summarises the whole paragraph. Often, it is possible to find one sentence in a paragraph which conveys the main idea – this is known as the *topic sentence*.

The topic sentence can frequently be found at the start of the paragraph, but can appear in the middle, or even at the end. Sometimes a paragraph may not have one single, clear topic sentence at all, and the main idea can only be understood by reading the paragraph in full.



- 04** Read the first sentence of a paragraph about the city of Auroville, India. It is the topic sentence. Which of the three options seems to be the most likely heading? Why?

In today's world of conflict, greed and constant struggles for power, Auroville – aka 'the City of Dawn' – claims on its website that it was planned and built to create the ultimate model of unity, peace and harmony that can be projected across all humanity.



- A The reason why attempts to create the perfect city always fail
- B An urban ideal designed for an imperfect world
- C A conflict between reality and imitation

- 05** Read the full paragraph and check your answer.

In today's world of conflict, greed and constant struggles for power, Auroville – aka 'the City of Dawn' – claims on its website that it was planned and built to create the ultimate model of unity, peace and harmony that can be projected across all humanity. It has no government, no one owns any property, and money rarely, if ever, changes hands. There is no leader and rules do not exist. While most experiments at creating the perfect city do not meet with success, the majority of Auroville's residents believe their city to be an exception. Although its critics point to the fact that levels of crime have been creeping up for some years now, its citizens choose to remain there, still believing in its utopian dream, still following its path towards a better world.

**TIP 05**

The heading you want will probably not use the same words as those which appear in the paragraph, but will paraphrase the ideas.

- 06** Read this opening sentence about Longyearbyen. Which heading seems to fit this sentence best?

Longyearbyen, Norway, holds the record for being the furthest north city in the world, boasting the world's most northerly school, airport and university.

- A An unwelcoming place to die
- B A city at the top of the world
- C An unusual approach to regulation

**TIP 06**

Be careful: sometimes the first sentence of a paragraph seems to fit entirely with one particular heading. However, don't be caught out – you still need to check by reading the whole paragraph.



- 07 Now read the full paragraph and think about the overall message of the paragraph. Which heading now best fits the paragraph?

Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen, in the Svalbard Archipelago of Norway, holds the record for being the furthest north city in the world, boasting the world's most northerly school, airport and university. But what really sets it apart is that it can also lay claim to some of the world's strangest rules. In Longyearbyen, for example, it has been forbidden to die since 1950, the year in which scientists discovered that bodies simply cannot decompose there – the cold is too extreme. To this day, anyone found ill or dying is not given the chance to pass away, and is instead immediately taken by airplane or ship to another part of Norway so that they can die and be buried safely. But it doesn't end there. Aside from prohibiting death, there are more peculiar rules and freedoms in Longyearbyen. Residents are permitted to openly walk the streets with high-powered guns (there are 3,000 polar bears living locally). At the same time, no one is allowed to own any cats, which are forbidden because they are a danger to the bird population.



- 08 Underline the main topic sentence in the paragraph.
- 09 Read the first sentence of the next paragraph about Marloth Park in South Africa. Find words or phrases that correspond to the underlined words in the headings A–C below.

Despite the fact the town of Marloth Park is close to the Kruger National Park, one of the largest game reserves in Africa, and despite the constant threat of visits from wild animals such as lions and hippopotamuses, its anxious residents are not allowed to build fences around their houses to keep out their neighbours.

- A An unusual approach to regulation
- B Dealing with the occasional dangers of the wild
- C Where humans and animals cautiously co-exist

- 10 Now focus on the adverbs and adjectives in the headings. Which heading is no longer a possible answer?
- A An unusual approach to regulation
- B Dealing with the occasional dangers of the wild
- C Where humans and animals cautiously co-exist

**TIP** 10

Pay particular attention to adjectives and adverbs in headings and texts, as they may help you to eliminate an incorrect heading immediately.



- 11 Read the rest of the paragraph and decide on your answer.

In fact the only fence permitted in the town was built by the local authority, interestingly, with the aim of keeping humans out of the park, rather than containing the animals inside. Consequently, it is not unusual to see giraffes or elephants causing traffic jams, for example, and even predator attacks on humans are unnervingly common – a lion was recently said to have mauled and eaten an escaping burglar. Yet even after this, while some residents then called for all lions to be rounded up and shot, others suggested that they be allowed to walk the thoroughfares as a type of crime control, after an increase in the number of burglaries. Everywhere in Marloth Park, a wary understanding exists between man and beast.

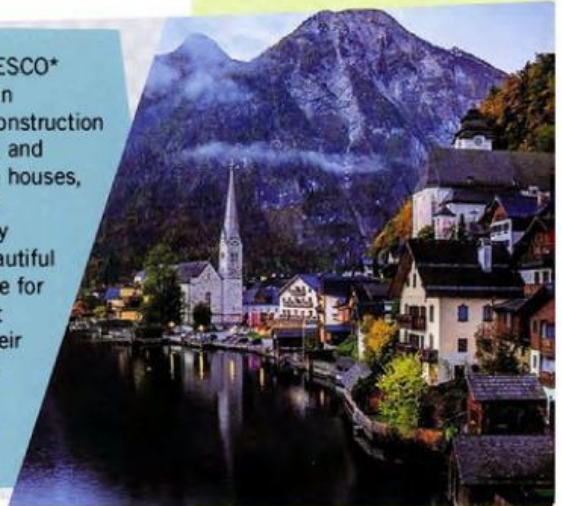


- 12 Identify the main topic sentence in the paragraph.

- 13 Some paragraphs have no clear topic sentence. Read this paragraph and make notes about its main idea.

The real Hallstat is in Austria and is proud to be a traditional UNESCO\* World Heritage Site. The Chinese Hallstat is a carbon copy, built in Guangdong province, China, by a millionaire who sponsored the construction of the imitation town. It cost approximately \$940 million to build, and looks exactly like the real Hallstat, all the way down to its wooden houses, its narrow streets, and its funicular railway. When the residents of Austria's Hallstat (including the mayor) were invited to visit it, they expressed pride that their town was considered so improbably beautiful that it had been reproduced in its entirety, but they still had cause for complaint. Originally, the Chinese company had promised to meet with the Austrian residents to confirm that they were happy for their homes to be copied; instead, they simply sent their employees to Austria to take photos, and they returned home to China without speaking to a single resident of the original Hallstat.

\* United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



- 14 Use your notes to help you choose the correct heading.

- A A conflict between reality and imitation
- B The importance of official recognition
- C The result of encouraging wider investment

#### PREFIXES

- 15 Identify the prefixes in the underlined words. Then work out a general meaning for each.

- A An unusual approach to regulation
- B An urban ideal designed for an imperfect world
- C Where humans and animals cautiously co-exist



- 16 With a partner, think of some words that begin with the prefixes in the box. Then discuss what the general meaning of each prefix is.

post- for-/fore- sub- multi- anti- mis- non- pre- over- under-

- 17 Using the correct prefixes from the box above, change the words in CAPITALS into the correct forms.

- A The tourist brochure for Marloth Park ensures that visitors are **WARN** about the wild animals they may encounter walking the streets.  
B One thing you can always be sure of in Longyearbyen – the cemeteries will never be **POPULATE**.  
C The residents of Hallstat believed that they would be consulted by the company building a copy of their town – but it turns out they were **INFORM**.  
D Auroville was founded according to a(n) **GOVERN** system of rules and beliefs.

## EXAM SKILLS

- 18 Read the passage and answer questions 1–6.

The Reading passage has six paragraphs, A–F. Choose the correct heading for each paragraph from the list of headings below. Write the correct number, i–viii.

- 1 Paragraph A \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Paragraph B \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Paragraph C \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Paragraph D \_\_\_\_\_  
5 Paragraph E \_\_\_\_\_  
6 Paragraph F \_\_\_\_\_


### List of headings

- i The benefits of collaboration  
ii A forerunner of the modern metropolis  
iii A period of intense activity and plans completed  
iv A clear contrast between then and now  
v The rise and mysterious decline of Cahokia  
vi An archaeological theory to explain Cahokia's development  
vii The light and dark of archaeological finds  
viii A city completely unlike any of its contemporaries

## CAHOKIA – ANCESTOR OF TODAY'S CAPITAL CITIES

A A thousand years ago the Mississippians, a diverse group of Native Americans who lived in the area which is today known as the south-eastern United States, took a small village on the Mississippi River and turned it into one of the world's first great urban centres. Cahokia, as it has been called by archaeologists, became as large as London was in the 11th century, and some would argue that it was just as forward-looking and prosperous as its European equivalents. Sophisticated, cosmopolitan and ahead of its time, Cahokia was at the heart of ancient society in North America; an ancestor of today's capital cities.





**B** In one respect in particular, Cahokia was quite unusual compared to other cities around at the same time. Archaeologists working on the site have found enough evidence over the past fifty years to conclude that, at a certain time, around 35% of the population were not from Cahokia at all; it seems that many of the tribes that lived all along the Mississippi River at some point began to relocate to Cahokia. These researchers have been unable to find more than a handful of other examples of such relocation of tribes, but they do know that something about Cahokia attracted thousands of people to this regional centre. And that, they postulated, appears to have been thanks to a small group of planners who one day decided to redesign the entire village.

**C** After the redesigns of the village were put in place, the Native Americans at Cahokia worked with tireless determination to carry them out. Over the course of a few decades, they transported huge volumes of soil from the nearby countryside to create 120 huge mounds of earth, the biggest of which rose to one hundred feet. On top of these, they built a vast urban environment, complete with a vibrant town centre, municipal buildings, and a fifty-acre plaza at the foot of the biggest mound. What makes it even more impressive to our modern imaginations is that, with no machinery then, they used their bare hands and woven baskets to dig up and carry the soil from the surrounding regions back to their city-in-waiting. Eventually, after these efforts, the vision of the city planners was fulfilled, but even they could not have predicted how popular Cahokia would become.

**D** From this period on, Cahokia was alive with intense activity, and grew in size every year, partly because of the co-operation between the residents. While the men busied themselves with manual work, like constructing new buildings, or hunting and fishing in the forests and rivers within a day's walk of the city, the women made sure that the fields stayed healthy and grew crops, and the homes were kept clean. In many ways, it seems to have been the ideal place to live, and one with an exciting and prosperous future ahead of it. And yet, having become a major population centre around AD 1050, by 1350 it had been almost completely abandoned. Somewhere in the course of 300 years, something happened to Cahokia to cause this, but it is an enigma that even archaeologists or historians themselves struggle to resolve.

**E** This rather curious state of affairs exists today because researchers have never found a single piece of evidence that can conclusively explain why the residents left. Academics who have studied other Native American sites have always found weapons of war buried deep underground. And yet, the bows, arrows and swords that littered the ground at these other sites were nowhere to be seen at Cahokia. Other factors, such as disease or colonisation from European invasion, do not seem to be possible in this case, as common as they were elsewhere at that time. The absence of definitive theories as to Cahokia's decline is highly unusual, but then again, Cahokia was no ordinary city and perhaps comparisons with other urban centres of the time cannot be made.

**F** While academics remain bemused as to why the residents fled the city, we can still marvel at the individual artefacts that archaeologists have discovered: the jewellery worn, the pots used to cook in, the small workshop at the base of one of the mounds. That said, there is also a more unpleasant side to their investigations. Human sacrifice, it seems, was a common fact of life in Cahokia; even if we cannot be sure whether this was for religious or for other reasons, we can have no doubt that it happened frequently. The bodies of hundreds of people, mostly young women, have been found buried in mass graves, and the way in which they died was often horrific. A sombre reminder that even 'advanced' city states had their shadowy sides.



# VOCABULARY PRACTICE

## Vocabulary: Describing people

Wordlist on page 211 of the Student's Book.

### 1 Match the words 1–12 to the definitions a–l.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1 artistic       | a keen to try new or exciting things                       |
| 2 supportive     | b a person who speaks a lot                                |
| 3 adventurous    | c does not easily get annoyed                              |
| 4 talkative      | d involving a lot of imagination and new ideas             |
| 5 sporty         | e a person who enjoys doing physical things                |
| 6 patient        | f thinking about the feelings and needs of other people    |
| 7 ambitious      | g <i>being good at things such as painting, music, etc</i> |
| 8 creative       | h determined to be rich, successful, etc                   |
| 9 considerate    | i working hard and carefully to do things well             |
| 10 conscientious | j someone who is sympathetic and you can rely on           |
| 11 helpful       | k someone you can trust                                    |
| 12 reliable      | l a person who is happy to help others                     |

### 2 Complete the sentences using an appropriate adjective from exercise 1.

- 1 My cousin is totally \_\_\_\_\_. She always does what she says she will do.
- 2 He's already extremely successful, but he's so \_\_\_\_\_ he wants to achieve more.
- 3 Nick's really \_\_\_\_\_. There's never a moment's silence.
- 4 My mother-in-law is very \_\_\_\_\_. She has exhibited her work in a local gallery.
- 5 They are always \_\_\_\_\_. They will go anywhere, do anything and eat anything!
- 6 Every week, she posts on Facebook about a race or competition she has taken part in. She's such a \_\_\_\_\_ person.
- 7 Thank you for being so \_\_\_\_\_. It really helped me at a difficult time.
- 8 My sister is very \_\_\_\_\_ with young children. She never gets angry or cross.
- 9 My brother is so \_\_\_\_\_. He doesn't just read stories to his children. He writes them as well.
- 10 I think I'm really \_\_\_\_\_. I always try to think about other people first.
- 11 If you want to be \_\_\_\_\_, you could take the dog for a walk.
- 12 They are very \_\_\_\_\_. They always do their homework and check the answers before giving it to the teacher.



3 Complete the sentences with the adjective form of the words in brackets.

- 1 My sister is a very \_\_\_\_\_ person. She always thinks about other people. (care)
- 2 She's so \_\_\_\_\_. She makes me laugh a lot. (humour)
- 3 They are a \_\_\_\_\_ team. I love watching them. (talent)
- 4 I love how \_\_\_\_\_ she is. She's the centre of attention at every party. (sociability)
- 5 My mother's very \_\_\_\_\_. She always does well in quizzes. (knowledge)
- 6 He never gets nervous. He's a very \_\_\_\_\_ presenter. (confidence)
- 7 She'll do anything to help anyone. She's such a \_\_\_\_\_ person. (generosity)
- 8 They are really not very \_\_\_\_\_. They are always late. (punctuality)

## LISTENING & READING PRACTICE

### Listening

#### Section 1

### 1.1 SECTION 1 Questions 1-10

#### Questions 1-6

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

#### Summer holiday camps

##### Example:

Junior camp: ages 5-10

Senior camp: ages 11-16

#### Senior camp

- 1 From ..... am to 6.00 pm (can also start at 7 am)
- 2 Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings: ..... activities
- 3 Tuesday and Thursday mornings: ..... activities
- 4 Weekday afternoons: .....
- 5 Optional trip to ..... : all day on first Wednesday
- 6 Family BBQ: every ..... evening

#### Questions 7-10

Complete the notes below.

Write **NO MORE THAN ONE WORD AND/OR A NUMBER** for each answer.

#### Booking and costs

You must book a 7 ..... in advance

Normal cost per child: 8 £ ..... per week

9 ..... per cent discount for each extra child

#### Personal details

Parent's name: Andrea

Parent's contact number: 10 .....



## READING PASSAGE

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 1–14, which are based on the Reading Passage below.

## Questions 1–7

The Reading Passage has eight paragraphs, A–H.

- Choose the correct heading for paragraphs B–H from the list of headings below.

## List of Headings

- i The personal impact of friendship
- ii The right amount and quality of friends
- iii Strong relationships with best friend
- iv What is friendship?
- v Communities aren't isolated
- vi Understanding ourselves
- vii Individual differences and the effect on community
- viii The decline of friendship
- ix New studies on friendship
- x Changes in the selection process

**Example:** Paragraph A      **Answer:** iv

- 1 Paragraph B
- 2 Paragraph C
- 3 Paragraph D
- 4 Paragraph E
- 5 Paragraph F
- 6 Paragraph G
- 7 Paragraph H

## What friends do we need?

- A** When Aristotle was asked, in the 4th century BC, what defines a friend, he had no doubts. A friend is 'one soul inhabiting two bodies,' he said, adding: 'Without friends no one would choose to live, though he had all other goods.' In this century, it is a little more complicated. A startling discovery in the *American Sociological Review* found 25 per cent of Americans do not have a single friend. That is, nobody 'with whom to discuss matters important to them,' said the researchers. The average number of friends was two. Yet modern demands on our time can take a deep toll on friendships.
- B** Two books aim to help us through the maze. *Vital Friends: The People You Can't Afford to Live Without* by Tom Rath, advises readers to evaluate the roles played by their friends, ensuring eight essential friendship types are represented. *Rethinking Friendship: Hidden Solidarities Today* by Liz Spencer and Ray Pahl looks at the different kinds of friendships in the internet age.
- C** Rath is a *New York Times* bestselling author, and leads research and consulting at Gallup. He analysed more than five million interviews to try to define what Plato said he never could: what is friendship? The result is *Vital Friends*, and it reaches startling conclusions. If you ask people why they became homeless, why their marriage failed or why they overeat, he says, they do not blame it on poverty or mobility; they blame it on a lack of friendships. If your best friend eats healthily, he discovered, you are five times more likely to have a healthy diet yourself. His interviewees rated friendship as being more than five times as important as physical intimacy in the success of a marriage. He also found patients with heart disease are twice as likely to die if they do not have three or four close social connections.





- D** Ray Pahl's *Rethinking Friendship* is based on in-depth interviews conducted over seven years. He finds the quality of our friendships has a huge influence on the amount of satisfaction we draw from life. 'Individuals with no real friends at work have only a one in 12 chance of feeling engaged in their job,' he says. But the quantity, as well as the quality of friends, does matter. Some people can have three or four close friends and be very happy, he believes. Others more extrovert prefer to have 10 or 15. But he is certain you need to have more than one friend to be satisfied in life. 'It is a very common mistake to expect one close friend to provide everything you need,' he says. 'And it can cause a lot of problems.'
- E** Dr Angela Carter, an occupational psychiatrist from Sheffield University, says: 'We are social animals. We need friends to hold a mirror up to us and show us what our behaviour looks like. They provide companionship and support, but the most important thing friends do is help us to work out who we are. Families cannot do that in the same way.' She has found people can struggle to find the friends that they need. 'We need to be quite strategic in our friendships. People think friends turn up from nowhere, and they grumble when they don't have any. You need to think, "What do I need from friends and am I being a good friend in return?"'
- F** In researching *Rethinking Friendship*, Pahl found little cause for the notion that society is becoming atomised and selfish. 'Friendship takes such a variety of different forms,' he says. 'I don't think people have fewer friends now. What is new is that in the past 50 years we have become more and more used to choosing friends, rather than accepting them as given.'
- G** Both authors did not find transient communities are all about networking and getting on. 'As people have learned to be consumers, maybe they have also learned to make choices among their friends,' says Pahl. 'But when people think about their close friends, those relationships are deep and trusting, not exploitative or self-seeking. People are probably loyal and decent, against what is cynically regarded as the current of the age.'
- H** So how many friends can one person reasonably support? 'I don't think it is useful or meaningful to put a number on it,' says Dr Carter. 'Psychologists use the term 'affiliation need', and society tells us we have a lot of it. In truth, some people need a lot of friends, others few.' 'It is fair to say, people with a more diverse and mixed group of friends have a more robust defence against the way the world works,' says Pahl. 'I don't want to be prescriptive, or the government will start saying that we need a Ministry of Mates. But if you can provide the circumstances for a more friendly society, then society will be happier and healthier.'

### Questions 8–11

Complete the sentences below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the passage for each answer.

- 8 A quarter of people from the USA are without a .....
- 9 People need ..... different types of friend in their group.
- 10 People blame problems in their lives on not having enough .....
- 11 The ..... of friendships and the number of friends is important.

### Questions 12–14

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the Reading Passage?

Write:

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information

**FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information

**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this

- 12 People don't find it easy to get the friendships they require.
- 13 Technology has changed friendship groups.
- 14 Everyone needs the same number of friends to be happy.