Test 1 Training Reading and Use of English • Part 6

In this part you:

- **read** a text with six sentences missing
- **choose** the correct sentence to fit each gap

1 Work with a partner. **Look at the kinds of words that can be useful in Part 6 in the *Remember!* box. Choose the best words and phrases to complete these sentences. Sometimes capital letters are needed.**

1 Nathan had a problem at football practice yesterday, as he hadn't got his sports kit with him. ....., he'd forgotten to tell his mum he'd be home late.

2 If you want to make an omelette, first beat some eggs together. ..... put some oil in a pan and heat it up.

3 My sister adores playing computer games. ..... is always first in line at the store whenever a new ..... comes out!

4 ..... I was really keen to try some dark chocolate, but ..... I found it tasted far too bitter for me.

5 Watching films on TV is great as it's so comfortable. ..... watching them at the cinema lets you see them as the director intended.

6 My older brother's a research assistant. He's ..... looking into the effects of certain medicines on different people.

7 Theo likes listening to really loud music in his bedroom. ..... seems to be a problem for his sister, as she doesn't share his musical tastes!

8 ..... Chloe doesn't usually enjoy classical music, she agreed to go to a concert with me.

Tip! Look for words and phrases that hold the text together, like pronouns and time words. These can give you important clues when deciding which sentences fit the gaps.

Remember!

Pronouns	Time expressions	Adding/ contrasting information
he / she / it that this one	after that next currently at first then	however on the other hand what's more besides this although

2 **What are the words and phrases doing in Questions 1–8? Which sentences:**

a tell us *what time* the writer is talking about? and

b *refer back* to something already mentioned? and

c add a *similar* or *contrasting* piece of information? and

3a **Read the following paragraph and choose the correct sentence (A, B or C) to fit the gap.**

People often talk about whether living in a city or in the countryside is better. Of course it rather depends on your lifestyle and the things you enjoy doing. If your favourite activity is shopping, say, then this may well restrict your choice. ..... And that can be quite hard to achieve without good public transport.

A It means that you're unlikely to be completely happy living miles from anywhere unless you've got easy access to a town.

B A home out in the countryside, on the other hand, might suit you.

C What's more, living in a city can bring all sorts of unexpected disadvantages, like noise and pollution.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Test 1 Exam practice — Reading and Use of English • Part 6

You are going to read an article about diamonds in space. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A–G** the one which fits each gap (**37–42**). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Tips! Read through each paragraph carefully. What is each one about?

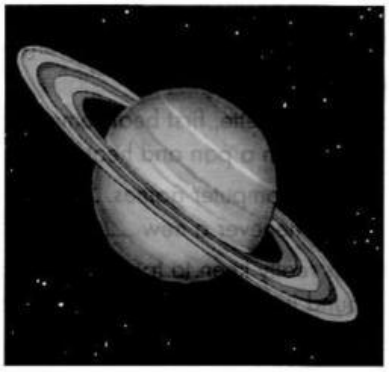
DIAMONDS IN THE SKY

We're probably all familiar with the feeling of walking out of the door, only to find the weather is miserable. Grey skies hang overhead, it's chilly and it's pouring down. **37** And believe it or not, this isn't the start of the latest science fiction story from a fantasy magazine.

Research by scientists indicates that's exactly what could be happening around planets like Jupiter and Saturn. There's evidence to suggest that the atmosphere surrounding these two huge planets could be filled with enormous – and priceless – diamonds. **38** However, the precious objects would have to be collected before they got too near to the planet's surface, as they might be melted by the temperatures there and the extreme pressure in the planet's atmosphere.

And the diamonds in question could be bigger than anyone has ever seen. Some may be not much more than a few centimetres across, which is still enough to make them very valuable. **39** However, others could have grown to reach a substantial size, which would pose significant problems for anyone trying to collect them.

For anyone interested in chemistry, the science behind the formation of these diamonds is interesting. Apparently, the diamonds may have been formed by storms, in which the flashes of lightning have transformed a gas called methane, present on Jupiter. **40** It is thought the process is due, among other things, to the intense heat of the lightning. The material then hardens into pieces of graphite – used in pencils – which in turn eventually becomes diamond – the hardest substance known to man.



Advice

37 What is this experience like? Pleasant or not so pleasant?

38 The paragraph is talking about collecting the diamonds. Why might scientists want to do that?

For scientists this has come as something of a surprise. It was previously thought that planets such as Uranus and Neptune might well contain precious stones, but it was believed that Jupiter and Saturn did not have suitable atmospheres. However, after more research into conditions on the two planets, scientists have agreed that diamonds could easily be raining down, on Saturn in particular. They are careful to point out, though, that closer to the planet the temperature is so extreme that the diamonds would be unable to remain in their solid form. **41** And because of the size of the planets, the quantity of diamonds there could be considerable.

Of course, no-one has been able to actually travel to either Saturn or Jupiter so far to confirm whether this theory is correct. **42** The same conditions have been recreated, putting liquid methane under intense pressure to observe the result. When intense heat was also applied, diamond dust was formed. Experts agree that such complex chemical reactions may well be taking place on these planets. In the meantime, writers and filmmakers will undoubtedly waste no time in using their imagination to incorporate the findings into fantasy films and books. And who knows – in years to come, scientific advances may mean that these stories no longer appear so fantastic after all!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A This is turned into carbon, which is the element that diamonds are made up of.

B There's even the possibility that they could be brought back here to earth one day.

C However, scientists have set up their own experiments in labs to replicate what may be happening on these gas giants.

D They could certainly be impressive enough to create an eye-catching piece of jewellery.

E It could even be that there's a sea of diamonds on the surface of the planet.

F That means the story may actually be less exciting than everyone imagines.

G But out in space, this experience might be much less unpleasant – because what would be falling might well be precious stones!

LIVEWORKSHEETS