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Task 1

- Read these quotes from interviews with primary and secondary teachers.
- Each quote has been cut into two. Your task is to match the two parts of the quotes.
- Write the letters (A-K) in the white boxes next to the numbers (1-7). An example (0) has been given for you.
- Remember there are two extra letters that you do not need.

BACK TO SCHOOL

THINGS YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER WON'T TELL YOU

- 0) *Teaching is a calling.*
- 1) I have parents who are CEOs* of their own companies coming in and telling me how to run my classroom.
 - 2) We can tell the difference between a parent helping their child with homework and doing it for them.
 - 3) Encourage your child to keep reading even if you yourself have no time for it.
 - 4) Teaching is not as joyful as it once was for many of us.
 - 5) Parents give their kids the pricey gadgets and clothes, but that's not what kids need.
 - 6) Nobody says "the dog ate my homework" any more, but we hear a lot of "I left it on the kitchen table."
 - 7) We wish parents would make their kids take responsibility for their actions.

*CEO: Chief Executive Officer

(Readers Digest, October 2009)

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A) That's the key to success in the classroom at any age.

B) Instead, some will try to pressure us to bend the rules.

C) *There's not a teacher alive who will say she went into this for the money.*

D) This will help you deal with conflicts in the coming school year.

E) I would never think of going and telling them how to do their jobs.

F) Disrespectful students and belligerent parents can be very frustrating.

G) What they really crave is for you to talk to them. They want to know you are interested in their lives.

H) However, parents and teachers are really on the same side.

I) And then Mom will send in a note to back up the excuse.

K) Especially when they are clueless in class the next day.

0)	C
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Task 2

- Read this article about an unusual way of publishing poems and then read the sentences (8-14) following it.
- Mark a sentence A if it is true according to the article.
- Mark it B if it is false.
- Mark it C if there isn't enough information in the text to decide if the sentence is true or not.
- Write your answers in the white boxes next to the numbers as in the example (0).



POET HIJACKS ATLANTA STREETS WITH HAIKU* ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Artist satirises roadside adverts by nailing his poetry to traffic lights and streetlamps across the city

Artist John Morse has been peppering Atlanta's road intersections with haikus, nailing his poetry to traffic lights and streetlamps in an attempt to provide commuters with "poetic snapshots of the urban condition".

Mimicking the usual advertisements for weight loss and health insurance, Morse's poems began appearing throughout the city last month. From the advice: "Lose ugly weight fast!!/ Feel Happier! Healthier!/ Dump your bigotry" to: "Meet local singles!!/ Easy: stand near others/ Hang up your cell phone" and: "Free debt counselling/ Take the important first step/ Beware signs like these", the artist has written 10 different haikus, printed 50 copies of each and placed them at 500 locations across Atlanta.

"People read these bandit signs. They'll read them if it's about an electrician or they'll read them if it's about anything", explained Morse. "So if they read it and they like it, great, if they read it and they don't like it, great. But the fact is they'll read it, they're going to read my poetry and that's my goal.

"There's a great deal of bad in the world, and one of the few things that helps endure the cruelties of the world is art," he said. "A little bit of art can do a great deal of good. And I want to spend my life doing something good ... Will it be good? I don't know. But I'm going to try."

Backed by artist support group Flux Projects, which says the signs offer "compact observations and commentary on modern life", the Roadside Haiku initiative is scheduled to run until the end of October. The haikus haven't been welcomed by everyone, however: Peggy Denby of Keep Atlanta Beautiful described them as "litter on a stick" and told local news site wsbtv.com there would be fines if they weren't taken down.

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk>, September 2010)

*haiku: short poem

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0) *John Morse's poems can be read at crossroads in Atlanta.*

8) The haikus are mostly about beauty spots around the city.

9) The poet makes his haikus resemble typical advertisements.

10) The idea for this campaign came to Morse years ago.

11) The same haikus appear at various places in the city.

12) Morse is not sure people will read his poems.

13) It is Morse's belief that art has a social impact.

14) Flux Projects has backed similar initiatives in the city.

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Task 3

- In this article, which compares British and French attitudes to health, some phrases are missing.
- Your task is to fill in the gaps (15-25) from the list (A-O) below.
- Write the letters into the white boxes next to the numbers as in the example (0).
- Remember that there are two extra letters that you do not need.

A CURIOUSLY FRENCH COMPLAINT

When I was a student, living in Avignon in the south of France, I remember waking up one morning shortly before Christmas, feeling shivery and as if someone had spent the night (0) _____.

After a couple of days of wheezing and coughing, I took myself to the doctor and explained that I was feeling a bit ropery. One hour later I had been diagnosed with (15) _____, mild asthma and had in my hand a prescription for six different types of medicine, an appointment at the local hospital's radiology department and an emergency referral to (16) _____.

The next day I flew home to the UK for the Christmas holidays where my worried parents persuaded me to visit their local GP (17) _____. After five minutes in his consulting room, I emerged empty-handed but (18) _____. I had a cold.

I am not suggesting that the French are a nation of hypochondriacs but they do (19) _____ very seriously. Now they are 'Anglicising' the system, turning away from the indulgent "There, there" approach and moving towards a much more 'Get along with you now' (20) _____. It is not going down well: patients are deeply disappointed if they do not get a prescription after a visit to the doctor.

French malady

There is one disease that only the Gallic (21) _____, and in fact it is one of the illnesses French people complain about most. Correct me if I am wrong, but have you ever heard a British person complain they are suffering from 'heavy legs'? Fascinated by a malady to which British people appear immune, I went to my local pharmacy in Paris and asked the smiling young chemist if she could advise me on (22) _____. "Oh, bad luck," she said indicating two entire shelves of pills and potions. "Do you get heavy legs in the winter too? I only suffer from them in the summer."

Emergency treatment

A couple of years back, while skiing in the Alps after a tiring stint in Afghanistan (23) _____, I noticed my legs were covered in small red spots and I was feeling lethargic. Could I finally have contracted the elusive heavy leg syndrome? "No!" said the alarmed French doctor, "you have a tropical illness and you need to go straight to hospital." Laughing to myself at the typical Gallic solicitousness, I popped a Paracetamol and headed straight (24) _____.

Two days later, delirious with fever and covered in enormous black lumps, I was lying in the isolation unit of a London hospital, (25) _____ what my test results would reveal.

Alarmed by my cries, a masked nurse popped her head around the door. "Oh for goodness sake," she said brusquely. "Anyone would think you were dying. You've only got suspected leprosy."

(BBC NEWS, 13/12/2008)

[illegible]

- A) a specialist in pulmonary disease
- B) howling in pain and terrified of
- ☒ C) *sandpapering my throat*
- D) appear to be affected by
- E) remedies for heavy legs
- F) a severe lung infection
- G) stiff upper lip attitude
- H) with a new diagnosis
- I) reporting for the BBC
- K) for a second opinion
- L) get signed off work
- M) back to the slopes
- N) reassure patients
- O) take their health

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Task 4

- Read this article about the winner of a TV quiz and then read the sentences (26-30) following it.
- Your task is to decide which of the options A, B, C or D best completes each sentence based on what the text says.
- Write the letters in the white boxes next to the numbers as in the example (0).

THE QUIZ QUEEN WHO MADE THEM TREMBLE



The quiz master called it an “intellectual blitzkrieg” after Gail Trimble of Corpus Christi College, Oxford led her team to victory in the grand final of the University Challenge competition. Hailed as the brainiest woman on British television, the postgraduate classics student became a cult figure last week, with commentators divided over whether she was to be praised for her brilliance or denounced as “horribly smug”.

Laughing excitedly, Trimble, 26, repeatedly slammed her buzzer to address questions ranging from literature to science. Possibly the contest’s most successful ever contestant, she scored more right answers than any other participant – getting right over two thirds of all the questions. (“Which of Shakespeare’s plays is the only one to be set in Vienna and concerns the city’s Duke adopting a disguise?” “Measure for Measure.” “Which German bacteriologist gave his name to a shallow glass or plastic cylindrical dish that biologists use to culture cells?” “Petri.” “The name of the kingdom that according to Aristophanes was built by birds?” “Cloud Cuckoo Land.” etc.)

Tiny Corpus Christi College triumphed over Manchester University but it was the beating the team gave to Exeter University in the quarter final – described by the stunned question master as “less a quiz, more a cull” – that first brought the Trimble phenomenon to public attention.

Not all reaction has been pleasant, though. There have been some nasty comments, and she has been ridiculed on social networking sites for being too intellectual. Miss Trimble – bespectacled with long brown hair and a beaming smile – said she had been taken aback by the hostility after experiencing no such problems at school or university. Asked if she thought there was an element of sexism in it she said: “I’m sure this wouldn’t happen if I wasn’t a woman.”

Trimble, whose mother was a magistrate and father a BT manager, gained four A-levels at A grade and was always a brainbox. “I seemed to find school a lot easier than other people – I realised I was a bit different because my classmates were always asking for help with their homework.”

But there’s a lighter side too. She likes cooking, gin and tonic and The Simpsons* – and has a boyfriend of five years, Tom West, a trainee solicitor. Nonetheless, it’s not always easy having a massive brain. “I’ve had lots of issues about my self image – I try really hard not to come across as too clever.”

(The Sunday Times 01.03.2009)

* The Simpsons: humorous television cartoon programme

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20) The phrase “intellectual blitzkrieg” here means

- A) an intellectual disaster.
- B) ~~an intellectual triumph.~~
- C) University Challenge.
- D) the winner of the quiz.

0)	B
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26) Media reactions to Gail Trimble’s achievement were

- A) mixed.
- B) unanimous.
- C) mostly positive.
- D) mostly negative.

26)		
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27) What put Trimble above other quizzers was her

- A) background as a classical scholar.
- B) vast knowledge and fast recall.
- C) speed in slamming the buzzer.
- D) exceptional brain for a girl.

27)		
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28) From the quarter final on Trimble received a lot of publicity

- A) and she enjoyed it tremendously.
- B) and she was surprised by some of it.
- C) but she shrugged off nasty comments.
- D) but she took no interest in what people said.

28)		
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29) Trimble, who comes from a family of professionals,

- A) was a high achiever at school.
- B) looked down on less fortunate kids.
- C) was considered different by her mates.
- D) had problems at school despite her brain.

29)		
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30) It seems that

- A) Trimble and her boyfriend share many interests.
- B) her boyfriend, Tom West, is as brilliant as she is.
- C) Trimble doesn’t want others to find her too brainy.
- D) she is good at simple things such as cooking, too.

30)		
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This is the end of this part of the exam.

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