

READING PART NINE / QUESTIONS 50–64

15 POINTS / 1 POINT PER QUESTION

Read **the article** about buried treasure.For questions **50–64**, choose the correct answer: **A**, **B** or **C**.

BURIED TREASURE

What if we told you that you have nine opportunities to find real buried treasure across the United States? If you would like to join the search, there's a **50** _____ book full of clues to help you. Called *The Secret*, the book includes 12 puzzles, each leading to hidden treasure.

The man behind *The Secret* was a writer named Byron Preiss, who buried 12 boxes in 12 different states in 1982. Each box is buried about two feet deep **51** _____ the ground, and inside is a key that can be exchanged for a jewel (worth about \$1,000 in 1982). Each puzzle in the book **52** _____ a drawing and a cryptic* poem, which together lead to the place with the buried treasure.

The aim of Preiss' project was **53** _____ a lot of copies of the book. It worked. When the book was first published, the treasure hunt was **54** _____ popular and people bought hundreds of thousands of copies. Preiss had believed that

the treasure would be found really **55** _____ and people would not have much trouble solving his puzzles. **56** _____, he was wrong. To this day, only three of the 12 boxes **57** _____. Three teenagers found the first box in Chicago just one year after Preiss published *The Secret*. Then nothing happened for 21 years. A second box was found in Cleveland in 2004, but by then most people had given up. It seemed **58** _____ to solve the puzzles: they were just too difficult.

Some years later, a TV company made a programme about the almost-forgotten challenge. People got excited and the book **59** _____ again, even though the challenge is even more difficult today. People **60** _____ want to find the treasures must not only study the clues left by Byron Preiss, but also connect the clues to a world that has changed a lot since 1982. You can be sure that **61** _____ is not easy to find them now. Nevertheless, a third box was found just **62** _____ months ago by a family in Boston.

Nine treasure boxes still wait. Will anyone **63** _____ find them? Some may be lost forever, buried under new roads or houses. We cannot know for sure because Byron Preiss died in a car accident 15 years ago, taking the answers with him. No one now **64** _____ the locations of the treasure, and only the clues in the book remain.

*cryptic – tajemný, šifrovaný





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|-----------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 50 | A whole | B enclosed | C total |
| 51 | A in | B of | C to |
| 52 | A contacts | B consists | C contains |
| 53 | A sell | B to sell | C sold |
| 54 | A much | B such | C very |
| 55 | A quick | B quicker | C quickly |
| 56 | A Although | B However | C Despite |
| 57 | A was discovered | B have been discovered | C have discovered |
| 58 | A hopeful | B impossible | C useful |
| 59 | A published | B was published | C was publishing |
| 60 | A which | B who | C whose |
| 61 | A --- | B it | C there |
| 62 | A a few | B a little | C couple |
| 63 | A be able to | B can | C manage |
| 64 | A doesn't know | B hasn't known | C knows |