MATURA DWUJĘZYCZNA

JĘZYK ANGIELSKI

KROK DALEJ…

BEATA KUREC ENGLISH SCOOL

978-83-68708-04-2

SPIS TREŚCI

A GAP FILLING

Read the texts 1-10 and fill in each gap (1–4) with one word only.
The texts must be logical and correct in both grammar and spelling.
Write the missing word in the space provided.

TEXT 1

Two flying cars have just had a mid-air collision in China, causing one to **1**. ———————— fire when it hit the ground. The incident, which reportedly left one person injured, took place during a rehearsal for the Changchun Air Show in the north-eastern Jilin Province. The Xpeng Aero flying cars, or electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) vehicles, crashed into each other **2**. ———————— to "insufficient spacing" in the sky, according to a company statement. "All personnel at the scene are said to be safe, and local authorities have completed on-site emergency measures in an orderly manner," the statement read. However, CNN reported that an unnamed company employee **3**. ———————— revealed that one of the pilots sustained minor injuries. Videos on social media show one of the flying cars in flames, with smoke billowing from it **4**. ———————— crashing to the ground at the airfield.

TEXT 2

On 20 September 1920, thirteen-year-old Armenian refugee Yervant Cholakian was **1**. ———————— with trachoma during a medical inspection at Ellis Island and separated from his mother for further examination at the island's hospital. At the time, trachoma was **2**. ———————— as one of the "loathsome" and "dangerous" contagious diseases that could **3**. ———————— to deportation under the Immigration Act of 1891. In the decades following the Act, U.S. immigration policy became **4**. ———————— restrictive, particularly toward Asian nationals, although European immigrants were not yet subject to numerical quotas, despite literacy requirements for those over sixteen.

TEXT 3

Born in 1815 into a family that had longed for a son, Elizabeth Cady Stanton grew up determined to challenge the belief that women **1**. ———————— intellectually inferior. She **2**. ———————— a leading force behind the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention and authored the Declaration of Sentiments, helping to shape the foundations of the American women's rights movement. Her ideas, however, went beyond suffrage to include bold critiques of marriage, religion, and women's legal status, most notably in The Woman's Bible. Her legacy remains complex. During Reconstruction, she voiced racial prejudices when Black men were enfranchised before women, which has cast a shadow over her achievements. Nevertheless, Stanton's intellectual productivity and activism - pursued **3**. ———————— raising seven children - underscore **4**. ———————— the breadth of her influence and the contradictions within her life.

TEXT 4

To **1**. ———————— International Women's Day, Boots pharmacists are hosting a pop-up event in St Giles on March 8, offering free Health MOT checks and expert advice. The 15-minute assessment, available to people aged 40 and **2**. ————————, includes a blood pressure test-an important screening given that many individuals live with undiagnosed hypertension, which often presents no symptoms. Beyond the event, Boots pharmacies provide accessible healthcare support, **3**. ———————— walk-in consultations with trained professionals and treatment for minor conditions without appointments. With over 1,000 locations across the UK, many open evenings and weekends, the initiative encourages women to prioritise their health and **4**. ———————— professional guidance whenever needed.

TEXT 5

The Last Stronghold: An Epic Medieval Adventure is an immersive VR exhibition arriving in Shepherd's Bush, offering visitors a historically accurate journey to Carcassonne in 1304. **1**. ———————— than a standard virtual reality session, the experience combines cinematic storytelling **2**. ———————— scholarly research to recreate the fortified medieval city as it appeared before 19th-century restorations altered its structure. Developed in collaboration with the Centre des Monuments Nationaux and leading historians, the 45-minute experience **3**. ———————— participants to explore the streets and ramparts of the UNESCO-listed city freely. Guided by a fictional Northern lord **4** ————————. Simon, visitors encounter elements of daily medieval life, including swordsmanship and fortress defence, in an educational yet highly interactive setting designed for both families and history enthusiasts.

TEXT 6

Laurence des Cars has **1**. ———————— as president of the Louvre, months after a high-profile robbery exposed serious security failings at the Paris museum. In October, a gang stole €88 million worth of Napoleonic jewellery from the Apollo Gallery in a seven-minute raid, escaping through a window after using a furniture lift. Although several suspects have been arrested, the stolen items - including pieces linked to Napoleon I and Napoleon III - have not been **2**. ————————. Des Cars, appointed in 2021, admitted to significant security shortcomings, including inadequate external camera coverage. Her resignation followed mounting criticism and a parliamentary inquiry that described the Louvre as a "state within a state" marked by systemic failures and chronic underestimation of security risks. Reports **3**. ———————— that by 2024, fewer than 40% of the museum's rooms were equipped with CCTV, despite annual visitor numbers exceeding 8 million. The scandal, compounded by a separate ticket fraud investigation, has intensified calls for **4**. ———————— reforms and modernisation at the world's largest museum.

TEXT 7

Chocolate theft has become a **1**. ———————— problem in UK shops, with retailers locking high-value bars, such as Cadbury Dairy Milk, in transparent boxes to deter thieves. The Association of Convenience Stores reports that chocolate is increasingly sold on illegally, attracting organised offenders. Police forces, including West Midlands and Wiltshire, have shared CCTV footage of individuals stealing large quantities, and in Cambridgeshire a man was **2**. ———————— with a coat full of Cadbury Creme Eggs. The British Retail Consortium recorded 5.5 million shoplifting incidents last year, alongside 1,600 daily incidents of **3**. ———————— against staff. Retailers such as Sainsbury's, Tesco, and Co-Op have implemented security measures, including locked displays and AI surveillance. Shop owners report substantial losses, sometimes hundreds of pounds per week, with chocolate now a key target for organised crime. Measures include half-filling shelves, limiting promotions, and **4**. ———————— CCTV coverage to curb theft and protect staff.

TEXT 8

Modern smartphones increasingly shape how we remember the world through advanced camera processing. Even simple photos **1**. ———————— complex AI-driven adjustments before **2**. ————————saved, enhancing colour, sharpness, and detail. Some features, however, go beyond enhancement into fabrication: for example, Samsung's "100x Space Zoom" produces Moon photos with craters and shadows that aren't actually captured by the lens, using AI trained to recognise and fill in details. This phenomenon, known as computational photography, involves algorithms predicting how a scene **3**. ———————— look with better equipment, often creating images that differ from reality. While most AI enhancements aim to improve image quality while maintaining authenticity - and users can usually disable them - algorithms still automatically manipulate photos in subtle ways, **4**. ———————— questions about whether cameras document the world or reinterpret it.

TEXT 9

The surge in global data production is straining traditional storage systems, which consume huge amounts of energy and **1**. ———————— to emissions. Researcher Peter Kazansky discovered that femtosecond lasers can create nanostructures -"whirlpools" of light - inside glass that store information at scales smaller than the wavelength of light. This "memory crystal" technique could offer an energy-efficient solution for storing infrequently accessed "cold data," such as archives and backups. With data expected to **2**. ———————— 394 trillion zettabytes annually by 2028, conventional hard drives and magnetic tape require continuous power, cooling, and replacement. Glass-based storage, along **3**. ———————— emerging DNA storage, presents a promising alternative to **4**. ———————— the environmental and logistical challenges of the digital age.

TEXT 10

As the clocks go back and evenings darken, many people experience lower energy, **1**. ———————— concentrating, or fatigue - symptoms associated with Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), or "winter depression." For **2**. ———————— cases, the NHS recommends consulting a GP, but milder symptoms can be managed with practical strategies. Psychologists suggest accepting the body's natural need for rest in winter, slowing down, and adopting "active dormancy" - mixing restful activities **3**. ———————— knitting, cooking, or repairing clothes with mentally engaging tasks. Embracing winter's unique opportunities, such as walks, ice skating, or movie nights, can also improve mood. Social interaction is important: plan activities with friends and loved ones in **4**. ———————— to maintain connections and boost spirits. Simple lifestyle habits - regular sleep, moderate alcohol, balanced diet - support healthy circadian rhythms and overall wellbeing, helping to navigate darker months with energy and positivity.

B MULTIPLE CHOICE

Read the texts 1-10, for questions 1–5, choose the word or phrase which fits best in each gap. Circle the appropriate letter (A, B, C or D).

TEXT 1

The exhibition *Star Power* at the National Portrait Gallery re-examines the artistic **1**. ——— of George Hurrell, the photographer who helped construct the visual mythology of Golden Age Hollywood. Active **2**. ——— in the 1930s and 1940s, Hurrell became MGM's head portrait photographer and transformed studio publicity images into works of high aesthetic ambition. The exhibition gathers 20 meticulously composed black-and-white portraits of film luminaries such as Joan Crawford, Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, and Myrna Loy, whose personas he elevated to near-mythic proportions. Hurrell's signature lay in his virtuosic manipulation of light and shadow, sculpting faces with dramatic contrasts that **3**. ——— both intimacy and grandeur. His portraits did not merely document celebrity; they constructed it. By orchestrating gesture, expression and atmosphere with almost cinematic precision, he **4**. ——— not just physical beauty but magnetism, self-possession and theatrical intensity. The resulting images offered audiences an idealised yet compelling vision of stardom - figures at once unattainable and irresistibly human. Decades later, his work **5**. ——— emblematic of Hollywood's golden era, demonstrating how photography can shape cultural memory as powerfully as film itself.

Adapted from: https://www.smithsonianmag.com

1.A decline 1.B legacy 1.C lasting 1.D slide	2.A essential 2.B primarily 2.C most and all 2.D first and all	3.A conveyed 3.B conveys 3.C have communicated 3.D had transmitted
4.A were to nick 4.B had caught 4.C has seized 4.D captured	5.A abide 5.B had remained 5.C dwell 5.D remains	

TEXT 2

A recent study has reshaped understanding of a prehistoric mass grave discovered decades ago at Gomolava in present-day Serbia. Published in Nature Human Behaviour, the research suggests that around 800 BCE, during the early Iron Age, women and children were **1**. ——— targeted in a violent massacre. One burial pit contained the remains of 77 individuals, making it one of Europe's largest single-event prehistoric mass graves. Earlier theories proposed that disease caused the deaths, but modern DNA, isotope and trauma **2**. ——— found no evidence of infection. Instead, the data revealed that nearly 70 percent of the victims were babies, children or adolescents, and about 71 percent of those whose sex could be **3**. ———, were female. Many skeletons showed severe head injuries inflicted at close range, indicating intentional killing. The massacre occurred during a time of regional upheaval, when migrating cultural groups competed over land. Researchers suggest the killings **4**. ——— symbolic or intended as a warning to rival communities. Interestingly, the burial itself appears respectful: the bodies were interred with jewellery, animal remains and ritual offerings, possibly by a group different from the perpetrators. Although the full story may never be known, the findings provide important insight **5**. ———violence and social conflict in Iron Age Europe.

Adapted from: https://www.smithsonianmag.com

1.A on consciously 1.B purpose 1.C intentional 1.D deliberately	2.A analysed 2.B analyses 2.C analyse 2.D analyst	3.A determine 3.B determined 3.C to determined 3.D determining
4.A must not be 4.B might not be 4.C may have been 4.D could be	5.A with 5.B into 5.C about 5.D in	

TEXT 3

Long before the internet **1**. ——— viral food challenges, competitive overeating already fascinated spectators. Throughout history, gluttony has often been transformed from a vice into a public spectacle - complete with wagers, trophies and cheering crowds. In the 17th century, English farmer Nicholas Wood

2. ——— fame as the "Great Eater of Kent." According to poet John Taylor, Wood could consume 60 eggs and a quarter of a lamb in a single meal and once reportedly devoured seven dozen rabbits at one sitting. Nobles gathered to watch him eat at fairs, betting on the limits of his appetite. By the end of his life, he **3**. ——— nearly all his teeth - many sacrificed, legend claims, while chewing through bones. Centuries later, organized eating contests formalized such excess. In 1972, Nathan's Famous launched its first Hot Dog Eating Contest at Coney Island. The inaugural winner managed 14 hot dogs in three and a half minutes. Since then, records have soared. In 2021, Joey Chestnut consumed 76 hot dogs in ten minutes, securing the contest's famed Mustard Belt with a precise technique: break, dunk, swallow, breathe. Overindulgence also inspired social clubs. In the late 19th century, "Fat Men's Clubs" admitted only men weighing over 200 pounds. These organizations celebrated size with **4**. ——— banquets featuring oysters, roasted meats, puddings and ice cream - turning body weight into both membership requirement and badge of honour. Even ice cream became competitive. In 1976, Chicago's Doctor Jazz Ice Cream Parlor hosted a sundae-eating contest won by local resident Hy Polansky, who consumed three gallons of ice cream with toppings in just 20 minutes. His secret, he claimed, was simple: lifelong practice. From rural fairs to modern arenas, competitive eating has long blurred the line between **5**. ———, entertainment and excess.

Adapted from: https://www.smithsonianmag.com

1.A has amplified 1.B amplified 1.C amplifies 1.D to be amplify	2.A had to be earned 2.B earned 2.C has earned 2.D would earned	3.A was lost 3.B had lost 3.C would lose 3.D has lost
4.A elaborately 4.B elaborateness 4.C elaborate 4.D elaborating	5.A tenacious 5.B strengthen 5.C persistent 5.D endurance	

TEXT 4

One of America's most accomplished alpine skiers, Lindsey Vonn, recently revealed that a devastating crash left her facing a life-threatening complication that nearly cost her leg. After competing despite a torn ACL, she fractured her leg in multiple places - and **1**. ——— developed compartment syndrome, a rare but dangerous medical condition. Compartment syndrome occurs when swelling or bleeding within a muscle compartment -an area enclosed by tough connective tissue called fascia - creates extreme internal pressure. Because fascia does not easily **2**. ———, rising pressure can restrict blood flow. Without oxygen, tissue and nerves may begin to die **3**. ——— as little as four to eight hours. In severe cases, the condition becomes limb-threatening and may even require amputation. The syndrome most often follows major trauma, such as fractures of long bones, and is more likely after high - impact injuries like ski crashes.