3 USE OF ENGLISH

Open cloze

This task consists of a text in which there are several gaps (plus one gap as an example). The answer will always be **a single word** with the focus on grammar and vocabulary. In some cases, there may be more than one possible answer.
Before you fill a gap, decide whether the missing word is a noun, an adjective, an adverb, a verb or a particle. Remember that the missing word will sometimes need to be plural, sometimes need to be negative. Read the whole sentence to check.

1. Complete the texts with one word in each gap. The first one (0) has been done for you.

A. Education in Britain

When children are two or three years old, they sometimes (0) *go* to a nursery school (1) _____ they learn simple games and songs. Their first real school is called (2) _____ primary school. In Britain children start this school at the age of five. The academic year in Britain begins in September and (3) _____ divided into three terms. Schools break (4) _____ for the summer holiday in July. Secondary education begins at the age of about eleven, and most schools (5) _____ this level are co-educational, which means boys and girls study (6) _____ in the same classes. In Britain, education is compulsory from five to sixteen years (7) _____ age but many children choose (8) _____ remain at school for another two or three years after 16 to take higher exams. Most children go to state schools, (9) _____ are maintained by (10) _____ government or local education authorities, but some children go to private schools, which can be very expensive. University courses normally last three years and then students graduate, which means (11) _____ receive a degree. At university teaching is (12) _____ tutorial, seminar, lecture and of course private study. Most people (13) _____ receive a university place (14) _____ given a grant to help pay their fees and living expenses.

B. The Spirit of Scotland

The northernmost part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain (0) *is* Scotland, a land of great beauty (1) _____ character. Lochs, moors and mountains dominate the imposing landscape. (2) _____ country's past is rich (3) _____ turbulence and romance, and many legends and folklore (4) _____ come down to us.

Kenneth MacAlpin is sometimes called the first king of Scotland but strictly speaking the first king of a more (5) _____ less united Scotland was Malcolm II (1005–1034). (6) _____ century later, David I, known (7) _____ the "Sair Sanct", had almost bankrupted the country with the building of the great abbeys at Holyrood, Melrose, Kelso, Dryburgh and Jedburgh.

By the end of the 13th century Scotland (8) _____ becoming more fully under the control of England. (9) _____ the sudden death of Alexander III in 1286, 13 different people laid claim to the Scottish throne. Edward of England, (10) _____ was determined (11) _____ unite Scotland and England, was called upon to choose the new king, and he selected John Balliol, having (12) _____ assured of the latter's support. However, in 1295 John Balliol revolted, and the next year Edward seized Scotland for himself.

Then began a period of resistance against (13) _____ English, known for its brave freedom fighters. William Wallace was one of Scotland's first heroes (portrayed by Mel Gibson in the 1995 film *Braveheart*), closely followed (14) _____ Robert the Bruce, who had a claim to the Scottish throne because he was related to David I.

C. Chimpanzees Can Learn

Scientists (0) *have* known for many years chimpanzees are (1) _____ of the most intelligent animals. They have (2) _____ taught to use simple tools (3) _____ as the brush, the cup, the hammer, and the spoon.

(4) _____ recent experiments with chimpanzees, scientists have taught (5) _____ sign language. One young chimp (6) _____ 40 different signs (7) _____ specific subjects (8) _____ understood some language concepts such (9) _____ adjective, adverb, and verb.

Another experiment showed that (10) _____ chimpanzee can form a kind (11) _____ sentence once he learns a (12) _____ of words. Using special markers, a chimp was (13) _____ to form a simple sentence such as "Me want a banana now, please."

Some chimpanzees have even learned (14) _____ to use money!

A great Scottish (17) _____ is Mary, Queen of Scots, about whom many romantic stories have been written. She succeeded her father James V on his (18) _____ in 1542 when she was only a week old. For her (19) _____ she was sent to France. At 16 she married the oldest son of the king of France but was already a widow by the age of 18. She then returned to Scotland in 1561 to take over her (20) _____. HERO DIE SAFE KING

C. The English Language

English is the language of (0) *international* trade, and has more books (1) _____, films released and TV programmes broadcast than any other language. Worldwide, there are over 1,400 million people living in countries where English has (2) _____ status. One out of five of the world's population speak English to some level of (3) _____. But in the 21st century there are changes taking place that may affect the global (4) _____ of English. NATION PUBLICATION OFFICE COMPETENT DOMINATE

Another (5) _____ to the English language's position is old age. The rich countries are getting older — or rather their (6) _____ are made up of more old people than young people. In the future young people with money to spend will be found in Asia and Latin America rather than Europe and the USA. These young adults may want to (7) _____ their desires in their own languages. THREATEN POPULATE EXPRESSION

(8) _____ of English as a second language give it a life of their own. Within the first decade of the 21st century, the number of people who speak English as a second language will (9) _____ native speakers. At this point, will native speakers lose their (10) _____ over a language that is no longer theirs? SPEAK NUMBER AUTHOR

There are many (11) _____ for the future. We can imagine a world where English is simply an alternative language to (12) _____ and Spanish. These are languages that already have more native speakers than English or very wide use across the world. POSSIBLE CHINA

D. Pets Are Good for Us

The basic meaning for "pet" is an animal we keep for (0) *emotional*	EMOTION
rather than (1) _____ reasons. A pet animal is	ECONOMY
kept as a (2) _____. Many owners feel that	COMPANY
pets can understand them, for animals can easily feel	
(3) _____ and sorrow. A cat or a dog can	ANGRY
(4) _____ comfort us when human words don't	USUAL
help. Dogs (5) _____ look up to their owners, which	SPECIAL
makes them feel (6) _____ and needed.	IMPORTANCE
A pet can be something (7) _____ to each member	DIFFER
of the family. It has even been suggested that tiny pets should be	
sent with astronauts on a spaceship. Pets are (8) _____	PARTICULAR
important for children.	

***5. Underline the correct word. Sometimes more than one word is possible.**

1. *Major / Final / Capital / Foremost* punishment has been abolished in most countries of the world.
2. Sniffer dogs are able to locate survivors beneath the rubble with *precision / correctness / meticulousness / exactitude*.
3. There are reductions for *pensioner / old / major / senior* citizens and students.
4. The government has voiced its commitment to *equal / similar / same / unbiased* opportunities.
5. They have extended the end *date / closure / deadline / finish* for applications until the end of June.
6. The landscape was *evocative / reminiscent / remembered / provocative* of the French Riviera.
7. Their efforts to save the company from liquidation were c*onvicted / judged / sentenced / doomed* to failure.
8. I find it hard to *stomach / digest / absorb / gulp* that she's only just started, and yet she gets paid so much more than I do.
9. The team's *morality / moral / morals / morale* was low having lost five games in a row.
10. The management want to *engage / embroil / enfold / enslave* department heads in discussion about planned job cuts.
11. He's so rich, he can afford to buy whatever he *fancies / fantasises / imagines / conjures*.
12. He followed the trail of clues until it came to a dead *finish / end / conclusion / line*.
13. The patient most probably *contracted / received / obtained / acquired* the disease when he was in India.
14. The company's performance has been deeply affected by current *economical / financial / monetary / economic* conditions.
15. She has a *distinctive / separate / identifiable / specialised* look that sets her apart from the other models.
16. I'm rather *biased / inclined / likely / liable* to agree with you that Hopkins is the better player.