

ENGLISH COMPETITION

2016.

FOR YEAR 9 AND 10 STUDENTS IN GRAMMAR AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS

YOUR CODE: _____, _____ _____ _____
 YEAR CLASS I D SCHOOL CODE

CATEGORY

SCORES: TASK 1 _____

TASK 2 _____

TASK 3 _____

TASK 4 _____

TOTAL _____

TEACHER'S (COORDINATOR'S) SIGNATURE: _____

Task1

In this article a few words have been removed. Your task is to fill in the gaps (1-10) from the list (a-l). There is an extra letter that you do not need. There is an example (0).

Can Lab Grown 'Super' Coral Rescue Our Rapidly Dwindling Reefs?

By Sarah Benton Feitlinger on December 4, 2015

Rising water temperatures and the increasing levels of carbon dioxide in our oceans are killing our beautiful coral reefs at an 0. _____ rate. Add the current El Niño weather pattern that is expected to 1. _____ through winter and spring 2016 to the mix, and things look even worse. Scientists estimate that the 1988 El Niño destroyed almost 16% of the world's coral reefs and believe things could get even worse this time around.

So what makes coral so 2. _____? Although it may be hard to believe, corals are not plants, but animals. The colorful reefs that we admire so much happen to be calcium carbonate skeletons discharged by colonies of hundreds of thousands of tiny polyps that live and grow together. To survive, the 3. _____ animals have developed a symbiotic relationship with an algae called zooxanthellae. The coral polyps give the zooxanthellae a home and in return the algae provide the polyps with their vivid color and food.

The rising water temperatures and 4. _____ is causing the coral polyps to reject their zooxanthellae friends. As a result, the corals are not only losing their food source but also their 5. _____ colors, a phenomenon researchers refer to as 'bleaching.' While the tiny animals can recover from mild bleaching, they are unable to survive severe or long-term bleaching.

The disappearance of the reefs does more than rob humans the chance to admire the beautiful structures. It removes a natural barrier that protects shorelines from storms and also leaves fewer 6. _____ options for fish and other marine life.

To prevent these important animals from disappearing altogether, a team of researchers from the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology are attempting to breed 'super' corals.

The group led by Dr. Ruth Gates began by selecting certain coral species that seem to have adapted to the changing ocean conditions better than others. They then made them even more 7. _____ by subjecting them to warmer, more acidic water at their research center on the 28-acre Coconut Island, in Kāne'ohe Bay off the Island of Oahu.

The resulting strains are being bred with each other to create 'super' corals that will hopefully not just 8. _____, but thrive in the warmer, increasingly acidic oceans. Once ready, the researchers plan to transplant the coral into Hawaii's Kaneohe Bay, which has lost an estimated 60 percent to 80 percent of its coral to bleaching this year.

Though this sounds simple enough, there is no guarantee it will work given that coral is sensitive to touch and also breeds very slowly and 9. _____. Also, past attempts to transplant coral have failed because they were either gobbled up by parrot fish or succumbed to disease. Even if it works, some experts are concerned that populating the reef with just a single species of coral will lower the ocean's biodiversity, making the tiny animals more 10. _____ to disease.

Although the researchers realize the dangers, Gates believes there is no choice but to intervene if we want to prevent the reefs from disappearing altogether. Tom Oliver, a marine biologist and team leader at NOAA's Coral Reef Ecosystem Division agrees. The expert who believes the project is both scalable and promising says, "The question is not can they do it, it's can they do it fast enough?" - We sure hope so!

- a. susceptible**
- b. infrequently**
- c. habitat**
- d acidification**
- e. withstand**
- f. unprecedented**
- g. vivid**
- h. sedentary**
- i. rare**
- j. vulnerable**
- k. prevail**
- l. resilient**

0. _f_, 1.____, 2.____, 3.____, 4.____, 5.____, 6.____, 7.____, 8.____9.____, 10.____

10 points/

TASK 2

You are going to read an article about a Siberian tiger. Some words are missing from the text. Use the words in brackets to form new words that fit in the gap (1-10.) Then write the appropriate form of these words on the lines after the text. There is an example (0.) at the beginning.

Conservation first as rehabilitated Siberian tiger gives birth in the wild

Thursday 10 December 2015

An 0. _____ (orphan) Siberian tiger who was rehabilitated and released back into the wild has given birth two cubs, 1. _____ (conservation) in Russia said on Thursday.

It is believed to be the first time a released tiger has gone onto become a mother and raises hope for the survival of Siberian tigers. Also known as Amur tigers just 500 individuals remain in the wild following decades of illegal poaching and 2. _____ (forest).

The tigress, named Zolushka (Russian for Cinderella), was found in February 2012 as 3. _____ (starve) four-month-old cub. Her mother is thought to have been killed by poachers. She was nursed back to health at the Alekseyevka Rehabilitation Centre, having had the tip of her tail removed following severe frostbite.

Zolushka was kept away from humans, so as not to become acclimatised to them, and slowly learned how to hunt live prey. At 20-months-old, the usual age that young tigers leave their mothers, she was released in the Bastak reserve in the Pri-Amur region of far-eastern Russia.

Zolushka was fitted with a satellite and radio collar and tracked by rangers and motion-sensing remote cameras and quickly began hunting badgers, wild boar, and red deer.

The birth of her cubs was a surprise because tigers 4. _____ (appear) from the forests of Bastak reserve 40 years ago. But a lone wild male arrived, apparently trekking 124 miles west from the northernmost parts of the current Amur tiger range in Russia.

The videos and photos revealing the 5. _____ (existence) of the two cubs playing with their mother were returned from the field on Wednesday. "This is a great day for Bastak reserve," said Aleksandr Yuryevich Kalinin, director of the protected area. "This demonstrates that there is still 6. _____ (suit) habitat for tigers in the Pri-Amur region, and there is a place for tigers here."

Masha Vorontsova, director of the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) in Russia, which took part in the project, said: "This is what we've all been hoping for since her release in 2013. This shows that she has fully adapted to a life in the wild and is able to 7. _____ (success) hunt, breed and now raise a new generation of Amur tigers."

Zolushka was rescued in 2012, and has since been rehabilitated and 8. _____ (introduce) to the Bastak reserve.

"This is a watershed event not just for Zolushka, but for the entire population of Amur tigers," said Dale Miquelle, director of the Wildlife Conservation Society in Russia, which was also

part of the project. “These births mark the beginnings of a recovery and **9.**_____ (**expand**) of the last remaining Amur tiger population into habitat lost years ago.” He said the cubs were **10.**_____ (**prove**) that conservation on the ground can work.

In 2014, IFAW and its partners released another five Amur tigers back to the wild, the largest tiger release in history. Some the tigers were reported to have crossed into China and may have killed goats and chickens.

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/dec/10/conservation-first-as-rehabilitated-siberian-tiger-gives-birth-in-the-wild>

0. orphaned _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

10 points/

TASK 3

Read the following extract from an article. Parts of some sentences are missing. Your task is to fill them in (1-10) from the list below (A-N). Write the letters in the appropriate places in the chart below as in the example (0.). Remember that there are two extra letters you do not need to use.

AIRPLANE DESIGNS THAT COULD COUNTERACT JET LAG

BY ED CARA ON 1/16/16 AT 4:26 PM

Modern-day flight is a miracle with side effects. You can get halfway around the world, **0.** D , but fatigue and disorientation are sure to ruin the first day in your destination city. What we commonly call jet lag is actually a form of circadian desynchrony—a disruption **1.** . There are some useful remedies available: Over-the-counter doses of melatonin, a hormone that helps align the circadian rhythm, can lessen the symptoms if taken at the right time, for example. But what if the plane itself could prevent jet lag?

French-based aircraft manufacturer Airbus designed a new plane, the A350 XWB, fitted with LEDs that can generate 16.7 million color combinations of light inside the cabin. The idea is **2.** to faux sunlight that changes throughout the flight, mimicking the natural progression of day into night and night into day. If it works, it could be a boon **3.** ; when circadian rhythm disruptions—also commonly seen in people who work night shifts or are constantly exposed to artificial lighting—become chronic, they can have longer-term effects on the body, **4.** .

Though the A350 hasn't undergone any clinical testing, it could in theory work, says Frank Scheer, neuroscientist and researcher of circadian and sleep disorders at Harvard University. "The most important property of effectively resynchronizing your body clock with light is **5.** ," he says. "If I shine light on your eye in the evening, I will delay your clock. If I do the same in the morning, I will advance it." In other words, the changing light should be scheduled **6.** , not your origin.

But even if Airbus gets that right, Scheer says, the method still might not work if you're traveling over long distances from west to east. For instance, if you left Boston at 6 p.m. and took an eight-hour flight that arrived in Amsterdam at 8 a.m. local time, and the plane's lights were set **7.** , it would backfire. Since your body's clock will still be running on Boston time (where it's now 2 a.m.), your body will interpret the light as late evening, not early morning. Scheer is skeptical that the A350's system has worked through all these nuances.

Meanwhile, Airbus is forging ahead: Qatar Airways debuted the A350 in January 2015, and it made its first flight to the U.S. in December. The airline began regular service to Philadelphia in January this year and plans **8.** . Regardless of whether the A350 really has cracked the secret **9.** , the early reviews aren't shabby. "I arrived feeling great," says travel journalist and editor-in-chief of The Points Guy Zach Honig, **10.** , and then on to Munich. "Even though I only got a couple hours of sleep on both flights, I was very productive during my Doha layover and hit the ground running in Munich."

<http://europe.newsweek.com/airplane-designs-could-counteract-jet-lag-416646>

- A) to those who travel regularly
- B) who was flying from Munich to Doha, Qatar
- C) raising the risk for life-threatening conditions such as heart disease and obesity
- D) traversing multiple time zones in just hours
- E) to simulate sunrise
- F) to one's heart while flying
- G) to preventing jet lag
- H) to trick passengers' bodies by exposing them
- I) to start offering it to Boston and New York in March
- J) who rode the A350 on a 12-hour flight from New York to Doha, Qatar
- K) to match the course of the sun in the time zone of your destination
- M) to the body's internal clock
- N) timing

0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
D										

10 points/

TASK 4

This extract comes from *The Picture of Dorian Gray* written by Oscar Wilde. Your task is to put in the missing letters on the lines in the text. There is an example given to you.

Dorian made no answer, but passed listlessly in front of his picture and turned towards it. When he saw it he dr__ back, and his cheeks flus__ for a moment with ple___. A look of joy came into his eyes, as if he had recog_____ himself for the first time. He stood there moti_____, and in wonder, dimly cons_____ that Hallward was speaking to him, but not cat_____ the meaning of his words. The sense of his own bea___ came on him like a reve_____. He had never felt it before. Basil Hallward's compl_____ had seemed to him to be mer___ the charming exag_____ of friendship. He had listened to them, lau_____ at them, forgotten them. They had not infl_____ his nature. Then had come Lord Henry, with his str___ panegyric on youth, his ter_____ warning of its bre_____. That had stirred him at the time, and now, as he stood gaz___ at the shadow of his own lov_____, the full reality of the des_____ flashed across him. Yes, there would be a day when his face would be wri_____ and wizen, his eyes dim and col_____, and the grace of his figure broken and def_____. The sca_____ would pass away from his lips, and the gold steal from his hair. The life that was to make his soul would mar his body. He would be___ ignoble, hideous, and uncouth. As he tho___ of it, a sharp pang of pain str___ like a knife across him, and made each del_____ fibre of his nature quiver. His eyes dee_____ into amethyst, and a mist of tears came ac_____ them. He felt as if a hand of ice had been laid upon his heart. 'Don't you like it?'

30 points/

TASK 5

Your task is to use all of the following words and write a story in accordance with the picture sequence. Your story need to consist at least 160 and not more than 200 words.

effort, combat, magic, slave, enthusiasm, spring, enemy, future, boss, neighbour



