

PART 2

You are going to read an extract from a magazine article. Six paragraphs have been removed from the extract. Choose from the paragraphs **A-G** the one which fits each gap (7-12). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

UNFROZEN TUNDRA



From 30,000 ft. in the air, the Greenland ice cap seems impregnable, nearly 800 trillion gallons of frozen water locked safely away. But get closer and the cracks begin to emerge. Dancing by helicopter above the mouth of the Jakobshavn Glacier, near the western coast of Greenland, you can make out veins of the purest blue melt water running between folds of ice.

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Those icebergs are spat out into Disko Bay, 20 billion metric tons' worth every year, where they loom above the tiny fishing boats that ply these deep, cold waters. Sail close and you'll find that these seemingly permanent cathedrals of ice, some 200 ft. to 300 ft. high, are leaking water like broken pipes. They're fighting a war and they appear to be losing.

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If all the ice on Greenland were to melt tomorrow, global sea levels would rise more than 20 ft. – enough to swamp many coastal cities. Though no one thinks that will happen anytime soon, what keeps glaciologists awake at night is that thinking is not the same as knowing – and no one can say with certainty what Greenland's fate will be.

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I got a firsthand look at such heroism this summer when I joined a team of international researchers led by

Dahl-Jensen at the NEEM camp in Greenland. NEEM stands for North Greenland Eemian Ice Drilling (the acronym is Danish, as are the leaders of the project), and the scientists are digging deep into the Greenland ice more than a mile and a half deep to be precise – to try to understand its pedigree.

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It's like tree rings but for climatic history. "In order to predict the future, we have to understand the past," says Minik Rosing, a geologist at the University of Copenhagen. NEEM is focused on the Eemian stage, a period from about 115,000 to 130,000 years ago, right before the last ice age, when the world was warm – quite warm, about 9°F hotter in Europe than it is today.

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Dahl-Jensen believes that with enough information they will be able to project forward and understand just how vulnerable Greenland is to future melting. "With 10 years of intense research, I think we can reach a reliable estimate for that tipping point," she says.

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I watch as a plume of mist fills the air where the iceberg once was, while the fjord churns on. And the wonder, just how much time do Greenland and the rest of us have before it's too late? That may be up to us and the heroes we choose to follow.

 **Exam Tip**

Look for any grammatical or logical clues which can help you place the missing paragraphs in the right gaps.

- A** Given that the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that temperatures could rise 3.24°F to 7.2°F over the coming century, the Eemian could offer a model for the effect such thermometer swings will have on Greenland's ice. A full climatic record of the Eemian has never been constructed, but over the next several summers, the NEEM researchers hope to harvest cores that will help them track the state of the ice throughout that era, when Greenland was warm enough to actually be green.
- B** Depth is time, and the lower you go, the further back in history you travel. As ice formed in Greenland, year after cold year, bits of atmosphere were trapped in the layers. Drilling into the ice and fishing out samples – ice cores – that contain tiny bubbles of that ancient air can reveal the temperature, the concentration of greenhouse gases, even the ambient dust from the year that layer was formed.
- C** It's easy to misunderstand all of this. Climate change itself isn't a bad thing; it isn't even unusual. Take a geological step back, and you can see that our climate has always changed, alternating just within the past several hundred thousand years between ice ages, when glaciers covered much of the Northern Hemisphere, to eras warmer than our own.
- D** That's why researchers like Dorthe Dahl-Jensen, stationed on a barren speck of land near the heart of Greenland's ice sheet, are considered a hero for the environment. His work there involves decoding the island's climatic history. He, along with numerous other scientists, activists, financiers and political leaders display a passion for the planet that just might save it.
- E** It's that type of confidence that serves as our light in the climatic darkness, living proof that hope hasn't vanished. You need that comfort when you're standing on a rocky hilltop in Greenland, watching the ice disappear. As Jakobshavn gives way to the fjord, a stadium-size iceberg suddenly implodes, disintegrating like a collapsing skyscraper.
- F** What you can't see from that height, is Jakobshavn's inexorable slide toward the sea at 65 ft. to 115 ft. a day – an alarming rate that has accelerated in recent years. As the glacier nears the coast, it breaks off into the Ilulissat fjord, a stream of churning ice that might have birthed the monster that sunk the Titanic.
- G** Sadly, Greenland is the front line in humanity's battle against climate change. The warming that is easy to dismiss elsewhere is undeniable on this 860,000-sq.-mi. island of fewer than 60,000 people. More and more of Greenland, whose frozen expanses are a living remnant of the last ice age, disappears each year, with as much as 150 billion metric tons of glacier vanishing annually.

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Exam Tip 

Bear in mind the general sense of the passage in order to decide what the missing words are. Some of them may fit grammatically, but may not make sense in the context.

For questions 13-37, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: 0

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TO

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THE NILE RIVER

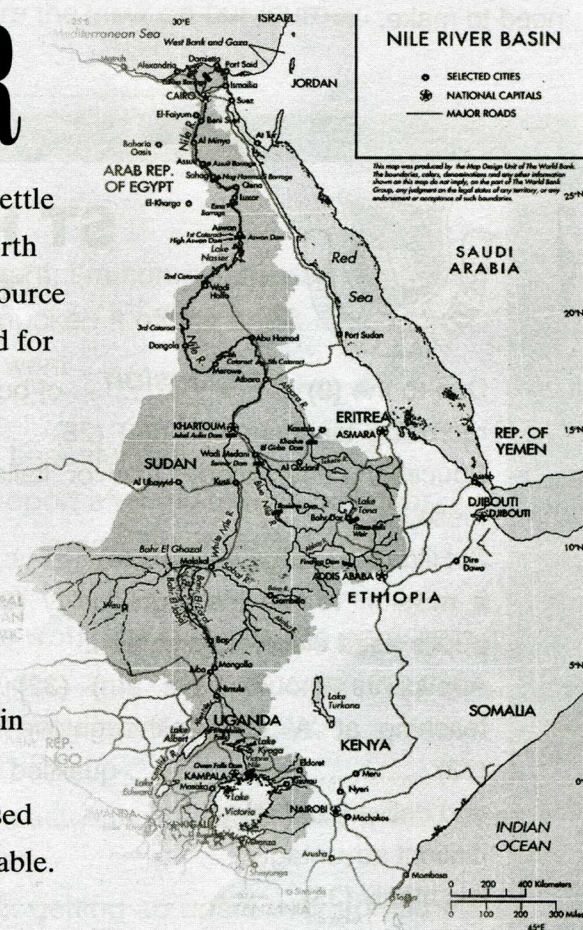
The Nile allowed the first Egyptians (0) settle successfully in the otherwise very dry part of North Africa. The great river provided a dependable source (13) water that was used for everything from irrigation, transport, cooking drinking, hunting and fishing (14) waste disposal. (15) its river, Egypt would have been no more than an unforgiving desert. Instead, it became the most fertile land in the whole Mediterranean.

(16) to its position and many natural resources, Egypt was able to remain an independent country for 3,000 years. (17) the deserts were used for their valuable minerals, they were uninhabitable.

The narrowness of the belts of fertile land on (18) side of the Nile prevented expansion (19) the east or west. Villages were situated (20) the river (21) beads on a thread.

Agriculture in ancient Egypt relied completely on the annual flooding between July and October. (22) flood waters cleaned the land and laid down a thick layer of highly fertile silt. (23) an added bonus, fish were left in the fields (24) the water levels had fallen, and they were dried and smoked for future consumption.

As Egypt relied totally on the Nile, it is (25) surprising that the water level was closely watched at (26) times. Too high, and the water would flood the towns; too low, and there would be food shortages, unrest, and perhaps (27) the downfall of a dynasty.



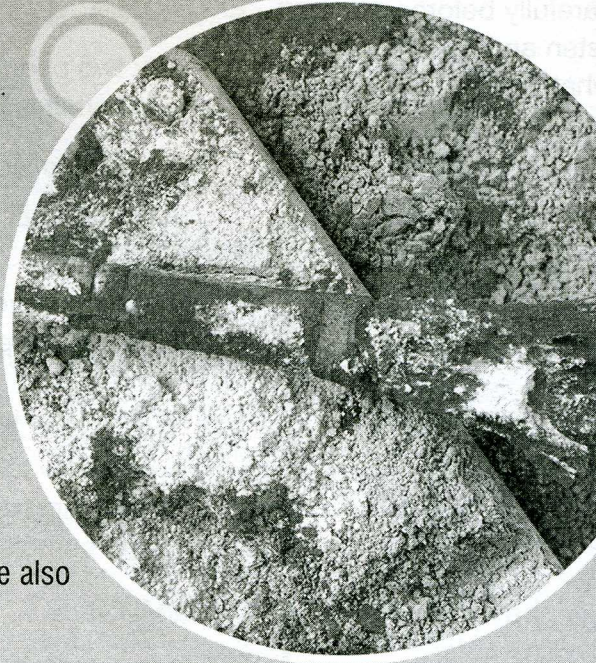
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Exam Tip

You will be able to read and listen to the instructions. They will give you a good idea of the context of the recorded information and also explain the listening task.

You'll hear an artist called Freya Norton talking about her work. For questions 7-14, complete the sentences.

ABSTRACT ARTIST



Freya recalls that at school not only did she enjoy the art class but she also

7 there.

Seeing **8** with painted bodies reminds Freya of an incident that happened in her art class.

The artist Rolf Harris' **9** was a great inspiration to Freya.

Freya tells of a musician who based his **10** on paintings by Edward Hopper.

Freya says that she feels that her **11** is like a retreat that she can escape to.

Freya says that she has been using **12**, namely wax and sand, in her most recent work.

Freya tells us that her parents are no longer **13** about her living the life of an artist.

She says that it was a(n) **14** that changed her parents' perception of her career.