

EXERCISE 1

The Titanic: The Ship That Could Not Sink

horror	sink	luxury	giant	directly	flood
loss	deep	warn	remain	impact	sailor

When the Titanic left England on 10 April 1912, it was the biggest and most (1) _____ ship ever built, with beautiful dining rooms, a swimming pool, and comfortable cabins for its passengers. The ship was so (2) _____ — over 269 metres long and weighing more than 46,000 tonnes — that many people believed it could never (3) _____. This belief turned out to be very wrong. Other ships in the area had sent (4) _____ messages about large icebergs in the water ahead, but the Titanic's officers kept the ship going at high speed through the dark night. Late at night on 14 April, the ship hit an iceberg (5) _____ on its right side, tearing a series of holes below the waterline. Water flooded in almost immediately, and the (6) _____ was so serious that the ship went fully under within just three hours. There were not enough lifeboats for the more than 2,200 people on board, and the (7) _____ of over 1,500 lives made it one of the worst sea disasters in history. Many experienced (8) _____ on the ship knew immediately how bad things were, but in the panic and cold, it was already too late for most people to be saved. The wreck now lies very (9) _____ on the ocean floor — nearly four kilometres down — where it has (10) _____ largely untouched since explorers found it in 1985. The (11) _____ of that night stayed with survivors for the rest of their lives, and the story of the Titanic still fascinates people more than a hundred years later.

EXERCISE 2**Nelson Mandela: Courage, Imprisonment & Forgiveness**

calm	prisoner	cruel	release	western	divide
ambition	convince	retire	authority	peaceful	reject

Nelson Mandela spent 27 years as a (1) _____ in South African jails because he spoke out against apartheid — a system of laws that (2) _____ people by race and denied black South Africans access to good jobs, education, and basic rights. The government was (3) _____ to those who stood against it, and Mandela was given a life sentence in 1964 after a court found him guilty of organising resistance to the state. He refused to (4) _____ his beliefs even when the government offered him a (5) _____ from prison in return for giving up his opposition — an offer he turned down without hesitation. Through many long and difficult years behind bars, he had the inner (6) _____ to stay (7) _____ and dignified, writing letters, reading widely, and never letting bitterness take control of him. International pressure — including trade restrictions and growing protests around the world — eventually helped to (8) _____ the South African government that change was unavoidable, and Mandela walked free in 1990. Instead of seeking revenge for everything he had suffered, he worked to bring the country together through (9) _____ talks rather than more conflict or violence. His (10) _____ was not just to end apartheid — it was to build a fair and open society where all people, regardless of colour, had an equal voice. In 1994 he became South Africa's first democratically elected president, and when his term ended he chose to (11) _____ from politics rather than hold on to power as so many leaders before him had done.

EXERCISE 3**How Dreams Work: Inside the Sleeping Brain**

repeat	aware	muscle	prediction	imaginary	mixture
theme	remind	fear	mystery	reflect	confused

Every night, while the body rests, the brain produces a (1) _____ of images, stories, feelings, and sensations that we call dreams — and scientists are still working to fully understand why this happens. During the deepest stage of dreaming, the body keeps each (2) _____ completely still so that we do not physically act out what is happening in our minds. Dreams can feel very real while they are happening, and it is common to wake up (3) _____ about whether something actually took place or whether it was all in your head. Many scientists think that dreams help the brain to (4) _____ on the events of the day — organising memories, making connections, and working through feelings that were difficult to deal with while we were awake. Some people (5) _____ the same dream again and again, often during periods of stress or big change in their lives, which suggests the brain is trying to process something it has not yet resolved. A common (6) _____ — such as being chased, falling, or losing something important — appears across many different cultures and countries. This may be connected to a shared human (7) _____ of certain situations, which has been part of our minds since very early in human history. Some researchers think dreams are a kind of mental (8) _____, letting the brain safely practise dealing with situations it might face in the real world, in a completely (9) _____ setting where nothing can actually go wrong. Most people are not (10) _____ that they are dreaming while it is happening, but some practise a technique called lucid dreaming, which can (11) _____ them that they are in a dream — and even give them some control over what happens next.

EXERCISE 4**The Olympic Games: From Ancient Greece to Today**

agreement	cloth	prince	originally	intention	ban
current	quit	racing	flag	combine	pray

The Olympic Games were (1) _____ held in ancient Greece, at a place called Olympia, more than 2,700 years ago — long before the modern version we know today. They were not just a sporting competition — they were also a religious festival, and participants would (2) _____ to the gods before they competed, asking for strength and speed. Events included running, wrestling, and chariot (3) _____, and a man who won was celebrated as a hero not just in his own city but across the whole of Greece. By (4) _____, all wars between the Greek city-states would stop during the games, giving competitors and visitors safe passage to travel to Olympia and back. Women were not allowed to watch or take part in any event — a complete (5) _____ that reflected how different life was for women in ancient Greek society. Competitors wore no (6) _____ during many events, which was seen as a natural and proud way to show the strength of the human body. The games continued for over a thousand years until they were eventually forced to (7) _____ when rulers of the Roman Empire decided the old festival had no place in the new Christian world. The (8) _____ to revive the Olympics came from a French man named Pierre de Coubertin, who believed that sport could (9) _____ nations and encourage friendship between people from very different backgrounds. The first modern Olympics were held in Athens in 1896, and the five-ringed (10) _____ — representing five continents — was later designed to show that the games belong to every country on Earth. The (11) _____ host city is chosen years in advance, and winning the right to hold the games is considered a great national honour.

EXERCISE 5**Artificial Intelligence: The Machine That Learns**

indicate	disadvantage	technical	wrong	wonder	stuff
assist	scan	highly	version	robot	sensible

Artificial intelligence — or AI — is one of the fastest-growing fields in the world today, and it is already changing the way we live, study, and work in ways that many people do not fully realise. At its simplest, AI is a computer system trained on enormous amounts of (1) _____ — text, images, and numbers — so that it can recognise patterns and produce useful responses. Recent research (2) _____ that some AI systems can complete certain jobs more quickly and accurately than humans, especially when handling large amounts of data that would take a person many hours to go through. Doctors now use AI to (3) _____ medical images such as X-rays, and the system can (4) _____ unusual areas on a scan that a tired or busy human eye might easily miss. AI can also (5) _____ people with everyday tasks like writing emails, planning trips, and translating languages, which raises serious questions about how jobs in many fields might change in the future. However, a major (6) _____ of AI is that it is only as reliable as the information it was trained on; if that data contains errors or prejudice, the system will produce (7) _____ results without being aware of the problem. Despite all the progress, it remains (8) _____ unlikely that AI will completely replace human judgement in the near future — particularly in situations that require real empathy, creativity, or deep personal understanding. Many people (9) _____ whether a machine will ever truly think and feel, or whether what we see is simply a very polished (10) _____ of human intelligence rather than the real thing. Meanwhile, some factories already use a physical (11) _____ to do dangerous or repetitive tasks, freeing human workers to focus on jobs that need judgement and care.

Answer Key

Exercise 1 — The Titanic: The Ship That Could Not Sink

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
luxury	giant	warn	directly	impact	sink	loss	sailor	deep	remain	horror

Exercise 2 — Nelson Mandela: Courage, Imprisonment & Forgiveness

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
prisoner	divide	cruel	reject	release	calm	peaceful	convince	authority	ambition	retire

Exercise 3 — How Dreams Work: Inside the Sleeping Brain

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
mixture	muscle	confused	reflect	repeat	theme	fear	prediction	imaginary	aware	reminded

Exercise 4 — The Olympic Games: From Ancient Greece to Today

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
originally	pray	racing	agreement	ban	cloth	quit	intention	combine	flag	current

Exercise 5 — Artificial Intelligence: The Machine That Learns

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
stuff	indicate	scan	assist	wrong	disadvantage	highly	wonder	version	robot	sensible