

QUESTION BANK 4

READING

PART 4 • Gapped Texts

PRACTICE 1

Questions 1 to 6 are based on an article about showing gratitude to others in our daily life. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A to H** the one which fits each gap (1 to 6). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use. Mark your answer on the answer sheet.

Be Grateful

Charles Plumb was a US Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. He fought in 75 combat missions until his plane was destroyed by a missile shot from the ground.

Plumb ejected from the plane, parachuted down and was captured. He spent six years in prison. **1.**

One day, while Plumb and his wife were dining at a restaurant, a man approached them. The man recognised Plumb and knew about his career as a jet fighter and remembered that he was shot down.

2. The man told Plumb that he packed his parachute. Plumb was, of course, surprised and filled with gratitude for the man. **3.** Plumb agreed and told the man that if the parachute hadn't worked, he wouldn't be alive.

That night, Plumb thought about the man. He was a fighter pilot and the man was a sailor. He wondered how many times he might have passed the sailor and didn't greet him. He thought about the sailor working in the belly of the aircraft carrier, folding and packing each parachute for someone he didn't even know.

During Plumb's talks he went on to ask his audience about who packs their parachute. **4.** He went on to say that he drew on his physical, mental, emotional and spiritual parachutes to help him survive being shot down and held as a prisoner.

The part Plumb wanted his audience to understand was that there are daily challenges in life. People get preoccupied with dealing with these challenges and forget about the people who support them. **5.**

Plumb urged his listeners to say 'hello', 'please', 'thank you' or to congratulate someone for helping them or for doing a good job. **6.** This was a simple way to give back to people who helped pack our parachute.



PRACTICE 2

You are going to read an article about the day in the life of a firefighter. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentence **A to H** the one which fits each gap (**1 to 6**). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

A Day in the Life of a Firefighter

Firefighters face danger and uncertainty every day. They work hard and spend long hours at the station. They also work in shifts. Let's look at James', a daily shift firefighter, with ten years' experience.

It starts at 8 a.m. but James is at work at 7.30 a.m. **1.** Then, he attends a parade. Here, the officer-in-charge assigns the firefighters their duties and on this particular morning, James has to wear his breathing apparatus (BA) equipment. After the parade, James gets into the fire engine and checks his BA and other equipment.

At 9 a.m., the drill session begins. James and the other firefighters practise either basic drills or complex fire rescue scenarios. After a tea break at 10.30 a.m., he attends training lectures to brush up on his firefighting and safety knowledge and skills. **2.** Lunch is at noon but fifteen minutes into his meal the sound of the bell fills the fire station. James and the others rush to the fire engines and put on their fire outfit. **3.**

James immediately notices an overturned car on a highway. Its front window is shattered and the people are still trapped inside. His fire chief gives everyone specific jobs to do. **4.** When he approaches the vehicle and sees everyone is alive, he breathes a sigh of relief. He makes sure the car will not move before the others start their jobs; making the scene safe, getting the people out of the car and treating their injuries.

Back at the station, James cleans his equipment and checks his personal protective gear to make sure that it isn't contaminated with oil.

Around 1 p.m., he goes out to do some community fire prevention and protection duties. Some days he inspects business premises to make sure they meet fire safety regulations.

5.

At 5 p.m., James concentrates on fitness training. Firefighting is a physically-demanding job and fitness is very important. **6.** An hour later, he hands in all his paperwork. After another parade with the night-shift firefighters, James leaves at about 7 p.m.



- A** On other days, he attends open days to talk about fire prevention.
- B** Then, they rush to the scene of the incident.
- C** He changes into his uniform and gets his fire kit ready.
- D** He spends at least an hour checking all his equipment.
- E** James is tasked with stabilising the car.
- F** The fire engines arrive at the scene within minutes.
- G** Moreover, he has to pass a fitness assessment every six months.
- H** This helps him do his job quickly, safely and efficiently.