

G R A M M A R

Complete the article by filling in the gaps with the proper verb form or verb tense. Write your answers in the spaces below the article. Example: (00) knew

One Night to Longyearbyen

It took two hours to get back to the tiny port at Longyearbyen. It was Norway's—and the world's—most northern town, with a population of around two thousand people.

Nora – 00 – (know) these basic things from her root life. She had, after all, been fascinated by this part of the world since she was eleven, but her knowledge – 01 – (stretch, not) far beyond the magazine articles she had read and she was still nervous of talking.

But the boat trip back had been okay, because her inability to discuss the rock and ice and plant samples they – 02 – (take), or to understand phrases such as 'striated basalt bedrock' and 'post-glacial isotopes', – 03 – (put down) to the shock of her polar bear encounter.

And she was in a kind of shock, it was true. But it was not the shock her colleagues – 04 – (imagine). The shock wasn't that she'd thought she – 05 – (be) about to die. She had been about to die ever since she first entered the Midnight Library. No, the shock was that she felt like she was about to live. Or at least, that she could imagine – 06 – (want) to be alive again. And she wanted to do something good with that life.

The life of a human, according to the Scottish philosopher David Hume, was of no greater importance to the universe than that of an oyster. But if it was important enough for David Hume to write that thought down, then maybe it was important enough – 07 – (aim) to do something good. To help preserve life, in all its forms.

As Nora understood it, the work this other Nora and her fellow scientists – 08 – (do) was something to do with determining the speed at which the ice and glaciers had been melting in the region, to gauge the acceleration rate of climate change. There was more to it than that, but that was at the core of it, as far as Nora could see.

So, in this life, she – 09 – (do) her bit to save the planet. Or at least to monitor the steady devastation of the planet in order to alert people to the facts of environmental crisis. That was potentially depressing but also a good and ultimately fulfilling thing to do, she imagined. There was purpose. There was meaning.

They were impressed too. The others. With the polar bear story Nora was a hero of sorts—not in an Olympic-swimming-champion way, but in another equally fulfilling kind of fashion.

Ingrid had her arm around her. 'You are the saucepan warrior. And I think we need to mark your fearlessness, and our potentially groundbreaking findings, with a nice meal. What – 10 – (say)?'

'A nice meal? In Longyearbyen? Do they have them?' As it turned out, they – 11 – (do).

Back on dry land they went to a smart wooden shack of a place called Gruvelageret. She drank Arctic ale and surprised her colleagues by eating the only vegan option on a menu. Nora – 12 – (look, must) tired because quite a few of her colleagues told her that she – 13 – (do), but maybe it was just that there weren't many places in the conversation that she could enter with confidence. She felt like a learner driver at a busy junction, nervously – 14 – (wait) for a clear and safe patch of road.

Hugo was there. He still looked to her like he would rather – 15 – (be) in Antibes or St Tropez. She felt a little uneasy as he stared at her, a little too observed.

(Adapted from *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig, 2020, pp. 139-140)

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 01 | 06 | 11 |
| 02 | 07 | 12 |
| 03 | 08 | 13 |
| 04 | 09 | 14 |
| 05 | 10 | 15 |

Total Points:/15pt

VOCABULARY

Read the article below. Use the word given in CAPITALS at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

'If you want to really LIVE, you have to take RISKS'

Nicola Benedetti CBE—world-famous **—00—**, Grammy- **VIOLIN** 00violinist.....
Award winner and honorary president of the Royal Conservatoire
of Scotland—has only ever applied for one job.

Having played in hundreds of top-level concerts across the globe,
Nicola is well used to performing under **—01—**. And yet, she **PRESS** 01
says, once she embarked on a formal application for the

—02—, the interview was a new kind of challenge. 'I was **DIRECTOR** 02
asked a question and realised I didn't know what to answer,' she says.

This confession is **—03—** honest and down-to-earth. Not many **REFRESH** 03

top-flight arts **—04—** would be as revealing about finding **PROFESSION** 04

—05— on the back foot. Nicola, who will preside over her **THEY** 05

first Edinburgh International Festival this summer, clearly

sees **—06—** as a strength. Although she's one of Britain's **VULNERABLE** 06

top **—07—** performers, she feels in some ways more **CLASSICS** 07

like a **—08—**. While two decades of being an **PROFESSION** 08

—09— in the music world must have taken its toll, she says **INSIDE** 09

she doesn't feel dented by **—10—**; the music always feels **CYNIC** 10

fresh, promising, and unfolding to her ear. Indeed, that's

the **—11—** of what propels her. **ESSENTIAL** 11

Nicole heads up her own **—12—**, the aim of which is **FOUND** 12

to **—13—** the opportunities for youngsters from **BROAD** 13

—14——advantaged backgrounds to experience musical **LITTLE** 14

workshops and concerts. Her parents wanted to integrate

as much as possible, and her dad became one of the

country's best-known **—15—**, running a **ENTERPRISE** 15

—16— successful dry-cleaning business. 'Being **HUGE** 16

—17— is an enormous part of who I am,' she says. **SCOTLAND** 17

'We live in an age of increased **—18—** and a culture **SELF-AWARE** 18

of self-care, which is important, but every human being

has to sacrifice **—19—** for the whole to be better,' she says. **THING** 19

In her mind, that's **—20—** people gather together to be **WHEN** 20

part of something bigger.

(Adapted from *Good Housekeeping*, August 2023, pp. 52-53).

Total Points:/10pts

READING COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage taken from Robert Galbraith's book. For questions 01-10, decide which of the sentences (A-M) above the article best fit into each of the numbered gaps in the article. There are three extra sentences.

The Hallmarked Man

- A** which Jade had embraced whole-heartedly
B while hardly breaking a sweat
C who resembled the physical type most often cast in films
D it had ended his military career
E he began searching for the message
F who'd now been missing for six months
G Semple had undergone brain surgery in 2014
H not to be complete without exploring
I to visit St George's Avenue together
J he'd handcuffed it to himself
K he hadn't yet read
L who liked that sort of thing
M and looked stern rather than happy

- 01 _____
 02 _____
 03 _____
 04 _____
 05 _____
 06 _____
 07 _____
 08 _____
 09 _____
 10 _____

Strike went into the inner office, opened the rota, and identified Monday as the best day for him and Robin 01, blocking out enough time not only to identify William Wright's former residence and, hopefully, interrogate their neighbours, but also to have another drink with Robin, ostensibly to debrief. Having made the necessary adjustments, Strike turned his attention to Niall Semple, the ex-paratrooper 02.

As Strike had told Robin, there'd been a light smattering of press about Semple when he disappeared, though interest seemed to have died fairly quickly. Strike now opened an article 03, in which Semple's wife, Jade, pleaded for information on her husband's whereabouts. The story contained three pictures: one of a clean-shaven Semple in the dress uniform of a paratrooper, the second, of the Semples' wedding day and the third, the last-known sighting of him, at a cashpoint in Camden.

Thick of neck, with high cheekbones, Semple was a handsome man with short blond hair and bright blue eyes, 04, although his smile was engaging in the clean-shaven picture.

However, in the photograph of his wedding, he was wearing a full beard—a most unusual choice for a soldier in the British army—05. His wife, Jade, resembled an overpainted doll. Strike wasn't a fan of the fashion for thickly pencilled, angular eyebrows, 06. She looked small even standing beside Semple, who, according to the article, was five feet seven. Strike didn't find Jade Semple attractive, but he could imagine that to men 07, who enjoyed feeling large and masculine beside girlish women of tiny proportions, she'd be something of a catch.

The last picture, of Semple at the cashpoint in Camden on June the fourth of the previous year, showed a scruffy man with an unkempt beard who, rather incongruously, was holding a metal briefcase. Either Semple was wearing a heavy metal watch, or 08.

He skim-read the article and learned that 09 and subsequently been discharged from the army, unfit for service. He'd disappeared from his family home in Crieff, Scotland, on the twenty-seventh of May, days after his mother's funeral.

Strike sat back in this computer chair, thinking not so much about what the article contained but what it didn't. The lack of detail on the incident that had left Semple so severely injured 10 was particularly interesting to him. He opened Facebook, found Jade Semple's account easily enough, and scrolled back to the date her husband had disappeared.

(Adapted from *The Hallmarked Man* by Robert Galbraith, 2025, pp. 116-118)

Total points:/10pts

Participant Number: _____

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 36. ročník, okresné kolo 2025/2026, kategória 2C2 – úlohy

PROGRESSIVE TESTING – phrasal verbs with *cut*

Write phrasal verbs with *CUT* and explain their meaning. You will score 1 point for every three correct examples.

For example:

cut off = disconnect/isolate

L I S T E N I N G C O M P R E H E N S I O N

You will hear an interview with Mr Andrea Bocelli, a famous opera singer. For questions 01-05, choose the best answer (A), (B), (C), or (D).

01 Apart from other things opera taught Mr Bocelli, he sees its power to

- a) make people become extremely strong.
- b) arouse people's deepest emotions.
- c) make people think about opposite concepts.
- d) become entranced by the sounds.

02 According to Mr Bocelli, opera's innate romance has also taught him

- a) to perform better at a concert when singing romantic songs.
- b) to obtain the answers to the most important questions.
- c) to make his life richer and more consolidated.
- d) to perceive life positively and trustfully.

03 For Mr Bocelli, the pandemic period

- a) prevented him from meeting with his children.
- b) caused him to lose his enthusiasm for his job.
- c) helped him consolidate his ideas.
- d) enabled him to change his pain into a new melody.

04 According to Mr Bocelli, music has a healing power

- a) just like every other form of art does.
- b) as it touches the soul.
- c) when it is linked to good.
- d) when it functions as a balm.

05 According to Mr Bocelli, the audience can make a singer

- a) feel extremely tired but rewarded.
- b) prepare for a concert like an athlete.
- c) have a relationship that is irreplaceable.
- d) undergo training that demands dedication.

Autorka: prof. PhDr. Jana Bérešová, PhD. et PhD.

Recenzentka: Mgr. Anna Brisudová

Korektor: Joshua M. Ruggiero

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku – okresné kolo 2025/2026

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