

**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) *scanning*

***The Pharaoh's Secret***

Paul stood on the deck of the small boat, 00 (scan) the waters of the Nile with night vision goggles. It 01 (be) hours since Joe and his friends went into the Osiris building.

The helicopter 02 (leave) the compound forty-five minutes earlier. The flow of water from the end of the hydro channel had increased to a torrent and still there was no sign of them.

As the clock ticked, Edo grew more and more concerned. He was worried about his friend – as much was true – but 03 (be) a military man, he also knew the danger of a failed assault. It left one vulnerable to a counterattack.

If any of them 04 (capture), they would be tortured until they gave in. Edo's name 05 (mention) eventually. That put him in danger. Danger of being killed, arrested, imprisoned. And even if nothing so dire came of it, he would still end up back where he 06 (start): under the brother-in-law's thumb, working a job he despised, and prevented from any opportunity to get free.

Strangely, that fate seemed worse than any of the others.

He decided the time had come. He started making calls. Calls he 07 (make) when Joe first came to him. Initially, his old friends ignored him.

'You must understand,' he told a friend who was now part of Egypt's antiterrorist bureau, 'I still hear things. I still have contacts who are afraid to talk to people such as yourself. They tell me that Shakir 08 (strike) at the Europeans. That he caused the incident on Lampedusa. That he and Osiris are behind everything taking place in Libya. We must intervene or Egypt as a whole 09 (survive, never).'

The men he spoke with were a diverse group of ex-commandos, current members of the military, friends who 10 (go) into politics. Of course, Shakir and Osiris are a danger, they said, but what do you expect us 11 (do)?

'We need to get into the plant,' Edo said. 'If we can prove what they 12 (do), the people will rally behind us and the military 13 (save) the country again.'

Stony silence followed, but eventually, the men began to see it his way. 'We must move now,' Edo insisted. 'Before the sun 14 (rise). Morning will be too late.' One by one, they agreed.

A colonel in charge of a special commando group pledged his assistance. Several politicians insisted they 15 (back) the decision. A friend who still worked for internal security agreed to dispatch a group of agents to go with the commando team.

(Adapted from *The Pharaoh's Secret* by Clive Cussler and Graham Brown, 2015, pp. 330-331)

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

**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.

*It's in your interest to relax.*

It's official – life is more – <u>00</u> – for women. According to a report from The Physiological Society, women find life more nerve-racking than blokes. From child-rearing to – <u>01</u> – it's tougher being female – and not just because of those – <u>02</u> – long loo queues!	<b>STRESS</b>	00 .....stressful.....
The survey found that women are 13% more – <u>03</u> – than men about everything from money problems, moving house, health fears, and parenting issues, to – <u>04</u> – and terrorism angst.	<b>RETIRE</b>	01 .....
A quick poll with female pals revealed that it's the – <u>05</u> – of daily anxieties that grounds women down most: a partner forgetting their wife's birthday is grounds for divorce, as are – <u>06</u> – coffee grounds. Not getting help around the house sends a woman's stress levels – <u>07</u> –.	<b>END</b>	02 .....
The satnav – <u>08</u> – also rates high on our stress-ometer, because most men would rather die than ask directions – even after people in the car have spent what seems like an entire week on one ring road and – <u>09</u> – now resembles a passenger on the raft of the <i>Medusa</i> .	<b>ANXIETY</b>	03 .....
This ordeal is only pipped at the stress post by sleep – <u>10</u> – due to snoring. Jolted awake from a deep sleep, it can be hard to – <u>11</u> – if you're sleeping with a man or a combine – <u>12</u> –.	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	04 .....
September is found most – <u>13</u> – because of the 'back to school/back to work' – <u>14</u> – mentality, which – <u>15</u> – increases a woman's workload.	<b>MINUTE</b>	05 .....
But before you end up sobbing in the foetal position, here are some suggestions. Firstly, stop feeling inferior to those Super Women who juggle kids and careers – <u>16</u> – dropping anything. In real life, those Stepford wives are – <u>17</u> –.	<b>EMPTY</b>	06 .....
Throwing out bathroom scales takes a lot of – <u>18</u> –, but many women can even manage to give up dieting!	<b>ROCKETING</b>	07 .....
Psychiatrists say that the impact of stress on women has – <u>19</u> – health consequences, meaning it's in your interest to relax. They also maintain that – <u>20</u> – reeling releases more stress-busting endorphins than other activities.	<b>IMPLODE</b>	08 .....
	<b>ONE</b>	09 .....
	<b>DEPRIVE</b>	10 .....
	<b>DISTINCT</b>	11 .....
	<b>HARVEST</b>	12 .....
	<b>STRESS</b>	13 .....
	<b>AUTUMN</b>	14 .....
	<b>VARIABLE</b>	15 .....
	<b>WITH</b>	16 .....
	<b>JOY</b>	17 .....
	<b>DETERMINE</b>	18 .....
	<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>	19 .....
	<b>SCOTLAND</b>	20 .....

(Adapted from *womanandhome*, August 2023, p. 22).

Total Points: ...../10pts

**R E A D I N G   C O M P R E H E N S I O N**

Read the following passage taken from a magazine. 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.

Ready for it all

- A** to be voted the player of the year  
**B** that was produced in Finneas's bedroom  
**C** that interested them  
**D** who want to sexualize or fetishize her  
**E** this haunting, deeply emotional ballad was  
**F** that fame can exact  
**G** to adopt a hyperfeminized, flashy style  
**H** something that would get them into trouble  
**I** but it went viral overnight  
**J** it also stems from body issues  
**K** which was written and recorded on Eilish's tour bus  
**L** going back and forth on wording  
**M** to represent their own country

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

Billie Eilish Pirade Baird O'Connell, known to fans as Billie Eilish, was born in Los Angeles, California, on December 18, 2001. Her parents are actors and musicians Maggie Baird and Patrick O'Connell. Eilish's upbringing was one of creative exploration. Homeschooled in L.A., she and her brother, Finneas, were encouraged to pursue any topic –01–. Despite this rather unconventional schooling, Eilish got her high school diploma at only 15.

Billie and Finneas began making music when they were children. They could often be found singing together in their rooms, riffing off each other's verses, –02–, and slowly whittling down the bars until a finished song emerged.

In 2015, when she was 14, Eilish uploaded a song to SoundCloud that she and Finneas had produced together, called 'Ocean Eyes'. It was meant to be a sample for her dance teacher, –03–. Soon, millions of people were asking who the young girl behind –04–. Later that year, just days before her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, Eilish signed a record deal with Interscope Records.

In 2020, Eilish and Finneas won seven Grammys for the album –05–. They also earned a visual-media Grammy and an original-song Oscar for their James Bond theme song, 'No Time to Die', –06–. The siblings continue to collaborate even today on nearly every aspect of Eilish's musical career.

Eilish is one of the few pop stars who hasn't submitted to the pressure –07–. Her signature baggy T-shirts, tracksuits, and spiked necklaces are more akin to skate culture than haute couture. Publicly, she's stated that her look is meant to disarm those –08–. Still, she finds a way to make even the most pared-down outfits stand out. Her ever-changing hair has become an expression for her evolution, both as a young woman and a musician.

While Eilish has always maintained that her style was meant to protect her, she has recently disclosed that –09–. Even today, she struggles with the concept of beauty as well as with the challenges of navigating an industry that forces young women to fit into conventional standards.

Eilish admits that growing up famous is a 'bruising experience'. Coming up in an exploitative industry is hard, made harder by age, inexperience, and the cruel, judging eye of the internet. Despite her outward success, Eilish has always been outspoken about her struggles with mental health. Her lyrics reveal the profound mental and emotional toll –10–, touching on themes of death, disorientation, and abuse.

(Adapted from *Spotlight*, 3-4/24, pp. 23-24)

**Total points: ...../10pts**

Participant Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**PROGRESSIVE TESTING – phrasal verbs with *hold***

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

*For example:*

*hold on = wait/grip tightly*

**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 a text about Los Angeles. For questions 01-05, complete the gaps using the number of the words given. You will score 1 point for each correct answer. You will hear the text only once.

**Postcards from L.A.**

1. A series of \_\_\_\_\_ hit the Los Angeles area in 2025. (1 word)
2. The closure of some \_\_\_\_\_ was due to a lack of visitors. (2 words)
3. Losing businesses in Olvera Street equals losing the \_\_\_\_\_ (3 words)
4. The transfer of land ownership in L.A. saw the city change from being \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and then on to \_\_\_\_\_. (3 words)
5. The neighbourhoods in L.A. each have their own unique \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (2 words)

**Total points: \_\_\_\_\_/5**

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