Read the text. For questions 1-8 choose the answer (A, B or C) which you think fits best according to the text.

**Making Room for Readers**

One recent morning, my almost four year old daughter started crying out of the blue1..I asked her what was wrong, and she said, “I don’t have a library card!” So with a proud heart, I put her into her car seat and we set off for the library in search of a library card and — at her request — in search of Tintin books like those I’d told her were my favorite stories at the library when I was young.

We went first to the branch library in our end of town, a small, round building with walls almost entirely of glass. All those windows, and the books behind them, make it look pretty inviting, and we parked our car and I held my daughter’s hand as she skipped to the door, full of excitement. Unfortunately, it was closed. My daughter’s enthusiasm turned to tears outside that locked door, so I drove to the main library as quickly as traffic and speed limits allowed.

It was open, thank goodness, and we spent a long time exploring the children’s room, learning how to find “a book about astronauts”, and choosing other stories about dinosaurs, kids in school, and a penguin. When we’d found enough books, my daughter went to the desk, stood on her tiptoes, and announced to the librarian, “I need a library card!”

The librarian, who must have been through this before, sighed and her face took on the look of someone who knows she’s about to disappoint a young customer. “Well,” she said, “here’s the rule. If a child is under five, she needs to be able to print her first and last name on this form.” She put a small blue card in front of my daughter, and pointed to a narrow space for her name. “She can write her name,” I said, “but maybe not small enough for that line.”

“I can do it,” my daughter said, so I got her a pencil and she did a great job writing her first name, Gretchen, but unfortunately those letters took up the whole space. We should have chosen a shorter name, I thought, as she got frustrated — understandably — and tried to print her last name, which she hasn’t practiced as much, and ended up with a mess. “I can’t do it,” she said, her face melting. “We’ll practice at home and try again soon,” I told her, while sliding my own library card onto the desk. The librarian gave us a couple of blank cards to practice with, and I drove home with a sad and disappointed face in the rearview2 . And although she has practiced, with determination, she still can’t quite fit her name in that space so she still can’t quite get a library card. I can’t help but remember that reading — both the careful selection of books and being given enough privacy to quietly read them myself — was among the first freedoms I had. Those early choices, and being trusted to make them, seem like foundational experiences now, decades later. And now, as a father and author, I want my daughter to find treasures of her own on library shelves. It’s a mistake to rarify3 reading and put books out of reach. A big mistake really.

1 out of the blue – unexpectedly

2 rearview – a mirror on a motor vehicle enabling the driver to see things behind him

3 rarify – to complicate

1. Why did the girl start crying one day?

A. She couldn’t find her Tintin books at home.

B. She lost her card in the library one morning.

C. She wanted to get a library card of her own.

2. How fast did the author drive to the main library?

A. As fast as his car could possibly go.

B. As fast as traffic rules allowed him.

C. The text doesn’t provide such information.

3. How did the author feel when he saw that the main library was open?

A. little tired

B. relieved

C. surprised

4. According to the author, what did the librarian’s sigh imply?

A. The librarian didn’t much like children under five.

B. The librarian knew what was going to happen next.

C. The librarian was very surprised with the little girl’s request.

5. When did the girl admit that she couldn’t do what she was asked to do?

A. After a messy attempt to print her last name.

B. As soon as she saw a small blue card.

C. The moment she printed her first name.

6. How did the author know that his daughter was sad and disappointed?

A. He saw her face in the mirror.

B. She didn’t want any blank cards.

C. She was crying on the back seat.

7. Which statement is true?

A. Although she can get a library card, the girl is still practicing.

B. In spite of her practice, the girl still can’t fit her name there.

C. The girl still hasn’t a library card because of her determination to practice.

8. What is the author’s overall attitude towards books (last paragraph 7)?

A. Children should be allowed to make their own choices which books to read.

B. Fathers should help daughters in finding treasures on library shelves.

C. It is wrong to let all books be easily accessible by children.

Read the text. For sentences 1–7, decide if each statement is true or false and put a tick () in the appropriate box.

**Exploring The World**

Science has learnt a great deal from polar expeditions. For instance, we now know a lot more about the effects polar conditions have on a person’s mind and body.In the early days, explorers often went mad. One cause of this madness was later discovered: when people aren’t used to living in extreme cold, their bodies use up a lot of energy to keep warm and this gets rid of all the vitamins in the body. The brain,deprived of1 vitamins, can’t work normally, at least until the body gets used to the cold. After a certain period, the body adapts itself to its new environment and makes the most of whatever vitamins are available.The time spent in total darkness also has a negative effect on people’s minds. Winter in polar regions is characterised by permanent night and lasts several months. Human beings are not used to spending long periods of time in the dark. In northern latitudes2 people get depressed during the dark winter months. Now we know that this depression - known as SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) – can be reduced bythe use of sun lamps.Low temperatures can cause any part of the body to freeze. This painful conditionis called frostbite3 . Although the body does get used to functioning in low temperatures, the danger of frostbite is always there if temperatures fall below freezingpoint. Nowadays, polar explorers carry medication which they can take to allow theblood to flow and slowly defrost the affected parts.Another common disorder is altitude4 sickness. The ice is sometimes more thanthree kilometres thick, which makes Antarctica one of the highest regions in theworld. At that altitude there is little oxygen, so headaches, vomiting and dehydration – the symptoms of altitude sickness – are common. After about a year at highaltitude, the body gets used to the lack of oxygen in the air. It compensates by storingmore oxygen in the blood.

1 deprive of - take away from

2 latitude - distance north or south of the equator

3 frostbite – injury to tissue in the body from freezing

4 altitude – height

1. People who live in polar conditions often go mad. T F

2. Human brain does not function normally if it does not get enough vitamins. T F

3. Seasonal Affective Disorder is caused by spending long periods of time in darkness. T F

4. These days explorers take special medication to prevent and cure frostbite. T F

5. Explorers often feel depressed when they have altitude sickness. T F

6. Although there are no mountains, Antarctica is one of the highest regions in the world. T F

7. Human body needs about a month to adapt itself to the lack of oxygen at high altitude. T F

Read the text below and decide which word (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

**Hanslip is a safe pair of hands**

Chloe Hanslip sounds like the 1. ………………………… ordinary girl in the world. The 22-year-old from Guildford, Surrey describes 2. ………………………… as a typical woman who loves to shop. She also likes to go out with her friends and has all the 3. ………………………… songs on her iPod. She has 4. ………………………… joined her local health club, 5. ………………………… she is currently taking dance classes. Yet she also happens to play 6. ………………………… violin. Hanslip’s parents bought her a violin when she was just two, to stop her 7. ………………………… her older sister. “I’d wait for my big sister to finish her piano lesson, then I would toddle over and pick out whatever tune she had just been playing . . . Beethoven, Brahms, whatever,” recalls the former child prodigy. “Because my sister 8. ………………………… to get rather irritated 9.……………………… it, my parents decided they would get a violin to occupy me.” And occupy her it did. By ten she 10. ………………………… played in some of the world’s major concert halls, including the Carnegie in New York and the Royal Albert Hall in London. By Gary Flockhart

1. A most B one C really D very

2. A her B hers C herself D oneself

3. A last B latest C newer D next

4. A before B ever C just D yet

5. A that B there C where D which

6. A the B a C an D ---

7. A annoying B arguing C entertaining D telling

8. A use B used C using D uses

9. A about B because C for D in

10. A had B has C have D having

Read the text and choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) to fill in the gap.

Sydney is the largest city in Australia, with a 1 .………………………… of approximately 4.34 million. It is the state capital of New South Wales. It was 2 .………………………… in 1788 at Sydney Cove by Arthur Phillip, admiral of the First Fleet from Britain. A resident 3 .………………………… the city is called a Sydneysider. Sydney 4 .………………………… on Australia’s south-east coast. The city is built around Port Jackson, 5 .………………………… includes Sydney Harbour, leading to the city’s nickname, “the Harbour City”. It is noted for the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, and its beaches. The metropolitan area is surrounded 6.………………………… national parks, and contains many bays, rivers and inlets. The city has hosted international sporting events, 7.………………………… the 2000 Summer Olympics. Sydney is one of the most multicultural cities in the world. 8.………………………… the Mercer cost of living survey, Sydney is Australia’s most expensive city. Sydney also ranks among the top 10 most livable cities in the world.

1. A inhabitants B people C population D residents

2. A established B launched C opened D set

3. A at B in C of D on

4. A situate B is situating C situated D is situated

5. A which B who C whom D where

6. A about B by C in D with

7. A containing B excluding C including D consisting

8. A After B According to C In proportion D In relation