LANGUAGE SECTION

A. Rewrite / join the following sentences without changing the meaning.

1. My children are so noisy that I can hardly do any work at home.

I have _____________________________________________________ any work at home.

(such)

2. In spite of his unhappiness at boarding school, Andy refused to go with his parents.

Although __________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________.

3. A local farmer found some Roman coins. All of them are now on display in the National Museum.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________.

(which)

4. The match will be over at 7:55. James will meet Gina then.

As soon as _____________________________________________________________.

B. Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in parentheses.

Blue whales are the largest living creatures on Earth. These whales, which
(1)______________________ (find/usually) in the cold Arctic and Antarctic oceans,
(2)_________________________ (travel) to warmer waters for food every winter. Blue whales
(3)__________________________ (be) plentiful, numbering approximately 239,000, in nearly
all the oceans at the beginning of the twentieth century. However, for the next 40 years, they
(4)___________________________ (hunt) almost to extinction by whalers. As a result, blue
whales (5)__________________________ (add) to the Endangered Species Act in 1966
because their population (6)_________________________ (drop) to around 2,000. Owing to the
precautions taken, over the past 40 years, their number (7)___________________________
(climb) to 12,000. The increase is rather slow, however, because some countries, such as Russia
and Japan, (8) ____________________________ (still/stop) hunting whales illegally.
Greenpeace, an international organization for the protection and conservation of the
environment, (9)__________________________ (try) to stop such countries since it was
founded. Unfortunately, illegal hunting is not the only reason for the decrease in the number of
whales. Today, whale populations (10)___________________________ (threaten) by ear-splitting
military sonar and the industrialization of the oceans worldwide.
C. Complete the sentences using the correct forms of CAN, BE ABLE TO, and COULD.

- Last week, Jackie and I decided to take a vacation in the mountains. We found a nice place with bungalows and a campsite on the internet. We (1)________________________ (stay) in the bungalows but Jackie wanted to build up a tent. On our first night, we woke up to a strange noise. At first, we (2) __________________________ (see) anything because it was very dark. Then, we saw a big black bear looking for food. Luckily, we (3) __________________________ (run) away and get into our car in time.
- The star player of the team has undergone a knee surgery for the fourth time and doctors are afraid that he (4) _____________________ (play) football again.
- In the past 6 months, doctors (5) __________________________ (reduce) the number of newborn babies dying within a month after birth in Africa.

D. Fill in the blanks with ONE WORD ONLY or X.

Last year, I (1)_________________ a trip to Guatemala to learn more about the Maya civilization, which lasted 3,000 years. (2)_________________ that time, they created a calendar, a written language, art and architecture. My trip started in London. First, I had (3) _________________ 8-hour flight from London to Belize City. I stayed at a hotel overnight and took (4) _________________ early flight from Belize to Flores, where I joined a guided tour to experience Tikal, which is possibly the (5)_________________ magnificent of all Mayan sites. We left Flores at (6)_________________ dawn. Our guide had warned us (7)_________________ the heat and poisonous insects so I (8)_________________ wearing a long sleeved shirt and knee high boots. (9)_________________ we walked for two hours, we arrived at a Mayan archaeological site. We had (10)_______________ lunch there and had a rest for a while.

E. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions.

- A group of American students are coming to stay with us next year. Since we have two spare rooms, we’ve offered to put three of them (1) ________ in our house.
- We’ve had to put (2)___________ the meeting with the parents because the head teacher is ill.
- Fred is an unreliable person because everything he says is opposite (3)___________ what he believes.
- A: What’s the matter?
  B: The noise from upstairs puts me (4) _________ my work. I’m not going to put (5) _________ ________ this rudeness anymore. I’m calling the police.
- Fiona Farrell is a poet, fiction writer and playwright with an international reputation. She is described (6) __________ one of New Zealand’s most versatile writers.