



**Task № 1.** Choose the most suitable word to fill each space.

Mysterious findings (1) ... an underground cave in Mexico shed some (2) ... on ancient Maya rituals.

Dozens of black and red handprints cover (3) ... walls of the cave, and they are believed (4) ... with a coming-of-age ritual of the ancient Maya. The handprints are mostly made by children, and they date back more than 1,200 years when Maya's advanced culture was (5) ... its zenith.

According to archaeologists, the colors have a meaning. (6) ... black color symbolized death; however, it didn't mean that the children were going to be killed but rather death from a ritual perspective. The color red referred to war or life when children went out and they (7) ... in contact with the rest of society in (8) ... safe way.

The cave is located near the northern tip of the Yucatan peninsula that (9) ... the popular archaeological tourist site, Chichen Itza. Several million Maya still live in communities across southeastern Mexican states as (10) ... as Guatemala and Belize.

- |                |              |                    |                |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1) A at        | B before     | C inside           | D on           |
| 2) A dimness   | B sunshine   | C dark             | D light        |
| 3) A the       | B --         | C a                | D an           |
| 4) A associate | B associated | C to be associated | D to associate |
| 5) A along     | B at         | C in               | D on           |
| 6) A the       | B --         | C a                | D an           |
| 7) A were      | B had        | C came             | D became       |
| 8) A the       | B --         | C a                | D an           |
| 9) A covers    | B resides    | C rooms            | D houses       |
| 10) A good     | B well       | C close            | D big          |

**Task № 2.** Complete the sentences with set phrases. The first letter and the number of letters are given.

Some words are in the **plural**.

- 1) Two friends tried to crash the p...[5 letters], but the security guys wouldn't let them in.
- 2) Her exams are really soon, so she has to hit the b...[5 letters].
- 3) Tom is abroad, but he keeps in t...[5 letters] with his relatives and friends by emails.
- 4) Bill is on a r...[4 letters], having won four swimming competitions in a row.
- 5) Cheating your boss is playing with f...[4 letters]!
- 6) Does Mr. Robert Herrington ring a b...[4 letters] with you?
- 7) Nancy is the spitting i...[5 letters] of her mother.
- 8) Such traits like ambitiousness and persistence seem to run in the f...[6 letters].
- 9) Of course, Jack was given a second chance. He was his father's f...[5 letters] and blood, after all.
- 10) Henry intended to marry Jill, and he finally popped the q...[8 letters].

**Task № 3.** Match the words to form an expression.

1	Dead ...	A	...weeks
2	From dawn till ...	B	...some time
3	Great deal ...	C	...your time
4	Past few ...	D	...on time
5	Right on ...	E	...time
6	Run ...	F	...time for
7	Spend ...	G	...out of time
8	Take ...	H	...of time
9	It's ...	I	...about time
10	Make ...	J	...dusk

**Task № 4.** Fill in the gaps with ONE word, a postposition.

Scientists say they have found what they believe (1)... be 25,000 barrels possibly containing DDT which was dumped (2)... the Southern California coast.

They were very surprised when they found these barrels. They mapped more than 36,000 acres (3)... seafloor (4)... a region previously found to contain high levels (5)... DDT (6)... the sediments and (7)... the ecosystem.

The area has long been suspected (8)... be the site (9)... an underwater toxic waste dump dating back (10)... the Second World War.

**Task № 5.** Find mistakes in the lines, some of them are correct. In each line only ONE mistake is possible. There are two examples at the beginning of the extract (0 – spelling mistake; 00 – correct; 000 – unnecessary word).

<i>You can't decide which of <b>too</b> things you want most. Why not have both?</i>	0. <b>two</b>
<i>It doesn't matter which order you do them in, but once you've said yes to either, you'll be committed. No going <b>further</b> back. Bear that in mind ...</i>	00. +
Nail art has gone to the extremes before – we have been seen rhinestones and furry nails, but Mexico's adding something witch could be considered somewhat dangerous. Customers are paying around \$3 to have a bit scorpion glued to a nail. Scorpions are highly venomous and if one stings you, it can led to death, but the team insists that the ones that it is using are not venomous after they die and that the team uses tweezers when are handling them.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.
One manicurist said that this trend is not for everyone else. Some people react positively while others sink that it is a horrible and tacky trend.	7. 8.
People have accused the team of animal cruelty, but the team explained that they bye the scorpions dead from people who find them in mountain ranges.	9. 10.