

Read the texts about places that have been abandoned by their former inhabitants. Choose the correct summary from the list (A-I) for each paragraph (1-6). There are two extra summaries that you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

## Stunning ghost towns

0 \_\_\_\_

### Craco, Italy

Thanks to worsening agricultural conditions, a landslide (1963), flooding (1972), and an earthquake (1980), this once prosperous southern Italian hill town is now uninhabited. It is a popular filming location, however, and appeared in *The Passion of the Christ* and *Quantum of Solace*.

1 \_\_\_\_

### Kolmanskop, Namibia

A few miles from the port of Lüderitz, Kolmanskop became a thriving mining village after Zacharias Lewala, a worker, discovered a diamond there in 1908. Residents built houses and other amenities (including a hospital, ballroom, skittle alley, casino, and ice factory) in the architectural style of a German town, as well as Africa's first tram and the southern hemisphere's first X-ray station. It fell into decline after the First World War, when its diamond fields became depleted, and was abandoned in 1954. It is now a popular tourist destination.

2 \_\_\_\_

### Epecuén, Argentina

"Founded in the Twenties, Villa Epecuén thrived for five decades, gaining its own railway station and fanning out into the pampas as the population grew to more than 5,000," says Telegraph Travel's Chris Moss. "In 1985, however, a spate of heavy rains, common enough in the austral winter, caused the lake to swell. The military government of 1976-83 had mismanaged the local irrigation system – as it did most civic infrastructure – and the earthen dam couldn't cope with the sudden rise of the waters. The lake burst its banks and Villa Epecuén had to be evacuated. It remained submerged under 30ft of water until 2009, when there was an extended cycle of droughts. This caused the waters to retreat, exposing what looks like an Atlantis that has resurfaced in the middle of the pampas."

3 \_\_\_\_

### Prypiat, Ukraine

Built in 1970, this worker's town near the power station of Chernobyl once had a population of 50,000 but was abandoned in 1986 when the nuclear plant went into meltdown. Tours of Prypiat have been offered for years – visitors get to walk through the debris-strewn corridors of its Palace of Culture, admire its crumbling Olympic-sized swimming pool, and wander through the eerily empty classrooms of one of its biggest schools.

4 \_\_\_\_

#### Tyneham, UK

This Dorset village was seized by the Ministry of Defence in 1943 and used as a firing range for trainee troops. Locals were told they could return after the war, but in 1948 a compulsory purchase order was placed on the land, and no residents ever went back permanently. The church and school house have been preserved as museums.

5 \_\_\_\_

#### Humberstone, Chile

A former saltpeter town in northern Chile, Humberstone was thriving in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, then declined at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup>, before being abandoned entirely in 1960. Forty-five years later, it was declared a World Heritage Site, along with the nearby Santa Laura works. Unesco explains: "Humberstone and Santa Laura works are the best preserved and most representative remains of a series of more than 200 saltpeter works that once existed, all of which were interconnected by a specially built modern railway system, and constitute an exceptional testimony to technological progress and global exchanges which were the cornerstone of the industrial era."

6 \_\_\_\_

#### Arltunga, Australia

Another mining town, this time in central Australia, about 70 miles away from Alice Springs. Originally it was explored for its alluvial gold, but the harshness of the environment soon took its toll on inhabitants of the small settlement. The deserted mines and cemeteries give some idea of the kind of life lived by the miners. It has been preserved by the arid surroundings.

This town...

A	was left due to an accident and can now be visited by tourists.
B	was left on official orders and is still uninhabited due to a broken promise.
C	shows clear European influence and was gradually left after it could no longer be mined.
<input checked="" type="radio"/> D	was left after several natural disasters and has been used as a movie setting.
E	used to be a mining site and received the status of an important example of a historical period later on.
F	was inhabited by workers who left due to poor living conditions and still shows hints of their presence.
G	could not be visited for a period of time but now serves as an attractive movie setting.
H	did well for many years but disappeared from view before it reappeared later on.
I	was founded as a mining town and then left behind due to a series of natural disasters and a lack of resources.

## Stunning ghost towns

0 <input type="checkbox"/> D	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	

Von der Lehrperson auszufüllen

richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch
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	4 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		6 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			

\_\_\_ / P.