



Introduction to Mexico's long history

Mexico has a long and (0) history. For some people, Mexico is synonymous with the Aztecs, who dominated the country from the fourteenth century until they declined in the sixteenth, as a result of (17) by the Spanish, and disease. But before the arrival of Europeans, a number of (18) existed in different parts of Mexico, going back at least to the Olmecs. The Olmecs are virtually (19) now, but they flourished for over a millennium, from around 1500 BC.

Mexico from the Olmecs to the Aztecs, by Michael D. Coe and Rex Koontz, is an excellent introduction to the period, and a very (20) guide to these early (21) The authors draw on numerous recent (22) , and discuss topics ranging from the beginnings of agriculture and writing to (23) against the ruling elite.

Of particular interest is the authors' discussion of recent developments in radiocarbon dating. The (24) of these are likely to transform our understanding of the timescale of the region.

FASCINATE

CONQUER

CIVILISE

KNOW

INSTRUCT

INHABIT

DISCOVER

RISE

IMPLY

You will hear an interview with a woman called Carol Jones, who cycled around the world. For questions **15–20**, choose the answer (**A, B, C or D**) which fits best according to what you hear.

- 15** When Carol saw a solitary cyclist in India, she felt
- A** inspired to regain proficiency as a cyclist.
 - B** surprised at his choice of destination.
 - C** determined to join him on his journey.
 - D** dissatisfied with what she was doing.
- 16** Carol says that in the early stages of planning her trip, she worried about
- A** her ability to carry it through.
 - B** whether she could afford it.
 - C** the practicalities of planning the route.
 - D** getting hold of a sufficiently reliable bicycle.
- 17** How did ordinary people react to Carol when they saw her on the trip?
- A** They were fascinated by what she was doing.
 - B** They were unsure whether to offer her hospitality.
 - C** They disapproved of her behaviour.
 - D** They questioned her true motives.
- 18** What did Carol find particularly difficult about her journey?
- A** cycling in difficult terrain
 - B** dealing with unexpected events
 - C** communicating with certain people
 - D** coping with disappointments
- 19** Carol says that one advantage of travelling round the world by bicycle is that
- A** you can stop for a break whenever you like.
 - B** you stand out less than other foreign travellers.
 - C** you meet other cyclists to exchange ideas with.
 - D** you rely less on the goodwill of local people.
- 20** Looking back on her trip, Carol feels that she should have
- A** learnt more quickly from her mistakes.
 - B** had a clearer idea of why she was doing it.
 - C** made more effort to raise money for charity.
 - D** set herself a less challenging goal.

Read these sentences and decide what kind of word might fit the gap (e.g. a verb, a preposition or a pronoun).

- a** This rolling of the letter 'r' is typical some Scottish accents.
- b** The cold, grey morning was far from welcoming and Janis pulled her dressing gown tightly round as she went downstairs.
- c** Some people believe the only way to learn a language is to go where it is spoken others recommend learning the basics at home first.
- d** Our teacher used to give us a vocabulary test single day of the week.
- e** It is true that our policy may reviewing in the light of recent technological developments.
- f** It was an epoch produced a true flourishing of the arts.
- g** Jack was not sure his proposal would be accepted or not.
- h** Each classroom has own display area, computer workstation and quiet corner.
- i** Anne hadn't set to cause such a disturbance among her colleagues.
- j** John had had considerable success in his previous job, the new one was causing unexpected challenges.

Mosquitoes

According to the World Health Organisation, malaria, a disease spread (0) by mosquitoes, affects millions of people every year. Everyone knows how irritating the noise made by a mosquito, (13) by a painful reaction to its bite, can be. It is astonishing that so (14) is known about why mosquitoes are drawn to or driven away from people, given (15) level of distress and disease caused by these insects. We know that the most effective chemical (16) protecting people against mosquitoes is *diethyltoluamide*, commonly shortened (17) *deet*. (18) *deet* works well, it has some serious drawbacks: it can damage clothes and some people are allergic to it.

1 Read the tip box below. In your own words, what is the benefit of signposting in writing?

SIGNPOSTING

One way you can help your reader to follow your ideas and arguments in a text is by referring to ideas that you are going to mention or have previously mentioned.

For example, you could start writing a report in the Advanced Writing exam like this:

The aim of this report is to compare and contrast the college's two cafes.

This enables your reader to understand and predict what information is going to come next.

) Similarly, throughout your writing and particularly at the end, it is useful to refer your reader back to information or ideas you have already mentioned. Look at this example from the end of the same report:

For the reasons I have outlined in the previous paragraphs, it is imperative that young people are taught how to cook and eat healthily.

2 Match the signposting extracts (1–10) with the probable exam text type and position (A–J).

- 1** I would like to explain what makes Carlo's such a fantastic restaurant. *start of a review*
- 2** Anyway, I hope these suggestions have been helpful and look forward to seeing you soon.
- 3** There are several reasons why I believe the college should set up a film discussion club. Firstly, it would ...
- 4** I'm writing to let you know what I think you'll enjoy doing when you come to my city next month.
- 5** As well as the benefits already described, making a promotional video would be an opportunity for local creative people.
- 6** To recap, from screenplay and acting to special effects and soundtrack, Avengers: Endgame ticks all the boxes.
- 7** There are several factors which I think can make a film entertaining, and I'd like to look at the main three.
- 8** The purpose of this text is to summarise the main results of a student satisfaction survey.
- 9** That completes my evaluation of the induction programme for new staff, and I hope that my recommendations will be of help.
- 10** Anyway, as I have tried to demonstrate, childhood is the single most important period of a person's life.

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| A start of an essay | F end of a proposal |
| B start of a review | G end of a report |
| C start of a report | H end of an email |
| D start of an email | I end of an essay |
| E start of a proposal | J end of a review |