

46 READING PRACTICE

Read the text below and use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

There is an example at the beginning - Example: **0)** unusual

The Baobab Tree

The Baobab tree is an **0)** tree that grows in low-lying areas of Africa and Australia. When the Baobab drops its leaves, its branches have the **17)** of roots sticking up into the air, as if it had been planted upside-down. Baobabs range in **18)** from five to twenty metres, and there's evidence from carbon dating that they may live to be 3,000 years old.

USUAL

APPEAR

HIGH

Their trunks are smooth and shiny and are often hollow. One ancient Baobab in Zimbabwe is so **19)** that up to forty people can shelter in the empty space inside it. This space has been used for a variety of purposes, including shops, bus shelters or simply **20)** space.

MASS

STORE

Baobabs are almost **21)** to kill, and when they do die, they decay from the inside and collapse **22)** leaving only a heap of fibres behind. That's the reason for the traditional **23)** that they don't actually die, but simply vanish. It's hardly **24)** they're sometimes called magic trees.

POSSIBLE

EXPECTED

BELIEVE

SURPRISE