

# 29 READING PRACTICE

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning 0).

## A shy European bird

New research 0) ..... **B** ..... shown that the jay, a shy European bird commonly found in woodlands, 1) ..... the tactics it uses to acquire food, depending on its 2) ..... importance to other jays in the vicinity. Jays that are high in social rank boldly steal food from their 3) ..... , even in full view of their opponent. When hiding food, they change its position frequently.

The same bird, when placed with a more dominant jay, acts in a very different 4) ..... . It hides its food much more secretly than the dominant bird, which hovers over its stash, changing its position regularly. When attempting to steal food, the submissive bird does so far more 5) ..... ; waiting until its opponent is at a considerable distance before approaching the 6) .....

Researchers working on the project at the University of Cambridge were able to ascertain the social 7) ..... of fourteen jays after systematically pairing them up and observing their behaviour. Professor Clayton, who supervised the study, believes that these behavioural changes indicate that the birds were cognitively 8) ..... to different situations, rather than simply carrying out learned behaviour.

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|----|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0) | A knows          | B has          | C is           | D talks        |
| 1) | A converts       | B switches     | C evolves      | D refurbishes  |
| 2) | A relative       | B qualified    | C virtual      | D absolute     |
| 3) | A minions        | B subsidiaries | C novices      | D subordinates |
| 4) | A manner         | B mode         | C conduct      | D methodologye |
| 5) | A reticently     | B inertly      | C cautiously   | D rashly       |
| 6) | A cache          | B kitty        | C amalgamation | D assembly     |
| 7) | A classification | B array        | C sequence     | D hierarchy    |
| 8) | A modifying      | B amending     | C adapting     | D mutating     |