

05 READING PRACTICE

For questions 1-8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

There is an example at the beginning (0).

0) A lingering B enduring C unceasing D perennial

The importance of saving plastic

Many artefacts **0)**^B... cultural significance from the last century were made from plastic. It was always confidently assumed that this rather **1)** material was virtually indestructible. Now that some of these artefacts have become museum **2)**, we have discovered this **3)** was sadly mistaken.

The degradation of plastics is worrying both scientists and historians, who are racing against time to save our plastic heritage before it **4)** into dust. Our love affair with plastics **5)** in large part from the fact they can be moulded into just about any shape imaginable. When it comes to longevity, however, they have a serious **6)** : their chemical structure breaks down when they are exposed to air and sunlight.

Many now argue that we must consider the cultural **7)** we will be leaving future generations. Without urgent **8)** many artefacts will be lost forever. But developing effective conservation strategies is difficult because what works to preserve one type of plastic can have a catastrophic effect on the lifespan of another.

- | | | | | |
|----|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1) | A trivial | B routine | C customary | D mundane |
| 2) | A items | B articles | C pieces | D objects |
| 3) | A concept | B premise | C notion | D proposition |
| 4) | A crumbles | B shatters | C erodes | D shrivels |
| 5) | A starts | B sparks | C stems | D sprouts |
| 6) | A fault | B snag | C stigma | D flaw |
| 7) | A bequest | B legacy | C endowment | D heirloom |
| 8) | A intervention | B interception | C interference | D intercession |