READING

Gapped text

- Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.
 - 1 Can you think of any authors who became successful at a young age? What was the first work they became famous for? How old were they when they wrote it?
 - 2 What makes it difficult for young authors to get their work published?
- Quickly read the article about a young author and decide what type of story (a, b, c or d) she wrote.
 - a short story
 - **b** memoir
 - c novel
 - d autobiography

EXAM STRATEGY

- · Read the whole text first, ignoring the gaps, to understand what it is about.
- Analyse the sentences before and after the gaps and think about what information is missing. Then read the phrases in the exam task and try to find reference words which link them with other parts of the text.
 - EXAM TASK Read the text. Choose from (A-H) the phrase which best fits each space (1-6). There are two choices you do not need to use.
 - A having been educated in England from an early age
 - B several more novels and a collection of short stories
 - C managed to find the time to write two stage plays
 - D while settling in a new country had a big impact
 - E her own childhood experiences
 - F including New York, Paris, Budapest and Berlin
 - G she was studying for her A-level exams
 - H moving to a different country brings with it its own difficulties

Words in context

- Find the highlighted words in the article, and match them with the words and phrases (1-8) which have a similar meaning.
 - 1 conflicts 2 leading character 3 praise 4 accomplishment
 - 5 focuses
 - 6 become known
 - 7 source for ideas
 - 8 passionately

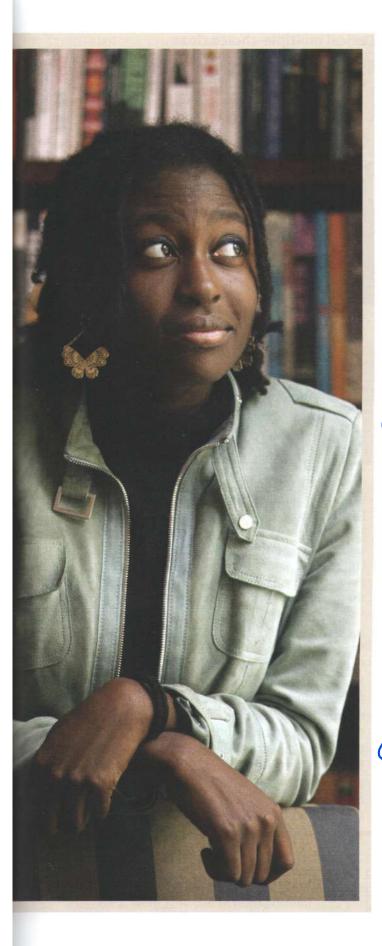
The

When Helen Oyeyemi sent twenty pages of writing to a literary agent, no one imagined that seven weeks later she would have completed her first novel and signed a £400,000 book deal with an international publisher. Her feat is all the more amazing ___ at the same time.

Helen was born in 1984 in Nigeria and moved to south London when she was four years old. However, it hasn't been an easy road to success for Helen. Her idea for the book came partly from 2_____ and partly from her imagination. The richly-textured ghost story centres around a girl called Jess whose twin dies at birth. Jess moves to England from Nigeria, and the events which unfold show how Jess's own culture clashes with her new culture in England. As in Helen's own life,

After her first book, The Icarus Girl, was released to critical acclaim in 2005, Helen went on to study social and political sciences at Cambridge University. Despite being busy with her college studies, she also 4_ which her fellow students performed to glowing reviews. Although at the time she vehemently denied having any plans to become a full-time writer, she has, since then, published 5_____. Her works often focus on female protagonists finding their way in an often hostile world.

Having lived in various places around the world, 6_____, Helen finally settled in Prague in 2014. She continues writing and publishing to this day. Her style has sometimes been compared to that of Edgar Allan Poe and Emily Dickinson - authors that Helen herself acknowledges as her key sources of inspiration.



or	phrase.
1	My for painting always comes from
	nature.
2	1.1.7 Get 1900 1111 1000 111 1000 111 10 1000
120	a battlefield.
3	The plot gradually, and everything became clear.
4	The novel's main is an unhappy detective.
5	Our school orchestra achieved an amazing
2	by winning the contest!
6	The Lord Of The Rings saga a mission to
7	save the world from evil forces.
7	This movement won for its brave position on race equality.
8	
O	against him.
112/	w aim an ha an man anh ini an a
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