Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (11–16). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Europe's Greatest Remote Escapes

Whether you're looking for an active break or somewhere to finish writing a bestselling novel, here's a selection of the wildest and most remote spots in Europe to really get away from it all.

11 Hoy

For a remote escape with an adrenalin rush, head to *Hoy*, the second largest of the 72 Orkney Islands. Sitting to the north of Scotland, the Vikings named *Hoy* "high island" because of its hills and peaks. The island's most famous landmark is the Old Man of Hoy, a 137-metre-high cliff, which can be climbed during summer months. Further along the same cliff line is St John's Head, the tallest vertical cliff in Britain. The majority of the island's 400 residents live in the south, so head north and your only company will be the vast and varied birdlife. Accommodation options include hostels and self-catering holiday homes.

12 Finnish Lakeland

If what you need is peace and quiet and awe-inspiring scenery to write your novel, try *Finnish Lakeland*. During the summer months, this area of Finland consists mainly of two colours: green and blue. There are 188,000 lakes in Finland, stretching from Helsinki in the south right up to Lake Inari in Finnish Lapland. Of these, Lake Saimaa in *Finnish Lakeland* is the biggest. It is home to 14,000 islands. There are so many islands, in fact, that the lake doesn't look like one body of water, rather a labyrinth of inlets, waterways, and canals. Hire a wooden cottage on one of the islands and start creating your masterpiece.

13 Bardsey Island

Lockdown has meant a lot of time online. For a back-to-basics break, take a trip to *Bardsey Island* where none of the nine traditional holiday houses have electricity, let alone any WiFi. The island lies 3 km off the coast of the Llyn Peninsula in Northwest Wales and has been an important religious site since the sixth century. It's also said to be where the legendary sorcerer Merlin is buried.

14 Pico

For a break with travel companions guaranteed to keep to the two-metre rule, head to the island of *Pico*. This is the second largest of the Azores Islands, located way out in the North Atlantic Ocean. The volcanic island is located on the migratory route for whales and is one of the best places in the world to spot blue whales, fin whales, sea whales, and sperm whales. Visit between March and October for optimum whale spotting. *Pico* is also home to the Princess Alice Bank, a seamount popular with experienced divers. Look out for dolphins as you make your way out to the dive site.

15 Western Balkans

After months of sitting around, chances are you're ready to stretch your legs. Where better to do this than through the rugged and wild mountainous region of *the Western Balkans*. The Peaks of the Balkans track is a 119-mile circular route through Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro. Following ancient mule tracks, shepherd paths and footways, the trail winds through some of Europe's most stunning and remote scenery. The entire walk takes around a fortnight and includes a diverse range of landscapes from high alpine peaks and pristine valleys to glacial lakes and charming mountain villages.

16 Vrångö

You need to time your visit to *Vrångö* right. During July and August, it's popular with holidaymakers from nearby Gothenberg, but at all other times of the year, you'll have the island almost to yourself. The southernmost island in the Gothenberg archipelago is known for its swimming. Sure, the waters aren't tropical but you can warm up in a floating sauna. Bring your tent with you and pitch it wherever you like; the Allemansrätten (the freedom to roam) is preserved in Swedish law meaning that this is one of the best countries in the world to enjoy staying in a tent in the wild.

It is the best place _____.

A to surf the waves

B to find a camping spot

C to learn about a fascinating event

D to watch marine mammals

E to go on a two-week hike

F to get down to your literary pursuits

G to enjoy life without modern conveniences

H to go birdwatching

Task 4

Read the text below. Choose from (A–H) the one which best fits each space (17–22). There are two choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

The Hyatt Empire

The idea that a multi-billion-dollar empire was launched from a chance encounter in Fat Eddie's coffee shop with a cheque written on a napkin seems like something **(17)** _____. This very true story took place in the very first *Hyatt* hotel across from Los Angeles airport.

As legend has it, in 1957, businessman Jay Pritzker was killing time in Fat Eddie's when he noticed **(18)** _____. After a quick inquiry, he discovered there would not be a vacancy for a few days. And that's when Jay Pritzker had his epiphany. Why only place high-end hotels downtown so far from the airport? Business travellers would surely flock to luxurious accommodations that had the added convenience of being next to the airport.

Pritzker was so certain of this, he arranged a meeting with the hotel owner, a man named Hyatt von Dehn, and they agreed on a sale price of $2.2 million on the spot. As Pritzker did not have the forethought **(19)** _____, he wrote a legally binding cheque on a napkin.

Jay partnered with his younger brother Donald to turn this vision into a reality. The boys were the grandsons of Jewish immigrants **(20)** _____, and by the time they were born, the family had achieved some success in the new world in various business ventures.

The key to Pritzker's vision was combining convenience with luxury. Today the airport hotel is as commonplace in any developed city **(21)** _____. But in the late 1950s this concept didn't exist.

Of course, Jay Pritzker's vision was more than just airport hotels. He wanted the Hyatt name to be synonymous with luxury and elite accommodations. Pritzker saw the opportunity **(22)** _____ the now world-famous *Atlanta Regency Hotel* opened its doors. By the end of the 1960s the *Hyatt* chain had grown to 13 hotels.

A who expanded *Hyatt* into a chain of hotels

B that could only be found in a Hollywood meeting

C to carry his chequebook with him

D mostly in the western United States

E as traffic lights and park benches

F to create a signature architectural wonder and in 1967

G that the hotel was filled to capacity

H who came to America from a town near Kyiv in 1881