

**I. Listen and fill in the blanks: each sentence will be read twice before a third and final reading.**

1. Over the years \_\_\_\_\_ have improved their \_\_\_\_\_ which could be \_\_\_\_\_ for the future dominated by \_\_\_\_\_ events.
2. High-tech telescopes take us back to the \_\_\_\_\_, to the very \_\_\_\_\_ of the universe and show us \_\_\_\_\_ where stars and planets are born.
3. Galileo works out how to increase the magnifying power of the telescope to 8 times what our \_\_\_\_\_ can see.
4. The history of life on Earth \_\_\_\_\_ for many years but there were tantalising gaps in the history of \_\_\_\_\_ to say the least.
5. For instance, when did the \_\_\_\_\_ of the development of a \_\_\_\_\_ first appear? Did dinosaurs really evolve \_\_\_\_\_ before turning into birds?
6. The newly discovered Chinese fossil beds are a rich \_\_\_\_\_ containing the \_\_\_\_\_ that swam in \_\_\_\_\_ many millions of years ago.
7. Looking \_\_\_\_\_ the animal we notice some little constructions that carry \_\_\_\_\_ which \_\_\_\_\_ the animal to \_\_\_\_\_ and extract oxygen from the waters it flowed over.

**II. Choose the most appropriate words to complete the sentences. Each sentence will be read TWICE.**

1. a. flat                      b. accurate                      c. flawless                      d. available
2. a. each other                      b. among others                      c. both of them                      d. without them
3. a. precision                      b. distance                      c. pattern                      d. structure
4. a. flooding                      b. toolmaking                      c. writing                      d. weighing
5. a. world                      b. symbol                      c. equation                      d. power