

It's my life

1 Language in use: The life of Alison Hargreaves

Read the text about Alison Hargreaves, a young mountaineer. Some forms are missing. Choose the correct form (A–J) for each gap (1–7). There are two extra forms that you should not use. Write your answers in the boxes provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Alison Hargreaves, who was born in 1962, ... (0) in England. She often went hiking with her family as a young child and started rock climbing ... (1) 13. After that she only wanted to climb, so she decided not to go to university. Having found a job in Jim Ballard's climbing shop, she trained and climbed in her free time.

Although Alison later married him and they had two children, she was still ambitious. Climbing was ... (2), however, and they had money problems. In 1993 the family moved to Switzerland, travelling and living in an old van. When Alison became the first person to climb the six most difficult mountains in the Alps alone during the same ... (3), this brought her some fame but not much money.

In 1994 Alison made her first trip to Mount Everest but was forced by the weather to turn ... (4). Then in 1995, she tried again and became the first woman to climb Mount Everest alone. Her ... (5) at last turned her into a national heroine. After that she quickly made plans to climb the world's next highest mountain K2, because it was a chance to make money for her family. On 13 August 1995 she reached the top of K2, but never returned, dying in a violent storm on the way ... (6).

After her death, Alison Hargreaves was criticised by some people who thought that a mother with young children should not climb. She had a different view of life, however. Her ... (7) words were: "One day as a tiger is better than a thousand as a sheep."



A	at the age of	E	expensive	I	season
B	back	F	favourite	J	success
C	best	G	grew up		
D	down	H	return		

0	L ✓	4	
1		5	
2		6	
3		7	

2 Language in use: The real story of Twitter

Read the text about the history of Twitter. Some words are missing. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each gap (1–8). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box. The first one (0) has been done for you.

In the last few years, Twitter, a micro-blogging ... (0), has become one of the most ... (1) media in the online world of social networking. One of the co-founders of Twitter was Evan Williams, who wanted to build a podcasting ... (2) together with Biz Stone and Jack Dorsey. Before they could go online, however, a similar website was ... (3) by Apple and so they had to give up their idea.

At that stage Williams took over and turned to a new idea, a micro-blogging site where you could publish short status messages in not more than 140 ... (4). This idea goes back to Jack Dorsey, who developed this idea together with Noah Glass, another co-founder of the company. People could ... (5) what they were doing – that was the whole idea.

The original name was Twttr, which was later turned into Twitter, its present name.

Slowly Evan Williams became convinced that Twitter was a good idea and as he had enough money he bought the whole company back from the ... (6). His first move as the new owner was to fire Noah Glass to keep control of the company. And since then Twitter has become one of the most ... (7) social networking sites. However, Noah Glass and others and their role in developing Twitter have never been credited appropriately – a feature which reminds us of the ... (8) of Facebook.



0	A	server	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	serve	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	serving	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	A	influencing	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	influenced	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	influential	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	following	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	A	platform	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	place	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	placement	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	plate	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	A	lynched	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	launched	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	laundered	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	lowered	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	A	characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	characters	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	features	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	feats	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	A	poster	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	pose	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	propose	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	post	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	A	investments	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	investors	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	inventors	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	interventions	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	A	succeeding	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	success	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	successful	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	successive	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	A	develop	<input type="checkbox"/>	B	experiment	<input type="checkbox"/>	C	experiments	<input type="checkbox"/>	D	development	<input type="checkbox"/>

Key**1 Language in use: The life of Alison Hargreaves**

- 0–G:** grew up
- 1–A:** at the age of
- 2–E:** expensive
- 3–I:** season
- 4–B:** back
- 5–J:** success
- 6–D:** down
- 7–F:** favourite

Not used: C (best), H (return)

2 Language in use: The real story of Twitter

- 0–B:** service
- 1–C:** influential
- 2–A:** platform
- 3–B:** launched
- 4–B:** characters
- 5–D:** post
- 6–B:** investors
- 7–C:** successful
- 8–B:** development