

## Q. 61–75 Comprehension

MARK

Read this passage carefully.

## Starlight and Streetlamps

*Exploring some of the factors that affect your experience of being outdoors at night.*

If you live in the countryside, you will know that you can go out on a clear night and the sky will be full of bright stars twinkling down at you. The stars and the moon can make quite a lot of light – enough  
 5 to see your way by, even if there are no streetlamps. On a cloudy night in the countryside, however, the stars seem to disappear and it can be so dark that you cannot see your own hand stretched out before you. If you are to leave your home at all you must  
 10 take a torch – and all country people ensure that the battery in their torch or phone is fully charged if they go out on a gloomy evening.

If you live in a city or town, you'll be used to well-lit roads, streetlamps studding the pavements and  
 15 light from windows and shops – even in the dark

of winter. Quite possibly, you will very seldom see the stars at all. Our streetlamps are mostly lit by electricity and they come on automatically when twilight arrives. It was not always so. Before  
 20 electricity, a lamplighter used to come down each road at evening with a long pole and a ladder. He would turn a lever that made gas come out of the top of the streetlamp and would light the lamp with his long pole. Some streets in London – notably  
 25 the area around the front of Buckingham Palace – are still lit by gas but, sadly, we no longer have lamplighters.

Now read these questions. You have a choice of four answers to each question. Choose the *one* answer you think the best. Draw a line in the box next to its letter, like this.

A ☐

61 What stops people who live in the countryside from seeing stars at night?

- A too many houses
- B clouds
- C trees
- D the moonlight

A ☐  
 B ☐  
 C ☐  
 D ☐

61 ☐ 2

62 Which of the following words or phrases means the same as 'ensure' (line 10)?

- A find
- B worry
- C make certain
- D forget

A ☐  
 B ☐  
 C ☐  
 D ☐

62 ☐ 2

63 Which word or phrase means the same as 'fully charged' (line 11)?

- A topped-up
- B very bright
- C of excellent quality
- D powerful

A ☐  
 B ☐  
 C ☐  
 D ☐

63 ☐ 2

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