

SECTION C

- 5 For questions 60-65, read through the following text and then choose from list A-J the best phrase or sentence given below it to fill each of the blanks. Write one letter (A-J) in the correct box on your answer sheet. Some of the suggested answers do not fit at all. One answer has been given as an example.

SPELLING IT OUT

If you're reading this book, spelling probably matters to you. You may think it matters to the people who will have to read what you write. You're probably correct on both counts. Spelling does matter.

(0) People often judge us by the way we write, which seems rather unfair when you think about the difficulties presented by the English spelling system. (60) Most of us manage quite happily with the words we use regularly until we need a less familiar word. (61) But even then mistakes don't matter as long as the writing is 'for our eyes only' - or perhaps for the immediate family. It's when our writing is read by other people that spelling really begins to matter. When we read, we should be able to ignore the spelling and cut right through to what the writer is saying. Unfortunately, we can only do this when the spelling is correct. (62) They tend to distract the reader from the main task of getting the writer's message. At worst they can be so bad that they make it difficult to understand what the writer is saying. At best they irritate the reader and cause him or her to think that the writer is careless or incompetent. (63) A piece of writing can't do its job if the reader is paying attention to the spelling and not to what the writer is saying. (64) They generally take great pains to get the words right and this means that all too often they think in ten-letter words but write in three-letter words that they can spell! People simplify their writing to avoid seeming incompetent, sometimes to a point where it no longer represents the quality of their thinking. Those who want to take full control of their lives and influence other people need the tools for making good writing. (65)

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| A | As the proverb reminds us, it's a bad workman who blames his tools. | F | Whether it <i>should</i> matter is another question. |
| B | In both cases, the results are the same. | G | Either way the reader probably won't give the sort of attention the writer would wish. |
| C | Poor spellers aren't usually careless. | H | The essential tool is a good dictionary. |
| D | One of these tools is good spelling. | I | Very few people master the system completely. |
| E | Spelling mistakes draw attention to themselves and catch the eye.. | J | Then the problems arise. |

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