

Read the text and do the following tasks.

## Amazing discovery about a woman from The Great Hunger

- ❶ This newspaper illustration is one of the most iconic images from The Great Hunger in Ireland, a famine which led to the loss of approximately one million lives between 1845 and 1852. The mother and her children have become symbols for the thousands of mothers and children who suffered and died, struggled and survived during these years.
- ❷ But she is not a mere symbol. She was a real person with a real story, and the subject of what was possibly the first human interest interview in the history of journalism.
- ❸ Bridget O'Donnel was a poor famine victim whose story appeared in *The Illustrated London News* on December 22, 1849. Forced to leave her home while pregnant, O'Donnel endured losing her child at birth and her thirteen-year old son due to starvation. Her fate after the interview remains unknown.
- ❹ Michael Foley's essay, *Death in Every Paragraph: Journalism and the Great Irish Famine*, explores how the press reported on The Famine and how it shaped the future of journalism. As Foley explains, the interview with O'Donnel was highly unusual for the time. "Newspapers and periodicals did not deal in human interest stories, and did not tell their readers about the poor. The only way people like Bridget O'Donnel would normally have been named in a newspaper was if she had appeared in court, had been before a public hearing or tribunal, had been a witness, or the subject of an inquest."
- ❺ O'Donnel was none of these, and the interview – conducted by James Mahoney, who also drew the sketch of O'Donnel with her surviving children – represents a historic milestone for that reason. "What was unprecedented about O'Donnel was not only that she was named, but that this poor Irish Famine victim was projected onto the international news stage, and her own words were used to convince the world of the massive social and political injustice endured by the people of Ireland," Foley writes.
- ❻ The Great Hunger forced journalists in Ireland to rethink the way they approached telling the news.
- ❼ "The great calamity [ – X – ] Europe in the nineteenth century leaving one million dead and forcing another three million to emigrate and had a [ – 27 – ] impact on the future of journalism. The changes that were [ – 28 – ] upon Ireland by The Famine were eventually [ – 29 – ] to the development of the press. Despite the declining population, the press [ – 30 – ] and grew in the post-Famine period," Foley writes.



Choose the correct answer from A, B, C, or D. Write the letter in the box provided.

1. The newspaper illustration is important because it...
  - A. shows how The Famine affected the relatives of the poor in Ireland.
  - B. represents the hardships experienced by Irish women and children.
  - C. represents the women who survived The Great Hunger.
  - D. is a symbolic image of death in Ireland during The Famine.
2. Before the interview, Bridget O' Donnel...
  - A. lived comfortably in Ireland.
  - B. had appeared in a London newspaper.
  - C. decided to move out of her house.
  - D. had lost two of her children.
3. Why was the interview with Bridget O' Donnel significant for the press?
  - A. It featured the icon of The Great Hunger.
  - B. It is probably the only story of The Famine.
  - C. It was likely the first of its kind.
  - D. It included an image of a person.

The sentences below are either true or false. Tick ☐ the correct response then justify it with a relevant brief quotation from the text. Both a tick ☐ and a quotation are required for one mark.

	True	False
<b>Example: O' Donnel is not just a representation.</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Justification: . . . . .she is not a mere symbol . . . . .</b>		

4. The exchange with O' Donnel was common during that period.  
Justification: . . . . .

5. James Mahoney was just in charge of interviewing O' Donnel.  
Justification: . . . . .

6. The press made O' Donnel known outside Ireland.  
Justification: . . . . .

7. The Famine made Irish reporters reconsider how current news reporting should be conducted.  
Justification: . . . . .

Which words go in the gaps in paragraph 7? Choose the words from the list below and write them in the boxes provided.

BENEFICIAL	FORCED	MODERATE	PROFOUND	SET
DEVELOPED	HIT	PROFITABLE	PROMOTED	SUFFERED

**Example:** [ – X – ] ..... **hit** .....

8. ....

9. ....

10. ....

11. ....

Choose the correct answer from A, B, C, or D. Write the letter in the box provided.

12. The most suitable alternative title for this text is...

- A. An Illustration of Survival in Ireland.
- B. The Evolution of Journalism.
- C. Victims of The Great Hunger.
- D. Journalism in The Post-Famine Period.

### Use of English

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

**Example:**

0 Prizes are given out when the school year finishes.

**PLACE**

Prize giving ..... end of each school year.

The gap can be filled by the words 'takes place at the', so you write:

**Example: 0 TAKES PLACE AT THE**

13. Richard asked me how much I had paid for the theatre tickets.

**COST**

Richard wanted to ..... the theatre tickets.

14. It wasn't a good idea for you to delete that file.

**SHOULD**

You ..... that file.

15. The ferry couldn't sail because the weather was bad.

**DUE**

The ferry couldn't sail ..... weather.

16. The teacher told us not to be late on Friday.

**BETTER**

"You ..... late on Friday,' the teacher said.

17. There are Spanish and French translations of the book.

**BEEN**

The book ..... into Spanish and French.

18. She will only phone if she gets lost.

**UNLESS**

She will ..... lost.

Complete **one** of the following tasks in **200-250** words.

1. Your good friend really wants to study a subject that his/her parents are not in favour of. Write a letter to your friend giving ideas that could be used to persuade his/her parents to allow your friend to study what he/she wants.
2. You are participating in a debate on the motion: *Parents should no longer support their children financially once they have graduated from high school.* Write the text of your speech either agreeing or disagreeing with this motion.