

Reading B2

Read the following text from which several sentences have been removed. Your task is to fill in the gaps from the list below the text. There is one extra sentence that you do not need. There is an example already done for you.

MAMMOTH MIRACLE THE ICE BABY

When Yuri Khudi, reindeer herder and hunter noticed the animal body parts **0....C...**, he thought he had found a dead reindeer. However, his discovery proved to be much more significant. The dead animal turned out to be **1.....**, which the north-west Siberian ground had preserved for thousands of years. Scientists were called in and the female calf named Lyuba **2.....** was transported to the regional capital of Salekhard.

3..... that Lyuba weighs 50 kg, is 85 centimetres high and 130 centimetres from trunk to tail. She had been lying in the frozen ground for at least 10,000 years **4.....**. The deputy director of the Russian Academy of Science's Zoological Institute, Alexei Tikhonov told reporters that the mammoth's remarkable condition may serve **5.....**, molecular and microbiological studies.

The outer shaggy fur was missing, its nails and parts of an ear were gone, and the tail had been bit off, but the rest of its body was undamaged. **6.....** protected the internal organs from modern microbes and micro-organisms. In fact, scientists have been able to identify milk from her mother in her stomach.

Scientists say that it's possible Lyuba drowned in a mud-slide and the clay-like substance preserved her **7.....**. Lyuba's unique skin conditions explain why many scientists believe that she is the world's most valuable discovery. **8.....** they can clone the mammoth in the near future. This is because the woolly mammoth shares 99.4 % of its DNA **9.....**, the Asian elephant. What's more, the mammoth genome was the first genome that scientists have reconstructed from an extinct animal.

Tikhonov personally does not think that the cloning will be successful because Lyuba's body was protected by the freezing conditions, in which cells usually burst. However, cells need to be whole for cloning. **10.....** and have not given up hope to bring the mammoths back from the dead. One way would be to create a hybrid **11.....**, the Asian elephant. Another way would be to fuse the nucleus of a mammoth cell with an elephant egg cell without its DNA.

Lyuba's adventurous modern age life **12.....**. One of the first stops on her journey around the world was St Petersburg. There she was displayed with Dima, a male baby mammoth discovered in Russia's far-eastern Magadan in 1997. **13.....** until she is finally taken back to her home museum in Salekhard. Lyuba's discovery is not only important because it might bring the mammoth back to life, but also because she may be **14.....** about this extinct animal and what caused its disappearance from earth.

