

PART 3

You are going to read a newspaper article about kickboxing. Seven sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A-H the one which fits each gap (16-21). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Kickboxing

Kickboxing is not a glamorous sport. Its coverage is confined mainly to late-night cable TV, and its venues tend to be dingy sports halls with spartan facilities. 0  E

Kickboxing is, however, a respectable martial art and most kickboxers are well-balanced, dedicated athletes. 16  Kickboxing badly needs someone to revamp its image and the first who should be signed up is Catherine Brown.

17  With her girlish smile and pixie features, pink skin and hair scraped back in a ponytail, Ms Brown could pass for seventeen but has just turned twenty four. Even her hands, which are long and slim, seem unsuited to boxing. But despite her size (she is only 153 cm), Ms Brown has a kick that could break a bank door. Which is just as well, because tonight in Hastings she will fight Lorna Histed, the reigning champ, for the British Women's Kickboxing title. If it goes the full distance, the fight will last four 90-second rounds.

Kickboxing is a semi-contact sport; points are scored for accuracy rather than damage inflicted. 18  There is no kicking below the knee, but thighs and ribs take a pounding. Contestants have to "pull" their punches and

kicks to ensure that opponents are not seriously hurt: any disabling blow will get the aggressor disqualified.

Since there are no weight categories in women's kickboxing, nearly all Ms Brown's opponents enjoy a clear advantage over her in size. "In a semi-contact sport," she explains, "that shouldn't really matter. But it does, because if you're smaller you have to get in close, and they can push you, lean on you, use weight to their advantage." 19  "I've always had an aggressive streak. I don't know why. All the women in my family wear flowery dresses, but I'm more like one of the boys."

When training she prefers to spar with men, because the girls moan that she is too heavy-handed, that she hurts them. 20  Her first fight, against a woman some 40 pounds heavier, left her unable to train for several weeks.

Ms Brown's parents won't be going to her upcoming title fight. "I don't think my family understands how important this fight is. My mum thinks it's just another silly scrap.

21  I don't think she even watches the videos of the fights I send her, though my dad does."

- A She is just what her sport requires; young, smart and attractive, a natural athlete with an open, earthy personality.
- B Unfortunately, a small number of them are heavily tattooed and their outfits can be off-putting.
- C But when the bell rings, she transfers all that adrenalin into controlled mental power.
- D But she has a bonus in her personality.
- E Tucked away in this corner of broadcasting, it seems somehow illicit, just a few rungs up the ladder from arm-wrestling and pit-bull fighting.
- F When I told her about it, she said 'I thought you'd grown out of that tomboy stage'.
- G Punches and kicks to the face are banned, although blows to the forehead are allowed.
- H Sometimes, though, she gets injured too.

PART 4

You are going to read some information about York, a historical British city. For questions 22-35, choose from the places (A-H). Some of the places may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Which place or places would you recommend for someone who:

- wants to visit York's most famous attraction? 0  E
- wants to go shopping? 22  23
- is interested in Georgian buildings? 24  25
- wants to see interior decorations? 26  27
- is interested in the city's former defences? 28  29
- wants to go to church? 30
- would enjoy a riverside stroll? 31
- likes flowers? 32
- wants to send a tea set to someone abroad? 33
- dislikes places full of cars? 34
- wants to see an old place that is unique in England? 35

YORK

The Bars  A

Gateways let you in but they can also "bar" your way and often, in York's turbulent past, that was the thing which counted most. Bootham Bar is the defensive bastion for the north road. On the road south is Micklegate Bar, traditionally the monarch's entrance, where traitors' heads were displayed. Monk Bar has kept a portcullis in working order, while Walmgate Bar is the only town gate in England to have preserved its barbican: a funnel-like approach, forcing attackers to bunch together.

Treasurer's House  B

The house was built on the site of the Roman Legionary Fortress and was the residence for Treasurers of the Minster until 1547. It then had a succession of private owners and in 1720 was divided into Gray's Court, with its fine courtyard, and the present Treasurer's House. In 1930 it was left to the National Trust, together with a fine collection of period furnishings. Open spring to autumn. Admission charge.

Stonegate  C

A number of York's streets have names ending in "gate", the Viking word for "street". But Stonegate existed long before the Vikings came: it was the "Via Praetoria" to the main gate of the old Roman fortress. Stonegate is kept free of all traffic so that its rich medley of medieval and Georgian architecture may be enjoyed in peace and at leisure. An ancient thoroughfare has become the most delightful of shopping streets.

Mansion House  D

York's Lord Mayor ranks second only to London's in the kingdom. His official residence, however, is more than ten years older and this fine example of Georgian architecture was built between 1725 and 1730. It is the only house in England which is used solely as the official private residence for a Lord Mayor and his Lady during their term of office and it contains complete living quarters, as well as a magnificent state room and elegant dining room. It is here that the City's regalia and historic civic plate are kept. Interior not open to the public.

The Minster  E

York uses the old word for its minster, meaning a centre of Christian teaching or ministering. It is, of course, also a cathedral, containing the Archbishop's "cathedra" or throne. The first minster was built in the 7th century; the present one is the fourth on the site. It is the largest medieval structure in the United Kingdom. Its grandeur and its surpassing beauty attract visitors from all over the world. Archbishop de Grey began the great building in about 1220. Stage by stage the work proceeded until finally, in 1472, the Minster was complete. Among the minster's many treasures are its 128 windows of stained glass, dating from the 12th to the present century. Admission free.

Guildhall and River  F

Two rivers meet at York: the Ouse and the Foss. The Ouse, at one time tidal, enabled the city to become a great port and trading centre. The Guildhall, built by the Ouse, can be viewed from the garden on the opposite bank. The 15th century hall was virtually destroyed in an air raid in 1942. It has been expertly restored and the interior contains some splendid carving. The adjoining Inner Chamber escaped destruction and may also be viewed. Admission free.

Mulberry Hall  G

This beautiful building in Stonegate, with its splendid Tudor front, is 200 yards from York Minster. In the 15th century a private house, and a shop since the 18th century, Mulberry Hall's premises now contain fourteen showrooms extending over three floors. Its unsurpassed stock of fine tableware and collectors' pieces includes English bone china by Wedgwood, Royal Worcester, Spode, Minton, Royal Doulton, and Royal Crown Derby; porcelain by Royal Copenhagen and Herend; crystal by Waterford, Stuart, Baccarat and Lalique; enamels by Halcyon Days. Any purchase at Mulberry Hall can be dispatched by them, simply and economically, to any address in any part of the world.

The Walls  H

York's first walls were Roman. Substantial fragments of these still remain but it is the medieval walls, carefully maintained and restored, which now encircle the old city, almost three miles round. The earth ramparts on which they stand were raised by the Romans and the Anglo-Danish Kings of York. The Normans strengthened them. They are now planted extensively with daffodils. Open daily till dusk.