

## READING PART 2 GAPPED TEXT (1)

You are going to read an article about bottle refunds. Seven sentences have been taken out from the article.

Choose the most appropriate sentences from **A-H** below the text for each gap. Remember that one of these sentences is unnecessary.

### BOTTLE REFUNDS

If you were born after the 1980s bottle-return schemes in the UK and Europe were largely extinct. It may seem like old-fashioned 20<sup>th</sup> century nonsense to you, so here's a little explanation to put you in the picture: **[9]** \_\_\_\_

It's essentially a kind of deposit aimed at improving sustainability. In fact, refunds are still common in some countries such as the USA, Australia and parts of Scandinavia. **[10]** \_\_\_\_

As it became cheaper to make bottles and consumerism rose, the impetus to collect and refill vanished. And so we fell in love with single-use plastic containers. **[11]** \_\_\_\_ For instance just 25% of plastic packaging was recycled in the UK in 2012, placing the UK in 25th position out of 29 EU Countries. Overall the UK still recycles 25% less waste than Denmark, and this year barely enters the top 10 league table of recyclers in Europe.

There is still a lot of work to be done if we are to improve on these rather poor statistics. If we want to move towards a "zero- waste" economy, hit our targets and get in line with our greener European colleagues. **[12]** \_\_\_\_

Inevitably there's corporate resistance from the mega drink-producing corporations. Even where deposit refund schemes are common there is dissent. **[13]** \_\_\_\_

Based on extensive research it is recommended that if the UK put a deposit of 15p on drinks containers under 500ml and 30p on containers over 500ml, it would generate return rates of around 90%. **[14]** \_\_\_\_

As well as all the ecological advantages of a well-designed deposit scheme, there's also evidence that suggests that the establishment of a new (or more accurately a revived) social habit like this may be a feasible path in the direction of mass sustainable consumption. **[15]** \_\_\_\_

- A** If Parliament were to pass a new bill, companies and citizens would reconsider their position on deposits on glass, aluminium and common forms of plastic and we might even up our status within the community!
- B** Recently in Australia, attempts to introduce a deposit scheme were challenged by the giants Coca-Cola and Schweppes.
- C** All you had to do in those days was take your used bottle of lemonade, cola, beer or whatever back to the shop you bought it from and they would give you a few pennies for it.
- D** Furthermore, a nationwide system of deposit-return schemes would create in the region of 4,000 jobs.
- E** So, all compelling reasons for sensible recycling. But the question remains, does anyone have the bottle to do it?
- F** Most people know that they should separate plastic from glass. Others go a step further and have a special organic waste bin or even a compost heap in the garden.
- G** They have helped to stimulate social awareness as regards other potential enemies of the planet such as batteries (in Sweden).
- H** Then we found out there was a heavy ecological cost but seem to have been unable successfully to reverse our habits.

## ANSWERS AND ADVICE

There is always a *REASON* for every answer. It's scientific!

Look for '*pointers*' or connections which show you the right answer.

**9 C** This extract explains how the old system worked.

**10 G** 'They' refers to 'bottle refunds'. *Scandinavia* points you to *Sweden*.

**11 H** 'And so' is the same as 'then'. It means 'as a result' in this case.

**12 A** European colleagues= community. It talks about status compared to other European countries.

**13 B** 'Corporate resistance' refers to big companies such as Coca Cola.

**14 D** It talks about the possible consequences of re-introducing bottle refunds.

**15 E** This is like a summary of the whole extract. A summary is always at the end!!

**F** is irrelevant. It's only there to confuse you. Don't get confused, just use logic.