

- How many questions do you have to answer in Part 5?
- What kind of questions are they?
- How many options do you have to choose from?

1 Read quickly through the text below by a girl called Maria. Who do you think Maria is writing about? Check your ideas with a partner.

I'm told to like him and I know I should like him, but the truth is that I don't. Not really. I could quite happily live without him, although at the same time I don't want anything bad to happen to him. I just want him to disappear.

I know that sounds terrible, but what can I do? He is always begging me to do things for him that I would rather not do. But he goes on and on so much that I eventually give in and do what he wants.

His powers of directing attention to himself are unparalleled. If nobody looks at him or says anything to him for more than five minutes, he'll do something to make sure he is the centre of attention once again.

And don't get me started on his unpredictable nature. One minute he wants to go for a walk, the next he wants to sit on the sofa and eat. It is all but impossible to please him.

Despite his irritating features, though, he is one of the family, I guess. And if anyone from outside the family says something bad about our four-legged friend, I would defend him to the end!

2 You will often be asked to guess the meaning of a difficult word. Look at the word 'begging' in the second paragraph and answer as many of the following questions as you can. You won't be able to answer all the questions about this word, but this is a useful process to help you find the meaning of many words.

- 1 What part of speech is it (noun, verb, adjective, adverb)?
- 2 Is the context positive or negative?
- 3 What's the root of the word? Are there any prefixes or suffixes?
- 4 Does another word or phrase nearby help you to work out the meaning?
- 5 If you're still not sure, can you guess and move on to the next question?

3 Answer the following items, using the questions in Exercise 2 to help you.

- 1 What does *begging* mean?

a physically attacking someone	b asking for something urgently
c shouting	d annoying someone
- 2 What does *unparalleled* mean?

a exceptional	b the worst	c competitive	d afraid
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- 3 What does *unpredictable* mean?

a demanding	b changeable	c constant	d boring
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- 4 What does *irritating* mean?

a generous	b loyal	c persuasive	d annoying
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Tip! For this type of question, all the options will be the same part of speech as the unknown word.