

## READING PART 4

Five sentences have been removed from the article below. For each question, choose the correct answer. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

### WHY I LOVE HARRY POTTER

When I was growing up, I was Mildred Hubble: all pigtails and awkwardness. **1-** Then the Mirror of Erised changed my mind.

My mother had passed away by the time I read *Philosopher's Stone* as a student and even though I had never been an 11-year-old boy wizard, I understood a little of how Harry felt.

I was all caught up by the time *Deathly Hallows* was published. I remember staying up to read it through the night and ending up in floods of tears as Lily Potter said to Harry: "You've been so brave."

**2-** These stories hit you where you live sometimes, in the most beautiful way.

You tend to gravitate towards things when you need them most. **3-** I think I came to love the Harry Potter stories at a time in my life when I really needed to remember that you can come back from a loss a lot stronger than you ever thought possible.

It's strange though, because there seems to be a line that Harry Potter crosses with some fantasy fans – as if it's somehow childish, because it's about children. **4-** And because it's littered with beautiful notions like banishing fear with laughter, or being able to defeat something that's determined to snuff out your happiness with a joyful thought.

I've always loved to read. **5-** I now work for [the Harry Potter website] Pottermore and I honestly have to pinch myself just about every day. As a lover of the written word, it's such a special world to be a part of.

It's my job to love Harry Potter, but it's also a joy.

A - The album that got you through high school, the film that changed your life.

B - What got me into the series wasn't that I grew up alongside Ron, Harry and Hermione but that I could relate to what they'd lost, what they were trying to protect.

C - Those are the kind of words you long to hear when you've lost a parent.

D - Harry Potter didn't cross my path until I was in my late teens, and I wasn't entirely ready to go back to a world of magical boarding schools again.

E - It's why I studied English and wanted to become a writer.

F - The books fuelled my love of reading, and consequently my own desire to write.

G - I was 11 years old and waiting for the bus to school, when I heard my friend raving about some book about some wizard named Harry Potter.

H - Desperate to impress my favourite English teacher in year 8, I decorated my exercise book with a drawing of the dragon on the cover of the *Goblet of Fire*.

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/commentisfree/2016/mar/17/how-harry-potter-changed-my-life>

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English**

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**ANSWERS:** 1D, 2C, 3A, 4B, 5E

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