

Reading Part 2

Read the text. Use the sentences to complete the text. Choose the correct sentence for each gap. There is one extra sentence you will not need.

Dartmoor

Dartmoor is one of the largest National Parks in the UK. In the Stone Age it was almost completely covered in dense forest, but only a few sparse fir and oak woods now remain.

This lack of tree cover makes it possible to see the tops of the distinctive rocky heights of the moor. **(1)**_____

It's therefore not difficult to understand what attracts the many walkers, climbers and horse riders to this dramatic part of the world. However, if you decide to join them, be prepared for soft, muddy ground and unexpected showers. **(2)**_____ Because of the frequent mists which descend cutting visibility to zero in seconds, it's a good idea to take a compass too.

Nevertheless, don't let these warnings put you off. As long as you are well-prepared, Dartmoor has many natural marvels to offer. **(3)**_____ As well as many species of birds, insects and butterflies, you'll find deer, foxes and badgers.

Hundreds of wild Dartmoor ponies also roam free. However, a number of these were killed by cars after wandering onto the roads looking for tasty remains from visitors' picnics. **(4)**_____

History is another reason for exploring Dartmoor. Some areas of Dartmoor have been inhabited for a very long time. There are remains of Bronze Age settlements in the form of 'hut circles'. **(5)**_____ Originally they would have had an earth roof supported on a wooden frame with a ring of stones holding up the whole structure.

A number of strange old bridges called 'Clapper Bridges' still remain untouched, images captured in many tourists' photographs. **(6)**_____ Their precise age is unknown, but they remain a memorable feature of this remarkable, ancient place.

- A This is the term given to the stone houses of early settlers nearly 4000 years ago.
- B As a result, feeding them is now forbidden.
- C Not least of these is the rich variety of wildlife to be found.
- D That's why they proved to be so successful, despite the wildness of the area.
- E These were constructed over rivers using large flat stones placed on strong, stone pillars.
- F Strong walking shoes and waterproof protection are generally recommended.
- G And from these 'tors', as they are called, 360-degree views are to be had of the surrounding countryside.