**Task 5**

**Time 10 min**

*Read the text. Some words are missing. Complete the text with suitable words. You can write only one word in each gap.*

To the east of the Andes mountains and south of the Amazon rain forest, a huge (1) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of South America is covered by another vast plain of grassland, called the pampas. Droughts there are (2) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, and the rain comes in torrential storms, draining away quickly without penetrating deep into the soil. This stops trees from (3) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and allows large areas of grass to flourish.

(4) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** South and North America are now connected by a narrow neck of land, this was not always the case. For long periods, South America was a (5) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** continent, completely cut off from the rest of the world. As a result, many South American animals evolved in isolation and are (6) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to the area. It was only after the land “bridge” formed between North and South America that animals from the north could move slowly southward.

The pampas, therefore, has very different animals from those of the prairies. The only deer is the rare pampas deer, and the largest grazing animal is an ostrichlike bird called rhea. It roams areas of tall-grass pampas in (7) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of from 20 to 30, eating anything from grass to grasshoppers.

The main grazers of the pampas are small mammals. These include the cavy – the wild ancestor of the guinea pig – and the mara, which is sometimes called the Patagonian (8) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** because of its long ears. This group also (9) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** rats and mice.

Hunting these small animals is the maned wolf, which, despite its name, is actually a long-legged fox. Other hunters include the pampas fox and the caracara, a large falcon that rarely (10) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** but hunts on the ground instead

**Score \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Member of Jury \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**