

## GAP FILL

# "Jeff Bezos stepping down as Amazon CEO"

The (1) founder of Amazon.com, Jeff Bezos, will step down from his role as CEO (Chief Executive Officer). Mr Bezos, 57, announced he will finish as CEO later this year. Instead of (2) being CEO, he will take on the new (3) role of Amazon's executive chair. He will pass on the position of CEO to Andy Jassy. Mr Jassy is (4) currently head of Amazon Web Services - a cloud computing business. Mr Bezos has been in (5) charge of Amazon since founding the company in his garage in 1995. The company started as an online bookseller but (6) turned into a global online marketplace. It branched out into (7) streaming video, music, and audiobooks. It also produces consumer electronics, including Kindle e-readers, Fire tablets and Echo (8) devices.

*being*  
*charge*  
*founder*  
*streaming*  
*currently*  
*devices*  
*role*  
*turned*

Amazon is one of the world's biggest Internet companies and one of the most (9) valuable. It is worth around \$1.7 trillion. The company has made Mr Bezos one of the world's richest people. Bezos commented on his (10) success. He said: "This journey began some 27 years ago. Amazon was only an idea, and it had no (11) name. The question I was asked most (12) frequently at that time was, 'What's the Internet?' Today, we (13) employ 1.3 million talented, dedicated people, serve hundreds of millions of customers and businesses, and are (14) widely recognized as one of the most successful companies in the world." Mr Bezos also (15) owns the Washington Post newspaper and the space travel company Blue Origin, which (16) aims to go to Mars.

*employ*  
*success*  
*valuable*  
*owns*  
*frequently*  
*widely*  
*aims*  
*name*

# "World's smallest reptile discovered in Madagascar"

## GAP FILL

Scientists say they have discovered what could be the smallest reptile in the world. It is a kind of chameleon and is the (1) size of a sunflower seed. Chameleons are usually around 35-40cm long. Scientists found two of the (2) tiny lizards - a male and a female - in the mountains in (3) northern Madagascar. They are just 22mm long from nose to (4) tail. The length of the male's body is 13.5mm. At first, the scientists thought the tiny reptiles were (5) juveniles, but later realised they were (6) fully-grown adults. The scientists called the miniature creatures nano-chameleons. The scientists tried to find more of the nano-chameleons, but "(7) despite great effort" could not find any (8) others.

*northern*  
*juveniles*  
*despite*  
*size*  
*tiny*  
*others*  
*tail*  
*fully*

Madagascar is home to two-thirds of the world's chameleon (9) species. Scientists believe they may have originated there. However, the chameleon's survival is (10) threatened by deforestation on the island. One of the scientists said the nano-chamelons are lucky to survive. He said: "The nano-chameleon's (11) habitat has unfortunately been (12) subject to deforestation, but the area was placed under protection (13) recently, so the species will survive." A study published by the (14) journal "Nature Climate Change" stated that nearly all of Madagascar's eastern rainforest could (15) disappear by 2070 if deforestation and climate change does not slow down. This would put many of the island's (16) unique species in danger.

*recently*  
*threatened*  
*journal*  
*unique*  
*subject*  
*species*  
*disappear*  
*habitat*

Answers:

1. My nephew was **amused** by the clown.
2. It's so **frustrating!** No matter how much I study I can't seem to remember this vocabulary.
3. This lesson is so **boring!**
4. I'm feeling **depressed**, so I'm going to go home, eat some chocolate, and go to bed early with a good book.
5. I thought her new idea was absolutely **fascinating**.
6. This maths problem is so **confusing**. Can you help me?
7. The teacher was really **amusing** so the lesson passed quickly.
8. The journey was **exhausting!** Twelve hours by bus.
9. The plane began to move in a rather **alarming** way.
10. He was **frightened** when he saw the spider.
11. I was really **embarrassed** when I fell over in the street.
12. That film was so **depressing!** There was no happy ending for any of the characters.
13. I'm sorry, I can't come tonight. I'm completely **exhausted**.
14. We are going in a helicopter? How **exciting!**
15. Don't show my baby photos to people, Mum! It's so **embarrassing!**
16. It's okay, it's only me. Don't be **alarmed**.
17. My sister is so **excited** because she is going on holiday tomorrow.
18. I hate long flights, I'm always really **bored**.
19. She looked very **confused** when I told her we had to change the plan.
20. John was **fascinated** by Mandarin when he first started learning languages. He decided to study more and now he can speak it fluently.

## Answers to Some / Any / 'No Article' Exercise 1

1. Can you buy some pasta? [I'm thinking of the amount we need for tonight.]
2. We need Ø mushrooms [I'm not thinking about the amount].
3. John drinks Ø coffee every morning [coffee, not tea].
4. Add some water to the soup if it's too thick [a certain amount of water].
5. I really want some tea – could you get me a cup?
6. We could have Ø rice for dinner [rice, not pasta].
7. I ate some bread and two eggs for lunch [I'm thinking about the amount].
8. She bought some new furniture [a certain amount of furniture].
9. Did you get Ø carrots? [I'm not thinking about the amount.]
10. I'd like Ø tea, please! [Tea, not juice or coffee.]

## **Because / Because Of / Therefore**

1. Because
2. Therefore
3. Because of
4. Therefore
5. Because of
6. Because
7. Because of
8. Because
9. Therefore