

b) GAP FILLING: Read the text and fill in the gaps. Write your answers on the answer sheet.

The history of English

English was originally a language (17) _____ by German tribes that invaded England after the Romans left the island (410 AD). The best known of these invaders were the Angles (the words England – land of the Angles – and English derive from (18) _____ name) and the Saxons who landed in Britain (19) _____ 700 AD. They spoke a language called Anglo-Saxon, and this was the language which gave origin to the English we speak today. Between the 8th and the 10th centuries Britain (20) _____ attacked and invaded by the Vikings who added their own Norse words.

In 1066 AD the Normans invaded and conquered Britain. They came from Normandy in France and (21) _____ their language with (22) _____. Anglo-Saxon and French mixed together, and many French words became part of English. The English we speak today contains a lot of words which come from other languages: Latin, Scandinavian, Italian, and Spanish.

Nowadays English (23) _____ the language of the planet, the first global language. It is the language used by pop singers, scientists, pilots, businessmen, diplomats. It is also the language of sport and communication. About 400 million people use English as their first language, while another 750 million use (24) _____ either as a second language or as a foreign language.

	A	B	C	D
17)	spoke	spoken	speaked	spoken
18)	theirs	their	them	its
19)	X	at	on	in
20)	X	was	has been	is
21)	brew	brought	bringed	bring
22)	theirs	their	they	them
23)	is become	becomes	has become	becoming
24)	it's	its	X	it