

For questions 1-12 read the text below and think of the word that best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

## *The Grand Tour and the imagination*

### The Grand Tour

The Grand Tour, that is, a tour of France, Germany, Switzerland, and, above all, Italy, was first popular (0) among late 15th-century English scholars (1) \_\_\_\_\_ went to Italy for instruction, manuscripts, books, and the great sights of antiquity. They were primarily motivated by their thirst (2) \_\_\_\_\_ learning. In the 18th century, however, the Grand Tour (which still had Italy as its central element) became indispensable for any fashionable young man: one could not qualify as a gentleman (3) \_\_\_\_\_ one had some knowledge of fashionable sites on the Continent.

### The ideal traveller

The ideal traveller should know languages, have an ear for music and an eye for artistic and natural beauty, as well (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a hand capable of fixing great sights and enchanting scenes in sketches, drawings, or water-colours. Not a few of these 18th-century tourists were endowed (5) \_\_\_\_\_ such accomplishments.

### A travelling mania

The young men usually left England with comparatively light luggage and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ back, some months later, loaded with souvenirs, pictures, engravings, bits of broken statues, marble busts, and the like. These were destined (7) \_\_\_\_\_ decorate the halls, galleries, gardens and grottoes of English villas. Parodies of the widely-travelled man of the world began to appear (8) \_\_\_\_\_ magazines, plays, and novels.

### History and scenery

Travelling to Italy was a way (9) \_\_\_\_\_ catching a glimpse, through the ruins of the present, of the great classical past. It was in Rome, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ sitting at twilight among the ruins of the Forum and listening to the vespers being sung in the temple of Jupiter (a fascinating blend of Roman and Christian traditions), (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the great historian Edward Gibbon first conceived the idea of writing his *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (1776-87).

Later in the century, however, writers stated their preference for nature over art very clearly: travellers were no (12) \_\_\_\_\_ attracted just by monumental ruins, imposing churches and palaces, but rather by winding mountain roads, steep cliffs, turbulent rivers and nocturnal landscapes. This was the beginning of the Romantic cult of unadorned, untamed nature, as well as Gothic stage effects.

### KEYS

1 who – 2 for – 3 unless – 4 as – 5 with – 6 came – 7 to – 8 in – 9 of – 10 while – 11 that – 12 longer