

Write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

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## Central Park

If you have the chance **(0)** ..... take a walk through Central Park in New York, you will get a quick tour of the wide range of cultures and people who live in the city. **(13)** ..... man speeds along on a racing bike singing **(14)** ..... the top of his voice, **(15)** ..... dances to the beat of techno music coming from a tape recorder.

Central Park, the first public park built in America, allows for just about **(16)** ..... conceivable leisure activity in a rectangle of just over one and a half square kilometres. But it may **(17)** ..... that its best use is for the most entertaining sport in New York – people watching. Visitors can have **(18)** ..... better introduction to the diversity of New York than a stroll in this park.

Central Park did not always embrace **(19)** ..... a variety of human life. Having won a competition for the park's design in 1858, Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux envisaged the place **(20)** ..... an oasis of calm in a disorderly city. The idea **(21)** ..... to create a place where the upper-class citizens of the city could take gentle exercise **(22)** ..... being disturbed. However, the park authorities never managed to enforce a regime of order. Olmsted **(23)** ..... been determined to create the illusion of the countryside in the heart of New York. The fact that skyscrapers are now visible **(24)** ..... the tops of the park's tallest trees **(25)** ..... certainly have horrified him. But this contrast between country and city landscape is **(26)** ..... gives the park **(27)** ..... very own special charm.