

Read the text about metal detectorists, people who find lost items made of metal. Some words are missing. Choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each gap (1-12). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.



The ring finders

A man takes off his baseball glove in Central Park. His wedding ring slips (0) ___ undetected and disappears into the grass. Hours pass before he notices that it's missing. A woman reacts in a fit of anger, (1) ___ her engagement ring into the ocean. As it hits the water, pangs of regret settle in. A tourist visiting Canada (2) ___ five sentimental rings to sanitize her hands (3) ___ in a rental car. Later, when she steps out, they are sent sprawling into the snow, and she doesn't realize they're gone until she's on the flight back home.

Usually, stories of this variety almost always end in tears. Yet these three people found their lost rings, frantically googling some iteration of *I lost my wedding ring* and (4) ___ a network of metal detectorists who help people (5) ___ their misplaced jewelry. They had found their way to the Ring Finders, (6) ___ that pairs these people with one of 430 sleuths stationed around the world.

According to the British insurance company Protect Your Bubble, 11 percent of people have lost their wedding rings in the past five years. Since wedding rings can cost upwards of \$6,000, losing them can be especially painful for couples, and (7) ___ it also gives detectives adept in the art of finding lost rings a chance to intervene and be the hero.

Heartbroken couples who (8) ___ the Ring Finders are presented with a search bar to enter their location, which leads to a list of nearby metal detectorists who cover that area. While the site's appeal for those who have lost their wedding rings is clear, there's much for the hunters themselves to (9) ___. The Ring Finders service mainly operates on a pay-what-you-can system, (10) ___ most finders ask that they are at least (11) ___ their gas costs. And while some refuse any payment, others are (12) ___ on seeking out cash rewards to make up for their time and effort. One finder told me of a recent bounty of \$200, while another boasted of a \$1,500 prize.

0	A by	B below	C off	D out
1	A stirring	B tossing	C threw	D released
2	A removes	B releases	C takes away	D pulls out
3	A whereas	B although	C during	D while
4	A picking up	B catching up	C coming over	D stumbling upon
5	A location	B located	C locate	D locating
6	A a support	B a service	C an assistance	D an effort
7	A although	B unless	C however	D yet
8	A find out	B get over	C come across	D use up
9	A benefit	B gain	C increase	D profit
10	A just as	B though	C whether	D as long as
11	A compensated for	B compensated from	C compensating for	D compensating from
12	A keen	B based	C fond	D eager

