

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

**Reading skills**

- 1 Read the text and fill in the gaps (A–J) with fragments 1–10. Use every fragment only once. Fill in the table below.

*(1 point for each correct answer – 10 points max)*

**The History of English**

The original inhabitants of the British Isles were Celts. The language of the ancient Britons was Celtic, and it survives in Modern Welsh, A \_\_\_\_\_. The history of the English language really started with the arrival of three Germanic tribes B \_\_\_\_\_. These tribes, the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes, crossed the North Sea C \_\_\_\_\_. Old English was spoken from about AD 449 to 1100.

In 1066 William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy (part of modern France), invaded and conquered England. The new conquerors (called the Normans) brought with them a kind of French, D \_\_\_\_\_ and the ruling and business classes. For a period, there was a kind of linguistic class division, where the lower classes spoke English and the upper classes spoke French. In the 14th century English became dominant in Britain again, E \_\_\_\_\_. Middle English F \_\_\_\_\_. Modern English period began in the 16th century, when the British had contact G \_\_\_\_\_. This, and the Renaissance of Classical learning, meant H \_\_\_\_\_ the language. The invention of printing also meant I \_\_\_\_\_. Books became cheaper and more people learned to read. Printing also brought standardisation to English. Spelling and grammar became fixed, and the dialect of London, J \_\_\_\_\_, became the standard. In 1604, the first English dictionary was published.