**1. *New Scientist* (18th November 2023 Page 14)**

1)Text Completion

High-speed cameras have revealed how hummingbirds fit through tiny gaps, \_\_which \_\_ happens too quickly for the human eye to properly see.

Hummingbirds feed on nectar and often fly through small gaps in cluttered foliage as they flit from flower to flower. When one of the birds does this, “it looks like it literally just teleported”, says Marc Badger at the University of California, Berkeley. \_To investigate\_\_ (investigate) how it happens, he and his colleagues filmed at 500 frames a second as Anna’s hummingbirds (Calypte anna) passed through a gap between two compartments, \_\_and\_\_ tracked the position of each bird’s bill and wing tips. The humming birds’ wingspans were about 12 centimetres and the gap could \_\_be shrunk\_\_ (shrink) to just 6 cm wide.The birds used two strategies. One was to approach the gap slowly, hover near and then travel through sideways. The other was to approach quickly, fold their wings back and shoot through like a spear, before \_opening \_\_ (open) their wings again.

The slower strategy tended to give way to the \_\_speedier \_\_ (speedy) approach as the birds became more familiar \_with\_ the set-up. But a 6-cm aperture forced them to use the braver strategy immediately. Badger thinks the birds risk \_\_\_injury \_\_\_\_ (injure) by hitting the edges of the hole with their wings while going sideways.With wings tucked in, this danger is reduced, so there is \_an\_\_ incentive to use the faster technique if possible. “Their amazing wings make them good at hovering and good at flying fast, but that \_\_\_means\_\_\_\_ (mean) they have to cope in tight situations,” says Christopher J.Clark at the University of California, Riverside. “The manoeuvres these birds do to navigate through tight spaces put them in a class of their own.”

2)Translation

蝴蝶在花丛中飞来飞去。（重点词汇flit: to move lightly and quickly from one place or thing to another 轻快地从一处到另一处；掠过）

Butterflies flitted from flower to flower.

几乎或根本没有鼓励来采取这样的措施。（重点词汇incentive: something that encourages you to do sth 激励；刺激；鼓励）

There is little or no incentive to adopt such measures.

**2. *The Wall Street Journal (21st November 2023 B1 &B4)***

1)Text Completion

You’re feeling \_\_distracted \_\_ (distract) and can’t get your work done despite a looming deadline. Your headphones detect your lack of focus and suggest you take \_a\_ break, while a headband beams signals to adjust your brain activity and energize you. Crisis averted.

That is the future technologists imagine, and a variety of devices are being developed to enhance the \_\_\_brain’s \_\_ (brain) performance in day-to-day life.

The market for devices that can read brain activity and translate it into actions \_is\_\_(be) in its infancy. But, thanks in part to Elon Musk’s startup Neuralink, \_which\_\_ is developing implantable brain-computer interfaces—or BCIs—that can record data from thousands of brain cells, investment and interest in these devices \_\_have soared\_ (soar) in recent years.

New wearable devices build on implantable BCIs used for medical interventions, as well as decades of research into \_\_how\_\_\_ the brain works. Efforts on implantable devices focus on restoring function. Applications \_\_\_aimed\_\_\_ (aim) at allowing communication and movement have been in development for decades to help paralyzed patients, and researchers have made major leaps with implantable devices in recent years. Implants are \_\_\_unlikely \_\_\_ (likely) to become blockbuster mass-market consumer products anytime soon because of medical-device \_\_\_regulations \_\_\_ (regulate), high costs and the inherent risks of brain surgery.

2)Translation

一个黑糊糊的影子隐隐出现在我们的前面。（重点词汇loom: o appear as a large shape that is not clear, especially in a frightening or threatening way 赫然耸现；（尤指）令人惊恐地隐现）

A dark shape loomed up ahead of us.

他的市场份额不断高涨。（重点词汇soar: to rise very quickly急升；猛增）

His market share continues to soar.