IELTS describing information in a table

Look at the table below showing the ratings for the performances of five plays which appeared in four magazines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>THE NORTHERN REVIEW</th>
<th>THE WEEKLY</th>
<th>VISION</th>
<th>THE ACTOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HENRY V</td>
<td>★</td>
<td>★★</td>
<td>★</td>
<td>★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTRA</td>
<td>★★</td>
<td>★★</td>
<td>★★</td>
<td>★★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THREE SISTERS</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOLEN IDENTITY</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMLET</td>
<td>★</td>
<td>★</td>
<td>★</td>
<td>★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key**

- Very good ★★★
- Good ★★
- Adequate ★
- Poor ★

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**Guided writing 1: gathering information for a text**

Look at the table and answer the questions as quickly as you can.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. From the data, which play is clearly the critics’ favourite?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Which play was the least favourite?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. How good did the critics think the former play was?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How many publications thought this?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Which publication was the exception and how many stars did it give the critics’ favourite play?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Which play was the next favourite and how many stars did it receive?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Which publications gave what?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. What rating did <em>Henry V</em> receive?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. What did the critics think of <em>Hamlet</em>?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. What ratings did <em>Electra</em> receive?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Which publication was the exception?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Which magazine is the most generous in its reviews?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. What did the magazine give <em>Henry V</em>?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. What did the other publications think of the performance?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Guided writing 2: Text with questions

Complete the blank spaces below using the questions and the table to help you.

The table shows the review ratings for the performances of five plays by four different publications.

1. From the data, which play is clearly the critics’ favourite?
   It is clear from the data that the critics’ __________________________.

2. Which play was the least favourite?
   whereas ____________________________ popular.

3. How good did the critics think the former was?
   The performance of the former was considered to ____________________________

4. How many publications thought this?
   by ________________ of the four publications,

5. Which publication was the exception and how many stars did it give the critics’ favourite play?
   with ____________________________ awarding it two stars.

6. Which play was the next favourite and how many stars did it receive?
   __________________ followed very closely with ________________ stars in total:

7. Which publications gave what?
   two Very Good ratings from ________________ and ________________ and a Good from each of the other two magazines.

8. What rating did Henry V receive?
   By contrast, Henry V managed to gain only ________________ star rating
   from The Weekly and ________________ Poor ratings from the other publications.

9. What did the critics think of Hamlet?
   Hamlet, meanwhile, was __________________ by all of the critics.

10. What ratings did Electra receive?
   As for Electra, the critics gave it ________________ stars: two from each publication
11. Which publication was the exception?
except ____________ Review.

12. Which magazine is the most generous in its reviews?
It is interesting to note that the magazine which is most generous with its reviews is ____________

13. What did the magazine give Henry V?
giving a ________________ to Henry V,

14. What did the other publications think of the performance?
while the other publications thought the ________________.
Guided writing 3: text completion

Complete the text below using one or more words.

Example: (1) from the data that the ; (4) out of (the) four publications; (7) and

The table shows the review ratings for the performances of five plays by four different publications.

It is clear (1) critics’ favourite was Stolen Identity, (2) Henry V was the least popular. (3) was considered to be very good by three (4), with (5) two stars. Three Sisters (6) with ten stars in total: two Very Good ratings from The Northern Review and The Weekly, (7) a Good from each of the (8).

(9), Henry V managed (10) two star rating from The Weekly and three Poor ratings (11). Hamlet, (12), was considered Adequate (13).

(14), the critics gave it a total of seven stars: two from each publication (15) for The Northern Review.

It is (16) the magazine which is most generous with its reviews is The Weekly, (17) a Good rating to Henry V, (18) the other publications (19) the performance was Poor.
Key

The table shows the review ratings for the performances of five plays by four different publications.

It is clear from the data that the critics’ favourite was *Stolen Identity*, whereas *Henry V* was the least popular. The performance of the former was considered to be very good by three out of the four publications, with The Actor awarding it two stars. *Three Sisters* followed very closely with ten stars in total: two Very Good ratings from The Northern Review and The Weekly and a Good from each of the other two magazines.

By contrast, *Henry V* managed to gain only one two star rating from The Weekly and three Poor ratings from the other publications. *Hamlet*, meanwhile, was considered Adequate by all of the critics.

As for *Electra*, the critics gave it a total of seven stars: two from each publication except for The Northern Review.

It is interesting to note that the magazine which is most generous with its reviews is The Weekly, giving a Good rating to *Henry V*, while the other publications thought the performance was Poor.