

Read the text about how one person started smoking. Some words are missing from the text (1-10). Complete the text using one word in the spaces provided on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.



## What made me become a smoker

The thing is, on reading the news that children who have watched films featuring smoking are more likely to take it up themselves, I tried to think which film had started me off on the habit.

We have to go (0) \_\_\_ a long way, although strictly speaking the first "cigarettes" I "smoked" were sweets. They were called (1) \_\_\_ like "Junior Fags" and were white sticks of sweet stuff with red dye on the end to look like a lit cigarette. Aged nine, I was on about 10 of those a day, and I believe I actually (2) \_\_\_ leave a "stub" and stand on it before entering a friend's house, not that there weren't adults puffing away inside.

It was possibly (3) \_\_\_ I saw – late one night on louche BBC2 – Jean-Pierre Melville's film *Le Samouraï* (1967) that I realised it was (4) \_\_\_ to move on from smokeless smoking to something more carcinogenic. In it, Alain Delon plays Jef, a Paris-based assassin (5) \_\_\_ an admirably minimal lifestyle. When Jef wants a car, he steals (6) \_\_\_ else's, always going for grey Citroens. In his flat, there is nothing (7) \_\_\_ a bed, numerous bottles of mineral water (Evian), and numerous packets of cigarettes (Gitanes). (8) \_\_\_ is also a bird in a cage as a metaphor for something or other. I marvelled that Jef really had got life sussed, because that was all you needed, when you really thought (9) \_\_\_ it.

Or was it watching Elliott Gould in Robert Altman's version of *The Long Goodbye* (1973)? Gould was a superbly adept smoker, and they should show his performance in drama schools because they're going to have to (10) \_\_\_ teaching smoking, just as they teach another anachronistic art, fencing. They should have smoking coaches – rheumy old actors down on their luck. (For an example of completely unconvincing smoking, see Colin Firth in *The King's Speech*).

## What made me become a smoker

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Von der  
Lehrperson  
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