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Features of Business Language

A practical activity on the text of the *United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts* (Travail pratique sur le texte de la *Convention des Nations Unies sur l'utilisation de communications électroniques dans les contrats internationaux*)

I. Match the words and expressions in the two columns:

1	in respect of	A	adhésion
2	substantive	B	mais
3	in witness whereof	C	lieu de situation
4	pursuant to	D	à l'égard de
5	ascertain	E	en vigueur
6	albeit	F	impose
7	location	G	en application du
8	performance	H	de fond
9	contemplate	I	vérifier
10	strict separation	J	en foi de quoi
11	accession	K	l'exécution
12	into force	L	cloisonnement étanche

II. Fill in the blanks with one of the words and phrases enumerated below:

a) The provisions of this Convention apply to the use of electronic communications in connection with the formation or **(1)**_____ of a contract to which any of the following international conventions, to which a Contracting State to this Convention is or may become a Contracting State, apply.

b) A State that makes a declaration **(2)**_____ paragraph 2 of this article may also declare that it will nevertheless apply the provisions of this Convention to the use of electronic communications.

c) This Convention enters **(3)**_____ on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or **(4)**_____.

d) When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Convention [...], this Convention enters into force **(5)**_____ that State on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of the deposit.

e) **(6)**_____ the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this Convention.

f) The Convention is not intended to establish uniform rules for **(7)**_____ contractual issues that are not specifically related to the use of electronic communications. However, a **(8)**_____ between technology-related and substantive issues in the context of electronic commerce is not always feasible or desirable. Therefore, the Convention contains a few substantive rules that extend beyond merely reaffirming the principle of functional equivalence where substantive rules are needed in order to ensure the effectiveness of electronic communications.

g) **(9)**_____ of the parties and information requirements (articles 6 and 7)

h) The Convention does not **(10)**_____ a duty for the parties to disclose their places of business, but establishes a certain number of presumptions and default rules aimed at facilitating a determination of a party's location. It attributes primary - **(11)**_____ not absolute - importance to a party's indication of its relevant place of business.

i) The possibility of excluding this expanded application of the Convention has been added to take into account possible concerns of States that may wish to **(12)**_____ first whether the Convention would be compatible with their existing international obligations.

A. into force; **B.** performance; **C.** ascertain; **D.** location; **E.** in witness whereof; **F.** albeit; **G.** pursuant to; **H.** in respect of; **I.** strict separation; **J.** accession; **K.** contemplate; **L.** substantive