

• Sentence Completion 2 Level 4

Directions: Complete the sentence using the word or set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

1. Unlike the actual building, which was quite sturdy, Cam's model of the building was _____.
A. plastic
B. stable
C. false
D. fragile
2. The gymnast was very _____, but her younger sister was completely _____.
A. heavy ... weighty
B. hollow ... skinny
C. flexible ... rigid
D. soft ... crafty
3. The road is _____, so cars that drive it are constantly turning and swerving.
A. flat
B. curvy
C. weird
D. peaceful
4. Jackie is full of _____ and believes she can achieve almost any goal she sets for herself.
A. confidence
B. courage
C. concern
D. comfort
5. While Johnny is not _____, he is not necessarily _____, either.
A. hungry ... tired
B. tall ... short
C. smart ... intelligent
D. fat ... thick
6. Although the message was meant to be _____, I don't mind if you tell it to your friends.
A. special
B. secret
C. permanent
D. educational
7. My mother gets seasick, so it shouldn't surprise anyone that she got _____ on my uncle's boat.
A. queasy
B. healthy
C. tired
D. energetic
8. While none of the critics _____ the film, almost everyone I know who saw it absolutely _____ it.
A. liked ... hated
B. respected ... disliked
C. saw ... avoided
D. enjoyed ... loved
9. The town decided to make the fair _____ occurrence, meaning it will take place every year.
A. an apparent
B. a common
C. a weekly
D. an annual
10. The animal shelter had a _____ of kittens to choose from, and it was difficult to choose between the calico, the white cat, the Persian, and the Siamese.
A. variety
B. lack
C. supply
D. team

Answers and Explanations

1) D

The main clue in this question is the word “unlike,” which sets up a contrasting or opposite relationship. If the actual building was “sturdy,” the model must have been the opposite of sturdy. *Fragile* means breakable or not sturdy, so choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Plastic* means formable, shapeable, or made of plastic. While the model could be plastic, plastic is not the opposite of sturdy.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Stable* means not likely to change. Something that is sturdy could also be stable.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *False* means not true. This has no relationship to being sturdy.

2) C

The main clue in this question is the word “but,” which sets up a contrasting or opposite relationship in the sentence. The correct choice should be a pair of opposites. *Flexible* means able to bend or be bent, while *rigid* means stiff or unbendable. These are opposites, and they work in context, since a gymnast should be flexible. Therefore, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Heavy* and *weighty* both mean of great weight or difficult to lift.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Hollow* means having empty space inside, while *skinny* means thin. These words have no clear relationship.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Soft* means not hard or firm, while *crafty* means clever and dishonest. These words have no clear relationship.

3) B

The main clue in this question is the word “so,” which sets up a cause-and-effect relationship. The first part of the sentence gives the cause for the effect described in the second part of the sentence. Since cars are constantly swerving and turning on the road, the road that the missing word describes must be winding or not straight. Because *curvy* means having many curves or bends, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. *Flat* means smooth and even. This would not require swerving and turning.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. *Weird* means unusual or strange, but a weird road could be straight and not require swerving and turning.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. *Peaceful* means calm and tranquil. This would not require swerving and turning.

4) A

The main clue in this question is the word “and,” which links the two ideas in the sentence and suggests that they say similar things. Since Jackie “believes she can achieve almost any goal,” she must be full of a belief in herself. *Confidence* is self-assuredness about one’s own abilities, so choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *courage* is bravery or a lack of fear. This does not have any relationship to a belief that one “can achieve almost any goal.”

(C) is incorrect because *concern* is anxiety or worry. This is the opposite of what Jackie has if she “believes she can achieve almost any goal.”

(D) is incorrect because *comfort* is a state of ease and freedom. This does not have any relationship to a belief that one “can achieve almost any goal.”

5) B

The main clue in this question is the word “while” which is used to indicate that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct choice will set up a negative relationship between two of Johnny’s characteristics. *Tall* means of great height, while *short* means not tall. So, if someone is not *tall*, then he or she is *short*. The sentence actually implies that Johnny is neither tall nor short, though, because it states he is “not necessarily” short “either.” Regardless, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Hungry* and *tired* are unrelated characteristics, since *hungry* means wanting food, while *tired* means sleepy.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Smart* and *intelligent* are close in meaning, as both mean having intelligence or a strong ability to think.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Fat* and *thick* are close in meaning, since *fat* means having a large amount of excess flesh, while *thick* means wide.

6) B

The main clue in this question is the phrase “I don’t mind if you tell your friends.” The word “although” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means the missing word must be the opposite of something that could be told to your friends. *Secret* means something that is not meant to be widely known. If something is a *secret*, then you are not supposed to repeat it to anyone, which is the opposite of something that could be told to your friends. Therefore, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Special* means different from what is common or usual and has no relationship to something you could tell your friends about.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Permanent* means lasting forever without change and has no relationship to something you could tell your friends about.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Educational* means designed to teach or enlighten someone and has no relationship to something you could tell your friends about.

7) A

The main clue in this question is the phrase “it shouldn’t surprise anyone,” which suggests that the two parts of the sentence give similar information. Since the mother gets “seasick,” it wouldn’t be surprising if she got seasick on a boat. Since *queasy* means nauseated or feeling sick, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *healthy* means well or fit. Since the mother “gets seasick,” it would be a surprise if a boat ride made her feel healthy or well.

(C) is incorrect because *tired* means sleepy or lacking energy. This has no relationship to getting seasick.

(D) is incorrect because *energetic* means having a lot of energy. This has no relationship to getting seasick.

8) D

The main clue in this question is the word “while,” which sets up an opposite or negative relationship in the sentence. This means that the critics who saw the movie must have a different opinion of it than everyone else did. However, the actual missing words will have similar meanings, since the first missing word is impacted by the “none” before it. This means that either “none of the critics” liked it but everyone else did, or “none of the critics” disliked it but everyone else did. A correct choice would have a pair of words that mean the same thing, then. Because *enjoyed* means liked or took pleasure in and *loved* means really liked, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because the two words do not have the proper relationship. *Liked* means was satisfied by, while *hated* means strongly disliked. These are opposites, but the sentence requires similar words.

(B) is incorrect because the two words do not have the proper relationship. *Respected* means admired, while *disliked* means did not enjoy or admire. These are opposites, but the sentence requires similar words.

(C) is incorrect because the two words do not have the proper relationship. *Saw* means watched or noticed, while *avoided* means kept away from doing or seeing. These are opposites, but the sentence requires similar words.

9) D

The main clue in this question is the phrase “meaning it will take place every year.” This gives the definition of the missing word. Because *annual* means “taking place every year,” choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *apparent* means clearly visible, which is not the same as “meaning it will take place every year.”

(B) is incorrect because *common* means typical or normal, which is not the same as “meaning it will take place every year.”

(C) is incorrect because *weekly* means taking place every seven days, which is not the same as “meaning it will take place every year.”

10) A

The main clue in this question is the phrase “it was difficult to choose between the calico, the white cat, the Persian, and the Siamese.” The missing word describes the “kittens” the animal shelter had, and the clue implies that the pet shelter had many types of cats. Because *variety* means the state of being different, diverse, or of many kinds, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. *Lack* is the state of not having enough of something, but the shelter clearly has many cats.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A *supply* is a stock or collection of something that others can use. While the shelter does have a supply of cats, this word is not the best choice, because it does not imply that the shelter has many different types of cats.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A *team* is a group of people or animals working together. The prompt does not imply that the kittens work together toward a common goal.