



● **Sentence Completion 17** (*high-beginning level*)

**Directions:** Choose the best word(s) to complete each sentence.

1. Jeff's house was \_\_\_\_\_ by the tornado. How terrible!  
A. destroyed  
B. built  
C. improved  
D. moved
2. Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ first prize. He received a gold trophy.  
A. lost  
B. won  
C. stole  
D. wanted
3. Esther goes to the \_\_\_\_\_ every Saturday. She buys a lot of clothes.  
A. church  
B. café  
C. mall  
D. car
4. If something is \_\_\_\_\_, it is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. small ... large  
B. great ... good  
C. big ... huge  
D. tall ... short
5. Dr. Scott works at the \_\_\_\_\_. She helps sick and injured people.  
A. bank  
B. hotel  
C. store  
D. hospital
6. Francisco is such a good \_\_\_\_\_! He made \_\_\_\_\_ for my family last night.  
A. cow ... steak  
B. artist ... paint  
C. teacher ... books  
D. cook ... dinner
7. I have an appointment at 3:00 pm. My appointment is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in the morning  
B. in the afternoon  
C. in the evening  
D. at night
8. Maya has a meeting at 11:00 am. Her meeting is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in the morning  
B. in the afternoon  
C. in the evening  
D. at night
9. Dennis wakes up at 6:30 am. He wakes up \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in the morning  
B. in the afternoon  
C. in the evening  
D. at night
10. Tiffany and I are eating together at 7:30 pm. We are eating together \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. in the morning  
B. in the afternoon  
C. in the evening  
D. at midnight

## Answers and Explanations

1) **A**

When something is *destroyed*, that means it is damaged beyond repair; it cannot be fixed. A tornado is a windy storm that can damage and destroy buildings. If Jeff's house was destroyed by a tornado, that is terrible news. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because Jeff's house would not be *built* by a tornado, because tornadoes do not build things. Tornadoes can only destroy things.

**(C)** is incorrect because Jeff's house would not be *improved* by a tornado, because tornadoes do not improve things. Tornadoes can only destroy things.

**(D)** is incorrect because although Jeff's house might be *moved* by the tornado, it would also be heavily damaged. Tornadoes only destroy things, and that's terrible.

2) **B**

When you *win* first prize, it means you were the best participant in the competition. Many times, winning a competition means that you receive a trophy, which is a shiny statue to reward you for winning. Choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect it does not make sense to say Jacob *lost* first prize, because prizes are a reward for winning, not losing.

**(C)** is incorrect because you cannot *steal* first prize. You have to earn it.

**(D)** is incorrect because you do not win first prize just because you *want* to win. You have to perform better than everyone else in order to win first prize. You have to earn it.

3) **C**

A *mall* is a collection of stores. Many of the stores in a mall are clothing stores. Rita can buy clothes at one of these stores. Choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because Rita would not be able to buy clothes at a *church*. Churches do not usually sell clothes.

**(B)** is incorrect because Rita would not be able to buy clothes at a *café*. Cafés do not usually sell clothes.

**(D)** is incorrect because Rita would not be able to buy clothes in a *car*. Cars do not usually sell clothes.

4) **B**

Some English words have other words that are close in meaning, but stronger. *Great* and *good* are two examples. When something is great, that means it is very good. Choice **(B)** is correct.

Here are some more examples of these types of words:

Something that is **terrible** is very **bad**.

Something that is **beautiful** is very **pretty**.

Something that is **huge** is very **big**.

**(A)** is incorrect because *small* and *large* are opposites. They do not fit the relationship required by the prompt.

**(C)** is incorrect *big* and *huge* fit the relationship, but they are in the wrong order. Something that is huge is very big, but something that is big is not very huge.

**(D)** is incorrect because *tall* and *short* are opposites. They do not fit the relationship required by the prompt.

5) **D**

Many doctors work at a *hospital*. We know that Dr. Mark is a doctor, because that's what the "Dr." in front of her name stands for. Choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because most doctors do not work at a *bank*.

**(B)** is incorrect because most doctors do not work at a *hotel*.

**(C)** is incorrect because most doctors do not work at a *store*.

6) **D**

If someone is a good *cook*, that means he or she cooks very well. I know that Francisco is a good cook because I like to eat the food he cooks. Because Francisco made *dinner* for my family, I know that he is a good cook. Choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect *steak* comes from *cows*, but cows themselves do not prepare or cook steak. Humans make steak from the meat of cows' bodies. Therefore, Francisco cannot be a cow.

**(B)** is incorrect because although Francisco might be an *artist*, artists do not usually make their own *paint*. We can assume that Francisco did not make paint for my family.

**(C)** is incorrect because although Francisco might be a *teacher*, most teachers do not write their own *books*. We can assume that Francisco did not make a book for my family.

7) **B**

The abbreviation “pm” means “after noon.” The appointment could be *in the afternoon*. Most people would say that 3:00 pm is in the afternoon, and that evening and night are later. Also, don’t be surprised if you see the abbreviation written as “p.m.” or “PM.” Different teachers have different rules about which one is correct. Choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because “am” is the abbreviation for morning. The time in the question is not an “am” time. It is a “pm” time. The appointment cannot be *in the most*.

**(C)** is incorrect because most people would say that evening is later than 3:00 pm. The appointment is not *in the evening*.

**(D)** is incorrect because most people would say that night is later than 3:00 pm. The appointment is not *at night*.

8) **A**

The abbreviation “am” means “before noon.” This means the meeting is *in the morning*. English does not have different words for parts of the morning as it does for time after noon, which can be afternoon, evening, or night. Also, don’t be surprised if you see the abbreviation written as “a.m.” or “AM.” Again, different teachers have different rules about which one is correct. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *afternoon* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

**(C)** is incorrect because *evening* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

**(D)** is incorrect because *night* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

9) **A**

The abbreviation “am” means “before noon.” This means Dennis wakes up *in the morning*. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *afternoon* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

**(C)** is incorrect because *evening* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

**(D)** is incorrect because *evening* indicates “pm” times, but the time in the question is an “am” time.

10) **C**

The abbreviation “pm” means “after noon.” The dinner could be in the afternoon, *in the evening*, or at night. Most people would say that 7:30 pm is in the evening or at night, but “at night” is not an answer choice. Therefore, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because “am” is the abbreviation for “morning.” The time in the question is not an “am” time. It is a “pm” time. The time in the question is not *in the morning*.

**(B)** is incorrect because the time in the question is not *in the afternoon*. Most people would say that the afternoon is before 7:30 pm.

**(D)** is incorrect because *midnight* is a very specific time at the very end of the night or the very beginning of the morning, depending on how you look at it. Midnight is exactly 12 am. Most people do not eat dinner at 12 am.