



● **Sentence Completion 6** *(high-beginning level)*

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

1. My bicycle cost \$85. Carla's bicycle cost \$106. Carla's bicycle was _____ than mine.
 - A. newer
 - B. better
 - C. more expensive
 - D. less valuable
2. Jared said he fixed my car, but it is still _____.
 - A. repaired
 - B. clean
 - C. broken
 - D. expensive
3. Ms. Martin lives next door to me. She is my _____.
 - A. mother
 - B. teacher
 - C. doctor
 - D. neighbor
4. The pool is very _____. I cannot touch the bottom of it.
 - A. deep
 - B. cold
 - C. shallow
 - D. blue
5. The coins were _____ after Rachel polished them.
 - A. dirty
 - B. shiny
 - C. heavy
 - D. expensive
6. The carpenter uses a _____ to pounds nails. He uses _____ to pry them back out.
 - A. hammer ... pliers
 - B. shovel ... goggles
 - C. screwdriver ... gloves
 - D. tape ... screws
7. The pot was made thousands of years ago. It is _____.
 - A. old
 - B. new
 - C. ugly
 - D. fake
8. Before Alexi can move into his new apartment, he has to _____ the contract.
 - A. form
 - B. make
 - C. sign
 - D. read
9. You should be _____ when you are using a _____.
 - A. smart ... pencil
 - B. mean ... stick
 - C. careful ... knife
 - D. friendly ... phone
10. Although Antonio knows his lines for the play, he is still _____.
 - A. nervous
 - B. angry
 - C. thirsty
 - D. ready

Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

106 is a bigger number than 85. Since Carla's bicycle cost \$106 and mine cost \$85, this means Carla's bicycle was *more expensive* than mine. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect. Although Carla's bicycle was more expensive than mine, this does not necessarily mean it was *newer* than mine.

(B) is incorrect. Although Carla's bicycle was more expensive than mine, this does not necessarily mean it was *better* than mine.

(D) is incorrect. Carla's bicycle was more expensive than mine. This means it was not *less valuable* than mine.

2) **C**

The word “but” sets up a negative or opposite relationship. The correct answer is the opposite of “fixed.” If the car is still *broken*, it is not fixed. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *repaired* is not the opposite of “fixed.”

(B) is incorrect because *clean* is not the opposite of “fixed.”

(D) is incorrect because *expensive* is not the opposite of “fixed.”

3) **D**

Someone who lives “next door” to you is your *neighbor*. Your neighbors are the people who live near you. The phrase “next door” refers to the house that is immediately next to your house. The person who lives next door to you lives near you, so that person is your neighbor. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because your *mother* does not necessarily live “next door” to you. Many people live very far away from their mothers.

(B) is incorrect because your *teacher* does not necessarily live “next door” to you. Many people live very far away from their teachers.

(C) is incorrect because your *doctor* does not necessarily live “next door” to you. Many people live very far away from their doctors.

4) **A**

When water is *deep*, there is a lot of space between the surface and the bottom. If you are trying to stand in a deep pool, your feet do not touch the bottom. This is because the space between the surface and the bottom is greater than the space between your head and your feet. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *cold* describes the temperature of the water. The water temperature does not affect your ability to stand in it.

(C) is incorrect because *shallow* means that the space between the surface of the water and the bottom is very small. You would easily be able to stand in shallow water, because your feet would touch the bottom.

(D) is incorrect because *blue* describes the color of the water. The water's color does not affect your ability to stand in it.

5) **B**

To “polish” something means to make it clean and *shiny*. If Rachel polished her coins, they must be shiny. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because when you polish something, you remove the dirt from it. A coin that has been polished would not be *dirty*.

(C) is incorrect because *heavy* describes the weight of the coins. Polishing something does not change its weight, so this answer does not make sense.

(D) is incorrect because *expensive* describes the cost of the coins. Polishing something does not change how much it costs, so this answer does not make sense.

6) **A**

A hammer is used to *hit* things. You can use a hammer to pound nails into wood. Pliers are used to pull and twist things. You can use pliers to pry out nails. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because you cannot use a *shovel* to pound nails. You cannot use *goggles* to pry them out.

(C) is incorrect because you cannot use a *screwdriver* to pound nails. You cannot use *gloves* to pry them out.

(D) is incorrect because you cannot use a *tape* to pound nails. You cannot use *screws* to pry them out.

7) **A**

Something that was made thousands of years ago is very *old*. When something is old, it has been around for a very long time. A thousand years is a very long time. If the pot was made a thousand years ago, it is old. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *new* means that something has not been around for very long, certainly not for a thousand years.

(C) is incorrect because *ugly* describes the way the mask looks. The question only tells us that it was made a thousand years ago, not how it looks.

(D) is incorrect because *fake* means not real. The question only tells us that the mask was made a thousand years ago, not that its realness is uncertain.

8) C

A contract is used to make an agreement between two people. To make the contract work, both people must *sign* it. In many cases, a contract must be signed before moving into a new apartment. Choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because you do not need to *form* a contract before you move into a new apartment.

(B) is incorrect because you do not need to *sign* a contract before you move into a new apartment.

(D) is incorrect because you do not need to *read* a contract before you move into a new apartment.

9) C

Knives are used to cut things, but you do not want to cut yourself by mistake. When you use a *knife*, you must be *careful*. Choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because you can use a *pencil* without being *smart*.

(B) is incorrect because you can use a *stick* without being *mean*.

(D) is incorrect because you can use a *phone* without being *friendly*.

10) A

Many people get (A) *nervous* when they perform on stage or speak in front of other people. We know that Antonio will be on stage because “lines” are the memorized words actors say when they perform. Because the question starts with “although,” we need to set up a negative or opposite relationship. If Antonio knows his lines, he should be confident, but he is nervous.

(B) is incorrect because Antonio would not be *angry* about knowing his lines. In fact, he would be very happy about it.

(C) is incorrect because knowing his lines has nothing to do with being *thirsty*.

(D) is incorrect because the question tells us that Antonio knows his lines, which means that he is *ready*. This answer does not set up the opposite relationship that we need.