• Sentence Completion 2  Level 5

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. The governor thinks the tax is a good one and would like to see it continue, but his opponent wants to ______ it.
   A. abolish
   B. amend
   C. modify
   D. enact
   E. employ

2. My neighbor wears a mask when he is outdoors because he doesn’t want to ______ the pollution in the air.
   A. consume
   B. overcome
   C. infect
   D. inhale
   E. provoke

3. Ash tried to move the large rock that was blocking the road, but it wouldn’t ______.
   A. budge
   B. rotate
   C. dodge
   D. evade
   E. wander

4. Though the thief ______ the evidence in the woods, it was ______ by the police, who were able to link the evidence to the criminal.
   A. disguised … removed
   B. hid … camouflaged
   C. buried … excavated
   D. concealed … harmed
   E. exposed … sheltered

5. Educated people have ______ when applying for jobs; they are more likely to be hired.
   A. a challenge
   B. a prejudice
   C. an advantage
   D. a handicap
   E. a talent

6. The dentist told me there were ______ reasons to brush my teeth, but I can only think of one.
   A. magnificent
   B. few
   C. numerous
   D. insufficient
   E. important

7. Claudio’s parents don’t speak English, so he has to ______ his teacher’s letters from English to Spanish so they can read them.
   A. fabricate
   B. originate
   C. divide
   D. translate
   E. digest

8. My mother said I needed a ______ to come with me to the zoo because I was not old enough to go ______, so I brought my friend with me.
   A. partner … together
   B. friend … accompanied
   C. peasant … solo
   D. visitor … independently
   E. companion … alone
Answers and Explanations

1) A
The main clue in this question is the word “but,” which links two things that are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct choice will set up an opposite relationship between the fact that the governor thinks the tax is good and wants it to "continue" and what his opponent wants to do to the tax. The opposite of continuing a tax is stopping, repealing, or getting rid of it. Because abolish means to formally put an end to something, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because amend means to change or revise. This does not work because changing a tax would not prevent it from continuing to exist.

(C) is incorrect because modify means to change or alter. This does not work because changing a tax would not prevent it from continuing to exist.

(D) is incorrect because enact means to put into law. This is what the governor would like to do to the tax but the opposite of what his opponent would like to do to it.

(E) is incorrect because employ means to use. The governor might want to use the tax, but his opponent wants to do the opposite of that.

2) D
The main clue in this question is the word “because,” which combines two ideas that logically progress from one another. This means that there is a logical relationship between the fact that the neighbor “wears a mask” and what he doesn’t want to do with the pollution in the air. Masks cover people’s faces, including their noses and mouths. Many people wear masks to prevent breathing in air pollution, so it is likely that the neighbor wanted to not breathe in the pollution. Inhale means to breathe in, so choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because consume means to use up, eat, or drink. This does not work because consuming is not the same as breathing, and air cannot be eaten or drunk.

(B) is incorrect because overcome means to conquer or surmount. The prompt does not imply that the neighbor wished to overpower air, especially since air cannot be overpowered.

(C) is incorrect because infect means to sicken or afflict with a disease. This does not work because it would imply that the neighbor had the ability to make the air sick and that wearing a mask would prevent this from happening.

(E) is incorrect because provoke means to arouse or incite. Air cannot be aroused or provoked, so this choice does not make sense.

3) A
The main clue in this question is the word “but,” which links two things that are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct choice will set up an opposite relationship between what Ash tried to do to the “large rock” and what the rock wouldn’t do. If Ash tried to "move" the large rock, an opposite relationship would be set up if the rock did not actually move. Budge means to make or cause to make the slightest movement, so choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because rotate means to turn in a circular motion. Although this is a type of motion, this does not work in context, since the prompt does not imply that Ash tried to move the rock in a circular motion.

(C) is incorrect because dodge means to move out of the way or evade an oncoming object or attack. Although this is a type of motion, this does not work in context, since dodging is not the same as merely moving.

(D) is incorrect because evade means to move out of the way or dodge an oncoming object or attack. Although this is a type of motion, this does not work in context, since evading is not the same as merely moving.

(E) is incorrect because amble means to saunter, stroll, or walk at a slow or leisurely pace. Although this is a type of motion, this does not work in context, because it is impossible for a rock to walk.

4) C
The main clue in this question is the word “though,” which is used to indicate a contrasting or opposite relationship. This means that the thief tried to do something to the evidence, but the police undid his or her work or did the opposite of it. Buried means put or hid underground, while excavated means dug up. These are opposites, so choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. Disguised means given a different appearance to conceal something’s identity, while removed means taken away from a place occupied. These words have no clear relationship.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. Hid means concealed from view, while camouflaged means disguised or hidden. These words have similar meanings, not opposite meanings.
enough to go to the zoo a certain way. This means that the narrator’s mother needed him or her to bring a friend to the zoo.

The main clue in this question is the word “because,” which is used to set up a cause-and-effect relationship between two parts of a sentence. This means the missing words must set up such a relationship. Additionally, the prompt provides another clue in the phrase “so I brought my friend with me,” a phrase that explains what the solution was to the problem of not being old enough to go to the zoo a certain way. This means that the narrator’s mother needed him or her to bring a friend to the zoo.
because he or she was not old enough to go alone. Companion means a person with whom one travels, while alone means without anyone else. Together these would imply that the mother needed the narrator to bring a friend to the zoo because the narrator was not old enough to go by himself or herself, so choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A partner is a person who takes part in something with another person, but together means with other people. This would imply that the mother both wanted the narrator to bring someone to the zoo with him or her and was not old enough to go with another person.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A friend is a person who cares about and gets along with another person, but accompanied means with another person. This would imply that the mother both wanted the narrator to bring someone to the zoo with him or her and was not old enough to go with another person.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A peasant is a poor farmer, while solo means alone. Solo could work for the second missing word, but nothing in the prompt suggests that the narrator needed to bring a farmer with him or her to the zoo.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. A visitor is someone who is in a place in which he or she does not live, while independently means done alone. Independently could work for the second missing word, but the prompt does not imply that the narrator needed someone who lives in a different city to go the zoo with him or her.