



● **Sentence Completion 4** *(low-intermediate level)*

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

1. I went to the _____ with my boyfriend, but the movie was _____.
A. theater ... sold out
B. zoo ... fantastic
C. post office ... closed
D. high school ... boring
2. I don't know who stole my ring. It is a _____.
A. finger
B. diamond
C. mystery
D. necklace
3. Because Lauren _____ the bus, she was _____ to work.
A. crashed ... expected
B. missed ... late
C. took ... walking
D. likes ... driving
4. I _____ my keys. I don't know where they are.
A. used
B. lost
C. have
D. stole
5. Paula is very _____. She has been in the _____ for three days.
A. tired ... bed
B. angry ... room
C. beautiful ... mirror
D. sick ... hospital
6. Although Farsi is _____ language, it can still be _____ to know.
A. an uncommon ... helpful
B. a weird ... bad
C. a new ... impossible
D. a difficult ... hard
7. Mr. Matthews is the _____ of our school. He watches over all of the teachers and students.
A. teacher
B. student
C. janitor
D. principal
8. Mrs. Zheng used to _____ cigarettes, but she quit. She wants to improve her _____.
A. smoke ... health
B. buy ... wealth
C. sell ... business
D. make ... hands
9. Although I really want to go to the party tonight, I have to _____ instead. I have a test in the morning.
A. study
B. clean
C. dance
D. drink
10. Chuck and Dave are _____. They live on the same _____.
A. brothers ... island
B. neighbors ... street
C. friends ... boat
D. cousins ... farm

Answers and Explanations

1) **A**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “the movie.” The answer choice will involve a place where people can watch movies. *Theater* is the only answer choice that involves a place where people can watch movies. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because people do not go to watch movies at the *zoo*. The zoo is where you can see various animals, but not movies.

(C) is incorrect because people do not go to watch movies at the *post office*. The post office is where you can pick up or send mail, but not watch movies.

(D) is incorrect because people do not usually watch movies in a *high school*. The purpose of a school is to help people learn. Although teachers sometimes show educational movies, learning does not always involve movies.

2) **C**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “I don’t know.” Something that is unknown is a *mystery*. If I don’t know who stole my ring, then the identity of the thief is a mystery. Choice **(C)** is incorrect.

(A) is incorrect because nothing in the question refers to a *finger*. This is an answer you might choose if you only thought about the word “ring,” since people wear rings on their fingers. However, the ring itself is not a finger.

(B) is incorrect because nothing in the question refers to a *diamond*. This is an answer you might choose if you only thought about the word “ring,” since many rings have diamonds on them. However, there is no indication that the ring in the question has diamonds on it.

(D) is incorrect because nothing in the question refers to a *necklace*. You might choose this answer if you associated the ring with a necklace, since they are both jewelry, but this answer is still incorrect. The ring is not a necklace. These are two different items.

3) **B**

The word “because” means that two events progress in a logical way. The answer choice will involve a logical cause-and-effect relationship. Only one answer choice sets up a logical cause-and-effect relationship. If you *miss the bus*, you will be *late* to work. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if you *crash* the bus, you cause it to hit another vehicle or object. You will not be *expected* to work if this happens. In fact, if your job involves driving the bus in the first place, you will probably be fired for crashing it.

(B) is incorrect because if you *took* the bus, you would not *walk* to work. You would be taking the bus.

(D) is incorrect because if you *like* the bus, it will not affect your work. There is no relationship between how you feel about the bus and how you do your job.

4) **B**

The main clue in this question is “I don’t know where they are.” When you don’t know where you put something, you *lost* it. If I don’t know where my keys are, then I lost my keys. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because although it is true that I have probably *used* my keys, this does not relate to the fact that I don’t know where they are.

(C) is incorrect because if I *have* my keys, then I know exactly where they are. They are with me, because I have them.

(D) is incorrect because I cannot *steal* my own keys. They belong to me already. People can only steal things that do not belong to them.

5) **D**

Paula has been somewhere for three days because of her condition. If she is very *sick*, she may have to stay in the *hospital* for three days or more. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if Paula is very *tired*, she might stay in *bed* for an extra couple of hours. However, she will not stay in bed for three days.

(B) is incorrect because if Paula is very *angry*, she might stay in her *room* for an extra few hours, but not for three days.

(C) is incorrect because if Paula is very *beautiful*, that will not affect how long she stays in a *mirror*. A person’s appearance does not affect how long they look into mirrors.

6) **A**

The word “although” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The answer choice will set up an opposite relationship between two characteristics of the Farsi language. If Farsi is *uncommon*, you might not expect to use it very frequently. However, you may also find it *helpful* if you travel to Iran, which is a Farsi-speaking country, or if you make friends with Farsi-speaking people. Therefore, even though it may seem uncommon, it can still be useful. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *weird* and *bad* are both negative descriptions. They do not set up the opposite relationship we need. If you don't like Farsi, you might think it is both weird and bad.

(C) is incorrect because *new* and *impossible* are unrelated words. They are not opposites. Furthermore, Farsi is not impossible to learn or speak.

(D) is incorrect because *difficult* and *hard* are very close in meaning. You might think that Farsi is both difficult and hard, but there is no opposite relationship set up by these descriptions.

7) **D**

The main clue in this question is "he watches over all of the teachers and students." In most schools, the *principal* is the leader who makes all of the rules and makes sure that everyone, including both the teachers and the students, do their jobs properly. If Mr. Matthews tells the teachers what to do, he is the principal. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *teachers* would not watch over all of the other teachers. This is not their job. Teachers only watch over their students.

(B) is incorrect because *students* do not watch over the teachers in a school. The opposite is true. Teachers watch over the students.

(C) is incorrect because *janitors* are only responsible for keeping the school clean. They do not watch over the teachers or students at all.

8) **A**

The main clue in this question is "but she quit." If you quit *smoking* cigarettes, your *health* will improve. Cigarettes are terrible for your health. If you quit smoking them, you will stop damaging your health. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because your *wealth* will not necessarily improve if you quit *buying* cigarettes. You will save some money, but this does not mean your wealth cannot be decreased by other things.

(C) is incorrect because Mrs. Zheng's *business* will not necessarily improve if she quit *selling* cigarettes. We cannot tell from the question if she is even a business owner at all.

(D) is incorrect because your *hands* will not necessarily improve if you quit *making* cigarettes. This does not make logical sense because your hands will not necessarily be in bad shape if you roll or manufacture your own cigarettes.

9) **A**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “I have a test in the morning.” Remember that the word “although” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means that because of the test in the morning, I could not go to the party. The test would prevent me from going to the party if I had to *study* for the test. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because I would not need to *clean* to get ready for the test. This would not help me do well on the test. Only studying would help me do well on the test. Furthermore, cleaning would not prevent me from going to a party. I could clean during one part of the day and go to a party later.

(C) is incorrect because I would not need to *dance* to get ready for the test. This would not help me do well on the test. Only studying would help me do well on the test. Furthermore, dancing would probably be part of what happens at the party. Dancing would not prevent me from going to the party.

(D) is incorrect because I would not need to *drink* to get ready for the test. This would not help me do well on the test. Only studying would help me do well on the test. Furthermore, drinking might be part of what goes on at the party. Drinking would not prevent me from going to the party.

10)**B**

The correct answer choice will set up a logical relationship between Chuck and Dave and where they live. If Chuck and Dave are *neighbors*, then they live near each other. If they live on the same *street*, then they are neighbors. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because we cannot tell from the question if Chuck and Dave are *brothers*. This relationship does not depend on where they live. They are only brothers if they have the same parents.

(C) is incorrect because we cannot tell from the question if Chuck and Dave are *friends*. This relationship does not depend on where they live. They can be friends no matter where they live.

(D) is incorrect because we cannot tell from the question if Chuck and Dave are *cousins*. This relationship does not depend on where they live. They are only cousins if their parents are siblings.