



● **Sentence Completion 6** (*low-intermediate level*)

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

1. Jordan is a very _____ person. She doesn't talk very much to anyone.
A. shy
B. hungry
C. generous
D. social
2. I _____ at the hospital. Sometimes the _____ need my help.
A. work ... diseases
B. look ... nurses
C. volunteer ... doctors
D. clean ... ambulances
3. Since Michelle already _____ the movie, she knew how it would _____.
A. bought ... feel
B. saw ... end
C. heard ... sound
D. cooked ... begin
4. The little girl _____ when she _____ her ice cream cone, so her father bought her a new one.
A. spoke ... swallowed
B. cried ... dropped
C. slept ... melted
D. jumped ... bought
5. Mr. Pulaski teaches _____. His students learn about matter, motion, energy, and force.
A. physics
B. literature
C. Spanish
D. music
6. Although Cara _____ dogs, she loves _____.
A. likes ... flowers
B. eats ... puppies
C. has ... walking
D. hates ... cats
7. Dad told me that we would go to the park today, but he _____ his promise.
A. broke
B. wrote
C. made
D. honored
8. Arti cooks very _____ food. Sometimes I can't _____ it because it is too hot.
A. bland ... stand
B. cold ... cook
C. spicy ... eat
D. good ... taste
9. Teresa thinks math is easy, but Meredith thinks it is _____.
A. boring
B. simple
C. fun
D. hard
10. Despite my inability to speak French, I _____ my vacation in France.
A. hated
B. dreaded
C. enjoyed
D. avoided

Answers and Explanations

1) **A**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “She doesn’t talk very much to anyone.” The correct answer choice will talk about the fact that Jordan doesn’t talk very much. *Shy* is the only answer choice that means she doesn’t talk much to people. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because we cannot tell from the question whether Jordan is *hungry* or not. The question does not talk about Jordan wanting to eat food. We only know from the question that Jordan doesn’t talk very much, so we only know that Jordan is shy.

(C) is incorrect because we cannot tell from the question whether Jordan is *generous* or not. The question does not talk about Jordan giving things away or sharing things. We only know from the question that Jordan doesn’t talk very much, so we only know that Jordan is shy.

(D) is incorrect because *social* is the opposite of shy. We know from the question that Jordan doesn’t talk very much, so we know that Jordan is shy.

2) **C**

The main clue in this question is the word “help.” This means that the correct answer choice involves helping out at a hospital. The word *volunteer* is very close in meaning to “help.” If you volunteer at a hospital, you help the *doctors* and nurses without pay. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *diseases* do not need help from doctors and nurses. In fact, doctors and nurses try to kill diseases, not help them. If you *work* at the hospital, you do not help the diseases.

(B) is incorrect because it does not help anyone simply to *look* at a hospital. Looking at a hospital and helping the *nurses* are two unrelated events.

(D) is incorrect because it does not help the *ambulances* if you *clean* the hospital. Cleaning the hospital is helpful, but it does not affect the ambulances.

3) **B**

The main clue in this question is the word “already.” This means that the correct answer choice will involve Michelle seeing the movie in the past. If you see a movie in the past, this means you *saw* it. When you have seen a movie before, you know how it will *end*. This is because you have already seen the ending. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because movies do not really *feel* like anything. If you *buy* a movie, it will not feel a certain way. It can make you feel a certain way, but the movie itself cannot feel.

(C) is incorrect because you can *hear* the movie to find out what it *sounds* like. Most movies have music, sound effects, and dialogue (people talking). However, most people do not just listen to movies. Most people watch movies and listen to them at the same time.

(D) is incorrect because you would never *cook* a movie. A movie is not food.

4) **B**

The main clue in this question is “her father bought her a new one.” This means that something happened to the original ice cream cone. If the little girl *dropped* her ice cream cone on the ground, then she would no longer be able to eat it. It would be too dirty. If she dropped her ice cream cone, she would be very sad. She would have *cried* if she thought she could no longer eat her ice cream. Choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because the little girl could not have *swallowed* the ice cream cone in one gulp. She would have choked. Furthermore, she certainly could not have *spoken* while swallowing the ice cream cone, because you cannot speak and swallow at the same time.

(C) is incorrect because although the girl’s father may have bought her a new ice cream cone if the first one *melted*, she would not have *slept* while it melted. That does not make sense. Her father would not have bought her a new ice cream if she had been asleep.

(D) is incorrect because her father would not have bought her a new ice cream cone if she *bought* the first one. She would have no reason not to eat the one she already bought.

5) **A**

The main clue in this question is “matter, motion, energy, and force.” These words are science terms that relate to the study of *physics*. If Mr. Pulaski teaches his students about gravity and velocity, then he is teaching them about physics. Choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because if Mr. Pulaski taught *literature*, his students would not learn about matter, motion, energy, and force. These terms are unrelated to literature. They are related to science and physics.

(C) is incorrect because if Mr. Pulaski taught *Spanish*, his students would not learn about matter, motion, energy, and force. These terms are unrelated to Spanish. They are related to science and physics.

(D) is incorrect because if Mr. Pulaski taught *music*, his students would not learn about matter, motion, energy, and force. These terms are unrelated to music. They are related to science and physics

6) **D**

The word “although” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means that the correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship between Cara’s feelings about dogs and her love for something else. If Cara *hates* dogs, then she really, really dislikes them. This is the opposite of how she feels about *cats*, because she loves cats. There is an opposite relationship between the fact that she hates dogs and the fact that she loves cats. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if Cara *likes* dogs and loves *flowers*, then she has positive feelings about both dogs and flowers. There is no opposite relationship. She can have positive feelings about both at the same time.

(B) is incorrect because it is unlikely that Cara *eats* dogs. However, even if she does eat dogs, there is no opposite relationship between eating dogs and loving *puppies*. It is possible, though highly unlikely, for both to be true.

(C) is incorrect because if Cara *has* dogs and loves *walking*, there is no opposite relationship established. There is no conflict between having dogs and walking.

7) **A**

The word “but” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means there will be an opposite relationship between what Dad promised and what actually happened. If Dad said you would go to the park but you did not, then he did not keep his promise. If he did not keep his promise, then he *broke* his promise. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because if Dad *wrote* his promise, that would not affect whether or not we went to the park. The promise is still a promise whether it is written down or spoken aloud.

(C) is incorrect because Dad *made* his promise when he said we would go to the park. His promise was that we’d go to the park. There is no opposite relationship between making a promise and saying what we would do, because they are the same thing.

(D) is incorrect because if Dad *honored* his promise, this means that we did what he said we would do. If Dad honored or kept his promise, we would go to the park.

8) **C**

The main clue in this question is “because it is too hot.” Remember that the word “because” means that two events progress in a logical way. If the food is very hot, that can mean that it is hot because of its temperature, or that it is hot because of its spices. In this case, the food is too spicy. If Arti’s food is too *spicy*, I might not be able to *eat* it. Some people cannot eat very spicy food. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *bland* is the opposite of “hot” when “hot” is used to mean “spicy.” This does not set up a logical relationship with “because it is too hot.” The food cannot be hot and bland at the same time.

(B) is incorrect because *cold* is the opposite of “hot” in general. This does not set up a logical relationship with “because it is too hot.” The food cannot be hot and bland at the same time.

(D) is incorrect because if I cannot *taste* Arti’s food, I do not know if the food is *good* or not. There is no logical connection here. Furthermore, this description also does not relate to the fact that the food is too hot.

9) **D**

The word “but” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means there will be an opposite relationship between what Teresa thinks and what Meredith thinks. Easy is the opposite of hard. Since Teresa thinks math is easy, Meredith must think math is *hard*. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *boring* is not the opposite of *hard*.

(B) is incorrect because *simple* is not the opposite of *hard*.

(C) is incorrect because *fun* is not the opposite of *hard*.

10) **C**

The word “despite” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. This means that the correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship with “my inability to speak French.” Many people would feel uncomfortable in a situation where they cannot understand the language that others are speaking. If you *enjoyed* your vacation in France even though you could not understand the language, this is the opposite of what might be expected. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if you *hated* your vacation in France, then you intensely disliked it. This could be a result of the fact that you could not understand the language of your surroundings. There is no opposite relationship set up by this answer choice.

(B) is incorrect because if you *dreaded* your vacation in France, then you were seriously not looking forward to it, and you may have even wished it would not happen. This could be a result of the fact that you would not have been able to understand the language of your surroundings. There is no opposite relationship set up by this answer choice.

(D) is in correct because if you *avoided* your vacation in France, then you tried not to take the vacation or you put the vacation off. This could be a result of the fact that you would not have been able to understand the language of your surroundings. There is no opposite relationship set up by this answer choice.