



● **Sentence Completion 8** *(low-intermediate level)*

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

1. Evan owns a _____. He likes to go sailing in the ocean.
A. truck
B. boat
C. plane
D. bicycle
2. Since I ate such a large _____, I will probably _____ dinner.
A. breakfast ... order
B. lunch ... skip
C. meal ... prepare
D. doughnut ... fry
3. I like orange juice. I _____ apple juice too.
A. dislike
B. like
C. hate
D. avoid
4. Paul doesn't sleep well at night, so he is always _____ during the day.
A. excited
B. lonely
C. tired
D. energetic
5. The shirt costs thirty dollars, but Jaime only has _____.
A. twenty-five
B. thirty
C. thirty-five
D. forty
6. Mr. Wu is _____. He came to live in the United States from a different country.
A. a father
B. a businessman
C. an immigrant
D. a doctor
7. The new dress is elegant and _____.
A. ugly
B. dirty
C. messy
D. beautiful
8. I won first place at the chess tournament. I _____ all of my _____.
A. lost ... matches
B. moved ... pieces
C. saw ... enemies
D. defeated ... opponents
9. Kelly works in a _____. She helps build cars.
A. bakery
B. hospital
C. railroad
D. factory
10. In _____, the weather gets warmer and the trees grow leaves again.
A. winter
B. spring
C. summer
D. fall

Answers and Explanations

1) **B**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “He likes to go sailing.” This means that the correct answer choice will involve sailing. If Evan owns a *boat*, then he can use it go sailing in the ocean. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because Evan cannot use a *truck* to go sailing. Trucks travel on roads. Only boats are used for sailing.

(C) is incorrect because Evan cannot use a *plane* to go sailing. Airplanes fly through the sky. Only boats are used for sailing.

(D) is incorrect because Evan cannot use a *bicycle* to go sailing. Bicycles travel on roads. Only boats are used for sailing.

2) **B**

The word “so” means that two events progress in a logical way. The answer choice will involve a logical cause-and-effect relationship. If I eat a large *lunch*, I may become too full to eat the next meal of the day, which is dinner. If I am too full to eat dinner, I may *skip* dinner. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because there is no relationship between eating a large *breakfast* and *ordering* dinner. You can eat a large breakfast in the morning and still be hungry enough to order dinner from a restaurant at night.

(C) is incorrect because there is no relationship between eating a large *meal* and *preparing* dinner. Of course, you have to prepare a meal in order to eat it, but if you eat first, then you will not need to prepare a meal afterward.

(D) is incorrect because there is no relationship between eating a large *donut* and *frying* dinner. You can eat a donut during one part of the day and eat a fried dish for dinner at night.

3) **B**

The word “too” means that there is an equal relationship between two or more things. The correct answer choice will set up an equal relationship between how I feel about apple juice and how I feel about orange juice. If I like orange juice, then an equal relationship means that I *like* apple juice too. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if I *dislike* apple juice, then this is not an equal relationship. This is a negative feeling, but I have positive feelings towards orange juice. This word sets up an opposite relationship, not an equal relationship.

(C) is incorrect because if I *hate* apple juice, then this is not an equal relationship. This is a negative feeling, but I have positive feelings towards orange juice. This word sets up an opposite relationship, not an equal relationship.

(D) is incorrect because if I *avoid* apple juice, then this is not an equal relationship. You avoid things you do not like, but I like orange juice. This word sets up an opposite relationship, not an equal relationship.

4) **C**

The main clue in this question is the sentence “Paul does not sleep well at night.” If you do not sleep when you are supposed to sleep, then you will be *tired* when you are supposed to be awake. If Paul does not sleep well at night, then he it makes sense that he is tired during the day. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because Paul might feel *excited* sometimes, but we cannot tell from the question. This does not relate to the fact that Paul does not sleep well at night.

(B) is incorrect because Paul might feel *lonely* sometimes, but we cannot tell from the question. This does not relate to the fact that Paul does not sleep well at night.

(D) is incorrect because Paul would not feel *energetic*. This is the opposite of tired. People who do not sleep well usually do not feel energetic.

5) **A**

The word “but” means that two things are related in a negative and opposite way. This means that the correct answer choice will involve an opposite relationship between how much money the shirt costs and how much money Jaime has. If Jaime only has *twenty-five* dollars, then he cannot buy a shirt that costs thirty dollars. Jaime does not have enough money. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because Jaime will be able to buy a thirty-dollar shirt if he has *thirty* dollars. He has enough money, so there is no opposite relationship.

(C) is incorrect because Jaime will be able to buy a thirty-dollar shirt if he has *thirty-five* dollars. He has more money than he needs, so there is no opposite relationship.

(D) is incorrect because Jaime will be able to buy a thirty-dollar shirt if he has *forty* dollars. He has more money than he needs, so there is no opposite relationship.

6) **C**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “He came to live in the United States from another country.” We know from the question that Mr. Wu is *an immigrant*,

because an immigrant is someone who comes to live in a country from somewhere else. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because although Mr. Wu may be a *father*, we cannot tell this from the question. We only know from the question that he came from another country, so we only know that he is an immigrant.

(B) is incorrect because although Mr. Wu may be a *businessman*, we cannot tell this from the question. We only know from the question that he came from another country, so we only know that he is an immigrant.

(D) is incorrect because although Mr. Wu may be a *doctor*, we cannot tell this from the question. We only know from the question that he came from another country, so we only know that he is an immigrant.

7) **D**

The main clue in this question is the word “elegant.” This means that something is fancy or high-quality. The dress is *beautiful*, because elegant things are beautiful. “Elegant” and “beautiful” are both positive words. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because if something is elegant, it will probably not also be *ugly*. Ugly is a negative word, but elegant is a positive word. They probably will not both describe the same thing at the same time.

(B) is incorrect because if something is elegant, it will probably not also be *dirty*. Dirty is a negative word, but elegant is a positive word. They probably will not both describe the same thing at the same time.

(C) is incorrect because if something is elegant, it will probably not also be *messy*. Messy is a negative word, but elegant is a positive word. They probably will not both describe the same thing at the same time

8) **D**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “I came in first place.” This means that I beat everyone else in the tournament, and I was the best player. In order to win first place, I needed to win against everyone who played with me. Another way to say this is that I *defeated* all of my *opponents*. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If I *lost* all of my *matches*, this means I would come in last place. I would not come in first place.

(B) is incorrect because although I probably *moved* all of my chess *pieces* at some point, this does not automatically result in winning first place. I win first place by defeating my opponents, not just by moving my chess pieces.

(C) is incorrect because if I merely *saw* my *enemies*, this would not affect whether I won or not. I would need to defeat my enemies or opponents in order to win first place, not just see them.

9) **D**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “She helps build cars.” This means that Kelly works somewhere that cars are built. Cars are built in *factories*. If Kelly builds cars, she works in a factory. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because cars are not built in a *bakery*. Cakes and other goods are made in a bakery, but not cars.

(B) is incorrect because cars are not built in a *hospital*. A hospital is where sick people go for treatment. It is not a place that makes cars.

(C) is incorrect because cars are not built on a *railroad*. A railroad is a track where trains can travel. It is not a place that makes cars.

10) **B**

The main clue in this question is the phrase “the weather gets warmer and the trees grow leaves again.” In *spring*, the weather gets warmer after the cold of winter, and the trees grow new leaves after not having leaves during the winter. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because in *winter*, the weather is cold and the trees have lost their leaves. The leaves do not return until springtime.

(C) is incorrect because in *summer*, the weather is hot and the trees already have leaves.

(D) is incorrect because in *fall*, the weather gets cooler and the trees lose their leaves. The leaves do not return until springtime.