Name _____
Date _____

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

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

1. Olivia performed _____ in high school. Consequently, she was offered several scholarships to college.

   A. poorly
   B. well
   C. normally
   D. easily
   E. foolishly

2. Taylor found her new neighbors to be remarkably _____; they invited her over for dinner and would often come by her house to say hello.

   A. sociable
   B. antagonistic
   C. aloof
   D. unaccommodating
   E. unapproachable

3. In certain parts of the world, women are considered _____, and are therefore not granted equal rights as men.

   A. brilliant
   B. inferior
   C. powerful
   D. wise
   E. liberated

4. Unlike her _____ mother, Tabitha was _____ in her struggle to plan the wedding.

   A. tranquil ... serene
   B. annoying ... crazy
   C. stoic ... frantic
   D. difficult ... unhappy
   E. nervous ... apprehensive

5. The dog gave me a _____ look. It was he who ate my sandwich!

   A. confused
   B. dull
   C. excited
   D. sleepy
   E. guilty

6. Although John usually wears casual clothes, he put on _____ suit for the wedding.

   A. a dingy
   B. a formal
   C. a plaid
   D. a ruffled
   E. an unofficial

7. The meat in the container smelled rotten, yet I _____ decided to _____ it.

   A. wisely ... eat
   B. foolishly ... consume
   C. soon ... discard
   D. quickly ... revive
   E. warily ... obey

8. By definition, parallel lines _____ cross; conversely, perpendicular lines _____ intersect.

   A. never ... always
   B. sometimes ... occasionally
   C. seldom ... rarely
   D. often ... usually
   E. frequently ... regularly

Answers and Explanations

1) **B**
The word "consequently" means that two things are related in a logical, cause-and-effect way. The correct answer choice will set up a relationship between Olivia's performance in high school and the fact that she was offered several scholarships. Scholarships are prizes given to smart, hardworking students. In order to earn a scholarship, you must perform *(B) well* in school, getting good grades and achieving all your goals. If Olivia earned scholarships, she must have performed well in school. The correct answer is *(B)*.

The other answer choices do not set up the logical relationships we need. Scholarships only go to the top students, so students who perform *(A) poorly*, *(C) normally*, *(D) easily*, or *(E) foolishly* usually do not earn them. These answer choices are incorrect.

2) **A**
The main clue in this question is "invited her over" and "come by her house to say hello." These actions mean that Taylor's neighbors are friendly and enjoy interacting with her. They are *(A) sociable*, which means that they enjoy interacting with other people. The correct answer is *(A)*.

The other answer choices all involve characteristics that are the opposite of how the neighbors are described in the question. People who are *(B) antagonistic*, *(C) aloof*, *(C) unaccommodating*, or *(D) unapproachable* do not get along with others. They do not enjoy interacting with other people. These answer choices are incorrect.

3) **B**
The main clue in this question is "not granted equal rights as men." This means that women are treated differently and unfairly. This is a negative situation. The word *(B) inferior* is a negative word that means that something or someone is of lesser quality or lower status. This means that when a culture sees women as inferior, the people of that culture believe that women are weaker, less intelligent, and less important than men. This is an incorrect, negative viewpoint that leads to the negative situation of inequality. The correct answer is *(B)*.

The other answer choices involve positive viewpoints that would not lead to the rise of negative inequality. A society that views women as *(A) brilliant*, *(C) wise*, *(D) powerful*, or *(E) liberated* is a society that holds women in high regard, and will not treat them differently or worse than men. These answer choices are incorrect.

4) **C**
The word "unlike" means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship between

Tabitha and her mother. *(C) Stoic* and *(C) frantic* are the only opposite answer choices. If Tabitha's mother is stoic, then she is very calm and shows little emotion. Tabitha, on the other hand, is frantic, meaning that she is very hurried and stressed out. The correct answer is *(C)*.

The other answer choices do set up opposite relationships. *(A) Tranquil* and *(A) serene* are very close in meaning. If Tabitha's mother is tranquil and Tabitha is serene, then there is no opposite relationship between them. Similarly, there is no opposite relationship between being *(B) annoying* and *(B) crazy*, *(D) difficult* and *(D) unhappy*, or *(E) nervous* and *(E) apprehensive*. These answer choices are incorrect.

5) **E**
The main clue in this question is "it was he who ate my sandwich!" This means that my dog ate my sandwich without my permission, and I have just discovered that he did so. I could discover this if my dog looked *(E) guilty*. Guilt is a feeling that arises when people (or dogs, in this case) feel bad about having done something wrong. The correct answer is *(E)*.

The other answer choices do not set up logical relationships. I would not be able to tell that my dog ate my sandwich if he looked at me with a *(A) confused*, *(B) dull*, *(C) excited*, or *(D) sleepy* look. These looks all convey feelings other than guilt, so these answer choices are incorrect.

6) **B**
The word "although" means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship with the fact that John usually wears casual clothes. The opposite of casual is *(B) formal*. People are expected to wear formal clothes at a wedding, because a wedding is a formal event. The correct answer is *(B)*.

The other answer choices do not set up opposite relationships. There is no opposite relationship between wearing casual clothes and wearing *(A) dingy* clothes. Sometimes casual clothes can be dingy. Similarly, there is no opposite relationship between casual clothes and *(C) plaid*, *(D) ruffled*, or *(E) unofficial* clothes. These answer choices are incorrect.

7) **B**
The word "yet" means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship between the fact that the meat was rotten and what I decided to do with it. You should never eat rotten food, because it can make you sick. If you *(B) consume* rotten food, that is a *(B) foolish* thing to do. It is the opposite of what you should do if you want to stay healthy. The correct answer is *(B)*.
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The other answer choices do not set up logical, opposite relationships. You cannot *(D) revive* or *(E) obey* rotten meat, so we can ignore those answer choices right away. It is not *(A) wise* to *(A) eat* rotten meat, so we can ignore that answer choice as well. If I decided to *(D) discard* the meat, then I chose the correct course of action. You should always discard spoiled or rotten food. However, this answer choice fails to set up an opposite relationship, so it is also incorrect.

8) **A**
The word "conversely" means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will set up an opposite relationship between the parallel and perpendicular lines. "Parallel" and "perpendicular" are mathematical terms that describe lines. Parallel lines *(A) never* touch. They go on forever in the same direction, without touching. Perpendicular lines *(A) always* touch in such a way as to form four right angles. However, if you did not know these terms, you can still figure out the correct answer by choosing the answer choice that features direct opposites. The correct answer is *(A)*.

The other answer choices do not match with the definitions of "parallel" and "perpendicular," and they do not form opposite relationships. Parallel lines do not touch *(B) sometimes*, *(C) seldom*, *(D) often*, or *(E) frequently*. They never, ever touch. If they touch, then they are no longer parallel. These answer choices are incorrect. Again, even if you do not know anything about parallel or perpendicular lines, you can discard these answer choices because they do not set up the appropriate relationship as implied by the conjunction "conversely."