



● **Sentence Completion 14** *(low-intermediate level)*

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

1. Many restaurants _____ you to wear a shirt and shoes. If you don't, they will not allow you to enter.
A. forbid
B. assist
C. like
D. require
2. In addition to _____, Peter likes to watch _____.
A. movies ... television
B. sports ... puzzles
C. math ... science
D. art ... music
3. Rather than being _____, Jenny should be _____.
A. silly ... complicated
B. strange ... weird
C. sad ... happy
D. ugly ... wealthy
4. The firefly and the cheetah are _____. They do not have much in common.
A. strange
B. different
C. weird
D. odd
5. Unlike tragedy, which is _____, comedy is _____.
A. entertaining ... exciting
B. serious ... funny
C. simple ... easy
D. complicated ... boring
6. Even though my parents argue a lot, they still _____ each other.
A. hurt
B. shun
C. hate
D. love
7. Not only do roses smell good, but they are also very _____.
A. ugly
B. disgusting
C. weak
D. beautiful
8. Cars have _____ parts: the engine, wheels, doors, gears, windows, seats, and more.
A. some
B. a few
C. many
D. a couple of
9. Although the earth seems flat, it is actually _____.
A. round
B. dangerous
C. narrow
D. complicated
10. Smoking is _____; it can cause many _____ diseases.
A. fun ... safe
B. dangerous ... harmful
C. smart ... positive
D. famous ... popular

Answers and Explanations

1) **D**

The main clue in this question is the sentence “If you don’t, they will not allow you to enter.” This means that you must wear a shirt and shoes in order to enter the restaurant. Something you must do is called a “requirement.” If a restaurant *requires* you to wear a shirt and shoes, then it is a requirement. You must do it. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If a restaurant *forbids* you to wear a shirt and shoes, then you are required *not* to wear them. This makes no sense at all.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If a restaurant *assists* you to wear a shirt and shoes, then the restaurant helps you wear them. This makes no sense at all.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If a restaurant *likes* you to wear a shirt and shoes, then the restaurant prefers that you wear them. However, they will not necessarily forbid you from entering if you do not wear them. Therefore, this choice is not the best answer.

2) **A**

The word “although” means that two things are related in an equal way. This means that Peter likes to watch two different things equally. You can watch *movies*, and *television* shows. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an equal relationship. Although you can watch *sports*, you cannot watch *puzzles*.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. You cannot watch either *math* or *science*.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. You cannot watch either *art* or *music*.

3) **C**

The phrase “rather than” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will involve an opposite relationship between how Jenny is and how Jenny should be. If Jenny should not be *sad*, then she should be *happy*, because happy and sad are opposite. The other answer choices do not form a direct, opposite relationship and can be ignored. Choice **(C)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Silly* and *complicated* are unrelated characteristics, so they cannot be opposites.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Strange* and *weird* are close in meaning, so they cannot be opposites.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. *Ugly* and *wealthy* are unrelated characteristics, so they cannot be opposites.

4) **B**

The main clue in this question is “They do not have much in common.” When two things have nothing in common, they are different from one another. If fireflies and cheetahs do not have much in common, this means that they are very *different*. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. Fireflies might be *strange*, but we cannot tell from the question. We only know that fireflies and cheetahs do not have much in common.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. Fireflies might be *weird*, but we cannot tell from the question. We only know that fireflies and cheetahs do not have much in common.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. Fireflies might be *odd*, but we cannot tell from the question. We only know that fireflies and cheetahs do not have much in common.

5) **B**

The word “unlike” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will involve an opposite relationship between comedy and tragedy. If tragedy is *serious*, then comedy is the opposite of serious. An opposite of serious is *funny*. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not form an opposite relationship. *Entertaining* and *exciting* are both positive characteristics, so they are not opposites.

(C) is incorrect because it does not form an opposite relationship. *Simple* and *easy* have similar meanings, so they are not opposites.

(D) is incorrect because it does not form an opposite relationship. *Complicated* and *boring* are unrelated characteristics, so they are not opposites.

6) **D**

The phrase “even though” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will involve an opposite relationship between the fact that my parents argue a lot and another characteristic of my parents. If my parents argue a lot but they still *love* each other, that is the opposite of what might be expected. Choice **(D)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. If people argue a lot, it is very easy to *hurt* each other. Arguments can be hurtful or violent. Hurting each other during an argument is not the opposite of what is expected.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. Sometimes, during or after people argue, they *shun*, or ignore, each other because they are angry or their feelings are hurt. Shunning each other during or after arguments is not the opposite of what is expected.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. Sometimes arguing a lot means that people *hate* each other. This is not the opposite of what is expected.

7) **D**

The phrases “not only” and “but also” mean that two things are related in an equal and supplemental way. This means there will be an equal relationship between two characteristics of roses. We know from the question that roses smell good, which is a positive characteristic. The correct answer choice will also involve a positive characteristic. Roses smell good and look *beautiful*. Choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up an equal relationship. Saying that roses smell good but look *ugly* creates an opposite relationship. One characteristic is positive, but the other is negative.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an equal relationship. Saying that roses smell good but look *disgusting* creates an opposite relationship. One characteristic is positive, but the other is negative.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an equal relationship. Saying that roses smell good but look *weak* creates an opposite relationship. One characteristic is positive, but the other is negative.

8) **C**

The main clue in this question is the list of parts found in a car, including the engine, the wheels, “and more.” This means that cars have *many* parts. Choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If cars only had *some* parts, the list of parts in the question would be a little bit shorter.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If cars only had a *few* parts, the list of parts in the question would be quite a bit shorter.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up a logical relationship. If cars only had a *couple of* parts, the list of parts in the question would only have two items on it.

Here are some examples of words that talk about numbers.

1 = one, a, an, single

2 = two, a couple, a pair, double

3 = three, a few, several, a triple

4 = a few, several, multiple

5 = many, a few, some, multiple

6 = many, some

Small numbers = few, a little, some

Large numbers = many, a lot, a bunch

Also remember the importance of context. Eight children is a lot of children for one family, but eight pages is not a lot of pages for one book.

9) **A**

The phrase “although” means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way. The correct answer choice will involve an opposite relationship how Earth looks and how it actually is. It looks flat, so the correct answer choice will be the opposite of flat. The opposite of flat is *round*. Choice **(A)** is correct.

(B) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. The definition of *dangerous* is unrelated to the definition of flat, so it is not an opposite of flat.

(C) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. The definition of *narrow* is unrelated to the definition of flat, so it is not an opposite of flat.

(D) is incorrect because it does not set up an opposite relationship. The definition of *complicated* is unrelated to the definition of flat, so it is not an opposite of flat.

10) **B**

The main clue in this question is the word “diseases.” Diseases are bad because they make you sick. If smoking causes diseases, then smoking is bad too. This means that the correct answer choice will involve two negative words. *Dangerous* is a negative word, and so is *harmful*. Choice **(B)** is correct.

(A) is incorrect because it does not involve two negative words. *Fun* is a positive word.

(C) is incorrect because it does not involve two negative words. *Smart* is a positive word.

(D) is incorrect because it does not involve two negative words. *Famous* is a positive word.