



● **Sentence Completion 4** *(high-beginning level)*

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

1. I read some \_\_\_\_\_ news this morning: there was an earthquake in China.  
A. wonderful  
B. good  
C. funny  
D. bad
2. Jenny has a fever and a headache. She is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. crazy  
B. sick  
C. old  
D. healthy
3. The circus clowns make Rafael laugh very hard. They are \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. hilarious  
B. sad  
C. boring  
D. angry
4. Max loves to eat sweets. For this reason, he always orders \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. dessert  
B. lunch  
C. dinner  
D. French fries
5. The game is \_\_\_\_\_. It only has two rules.  
A. complicated  
B. exciting  
C. simple  
D. long
6. Mom wanted to be \_\_\_\_\_, so she gave each child the same amount of candy.  
A. cruel  
B. fair  
C. honest  
D. pretty
7. If you want to be a great athlete, you have to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. run  
B. practice  
C. study  
D. win
8. The bridge is too \_\_\_\_\_. The construction workers need to \_\_\_\_\_ it so that cars can pass underneath.  
A. high ... lower  
B. strong ... weaken  
C. low ... raise  
D. empty ... fill
9. Although ants are tiny, they can lift very \_\_\_\_\_ objects.  
A. fragile  
B. soft  
C. big  
D. round
10. The car is \_\_\_\_\_. We bought it last week.  
A. ugly  
B. small  
C. expensive  
D. new

## Answers and Explanations

1) **D**

An earthquake is a type of disaster. During an earthquake, the ground shakes violently. This can destroy buildings and hurt people. Every time an earthquake happens it is *bad* news. Choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because something *wonderful* is great or amazing. This is not a good word to describe earthquakes, which are very bad destructive.

**(B)** is incorrect because earthquakes are bad, which is the opposite of *good*.

**(C)** is incorrect because something *funny* makes people laugh. Earthquakes are scary, and people don't laugh when they're scared.

2) **B**

People can know if they are *sick* because of certain signs. A high temperature, or fever, can be a sign that you are sick. Headaches are another possible sign that you are sick. Since Jenny has these signs, she must be sick. Choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because it does not make sense to say that Jenny is *crazy* just because she has a fever and a headache.

**(C)** is incorrect because it does not make sense to say that Jenny is *old* just because she has a fever and a headache.

**(D)** is incorrect because it does not make sense to say that Jenny is *healthy* because she has a fever and a headache. If Jenny were healthy, she would not have a fever and a headache.

3) **A**

*Hilarious* means very funny. When something is very funny, people laugh. If Rafael laughs very hard, the clowns are probably hilarious. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *sad* means unhappy. When people are unhappy, they sometimes cry, which would not make people laugh. Since Rafael is laughing, the clowns must not be unhappy.

**(C)** is incorrect because *boring* means not interesting. If the clowns were boring, Rafael probably wouldn't even be watching them.

**(D)** is incorrect because *angry* means mad. Angry clowns would not make Rafael laugh. In fact, they might even scare him!

4) **A**

Sweets are sugary treats like chocolate and candy. Since Max loves to eat sweets, it makes sense that he always orders *dessert*. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because there is no reason to think Max always orders *lunch* simply because he loves to eat sweets.

**(C)** is incorrect because there is no reason to think Max always orders *dinner* simply because he loves to eat sweets.

**(D)** is incorrect because there is no reason to think Max always orders *French fries* simply because he loves to eat sweets.

5) **C**

The game only has two rules. Therefore, it is *simple*, basic, or easy to learn. Choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because the question does not provide information to support the idea that the game is *complicated*, simply because it only has two rules.

**(B)** is incorrect because the question does not provide information to support the idea that the game is *exciting*, simply because it only has two rules.

**(D)** is incorrect because the question does not provide information to support the idea that the game is *long*, simply because it only has two rules.

6) **B**

Being *fair* means you treat people the same. It is not fair for a mother to give candy to one of her children but not the other. To be fair, she must give the same amount of candy to each child. Choice **(B)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *cruel* means very mean. Mom gave each child the same amount of candy, which is very nice and not mean at all.

**(C)** is incorrect because *honest* means truthful. The question does not provide information to support the idea that mom was being honest by giving each child the same amount.

**(D)** is incorrect because *pretty* is a word that describes the way Mom looks, not what she did. The question only tells us that she gave candy to her children. It does not say anything about the way she looks.

7) **A**

A great athlete is very good at sports. In order to be great at sports, you have to practice. Choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because you don't necessarily have to *run* to be a great athlete.

**(C)** is incorrect because you don't necessarily have to *study* to be a great athlete. You have to study to be a great student.

**(D)** is incorrect because you don't necessarily have to *win* to be a great athlete..

8) **C**

In order to pass under a bridge, the bridge must be taller than your car. If the bridge is not tall enough, it is too *low* for cars to pass underneath. Therefore, it makes sense that the construction workers need to *raise* it, or make it higher, so that cars can pass under it. "Underneath" is another way to say "under." Choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because a *high* bridge means that it would be much taller than cars, so they would be able to pass under it easily. If you *lower* the bridge, you will make it harder for cars to pass underneath.

**(B)** is incorrect because the construction workers do not need to *weaken* a *strong* bridge in order to pass underneath it. The bridge's strength does not affect a car's ability to go under it.

**(D)** is incorrect because a bridge cannot be *empty*, so it does not make sense to *fill* a bridge in order to pass under it.

9) **C**

The word "although" means that two things are related in a negative or opposite way.

Here are some examples:

*Although* I want to buy the shirt, I do not want to buy the shoes.

*Although* George is tall, his brother is short.

*Although* Pam has two cats, she doesn't have any dogs.

This question begins with "Although ants are very small." We know the answer must relate to size. *Big* is the only choice that relates to size, and it sets up an opposite relationship with "small." Choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *fragile* is not an opposite of "small." It does not make sense in the question.

**(B)** is incorrect because *soft* is not an opposite of "small." It does not make sense in the question.

**(D)** is incorrect because *round* is not an opposite of "small." It does not make sense in the question.

10) **D**

We bought the car last week. This means it is *new*. A new car is a car that you have owned for only a short period of time. Choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because a new car does not have to be *ugly*. In fact, the question does not tell us how the car looks, so it could be very beautiful.

**(B)** is incorrect because *small* describes the size of the car. The question does not say anything about the size of the car, only that we have had it for a short period of time.

**(C)** is incorrect because *expensive* describes how much the car costs. The question does not say anything about the cost of the car, only that we have had it for a short period of time.