

Sentence Completion/Fillups

Introduction:

Fill in the blanks also in the same case is called sentence completion. It is basically a combination of both reading skills and grammar knowledge.

Sentence completion is of three types:

1. Single blank
2. Double blank
3. Cloze test

1. Single blank: It is basically one sentence with one blank that you have to fill.

2. Double blank: It is a longer sentence with two blanks that you have to fill.

3. Cloze test: It is like a paragraph having some blanks. Actually it a combination of both fill in the blanks and reading comprehension.

What all factor kept in mind:

1. First of all, you should always have a mental answer when you are trying to solve a problem.
2. With the mental answer, match it with the option skill.
3. Vocabulary should be very very strong.

4. **The idea of the sentences:**

Every sentence has an idea and each sentence also communicates ideas.

For example:

Sentences are either positive or negative. If the positive sentence the blank word will be positive and if the sentence is negative the blank word will be negative.

Whether sentences are formal or informal. Let us say friend is a formal word and pal/buddy is an informal word.

5. **Proactive solving:**

Usually, sentences go through the option first and try to somewhat how to fit into the blanks, this way of approach is called **reactive solving** and this is likely to cause errors.

A better way would be proactive solving means acting in anticipation. In other words, try to guess the answer without solving.

6. Identify the clues present in the sentence. A positive sentence, negative sentence, formal sentence, informal sentence these all are clues in the sentence.
7. Pay special attention to introductory and transitional words. **Introductory** means this thing or that thing is talking about one thing or many things. **Transitional** words are like, but, although, however, yet, even, in spite of, despite of, etc.

For example:

Ravi is a good boy **but** his brother is a bad boy.

If the 1st part is positive and the 2nd part will be negative and vice versa.

8. Be sure your choice is both logically and grammatically correct. Make sure your grammar matches with the sentence, otherwise, grammar is not matching even if the meaning of the word is correct, grammatically the sentence will be wrong.
9. If you do not know words use elimination and educated guessing. This means you are able to make one or more choices that are definitely wrong or guessing from context when you know a related word.

There are several types of sentence completion:

1. Restatement
2. Comparison
3. Contrast
4. Cause and effect

1. Restatement: Restatement means repeating the same things again and again. So, if it's a positive one, it will be positive and if it's a negative one, it will be negative.

For example:

The city council formed a committee to simplify several dozen _____ city ordinances that were unnecessarily complicated and out-of-date.

- a. feckless b. empirical c. byzantine d. Slovenly e. Pedantic

Answer :

Here we are talking about something which was very complex and has been simplified. So, here the answer is 'c' i.e. byzantine that means very complicated.

2. Comparison: Two things are being compared. eg. Ram is a good boy similarly his brother is also a good boy.

In this case if it is positive it will remain positive and vice versa.

Similarly, likewise, and just as etc. are used for comparison.

3. Contrast: If contrast is there then but, although, despite, however, though, or etc. words you will be seen.

eg. Ram is a good boy **but** Shyam is a bad boy.

4. Cause and effect: Cause and effect mean one thing is the reason for others. Words like cause, lead to because, etc. when you have these words then you know there is a **cause & effect**. Even without these words, we can have cause & effect.

For example:

After a brief and violent _____ that ousted the president, General Mosanto declared himself the dictator of the country.

- a. nurance b. Coup c. solicitation d. upbraiding e. lament

Answer:

In this sentence outrage is a clue. Outrage means to remove. Here the answer is 'b' coup that means to take over any government.

Questions On Sentence Completion:

a) Single blanks question:

1. His neighbours find his _____ manner bossy and irritating and they stop inviting him to backyard barbeques.

- a. insentient b. magisterial c. reparatory
d. restorative e. modest

Answer: b.

Explanation:

Find something which talks about his manner is bossy and irritating. So, magisterial is the answer that means dominating.

Insentient - can not sense anything, Reparatory - repayment, Restorative - having the ability to restore health and modest - very humble.

2. Shubham is always _____ about showing off work because he feels that tardiness is a sign of irresponsibility.

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| a. legible | b. Tolerable | c. punctual |
| d. literal | e. Belligerent | |

Answer: c.

Explanation:

Tardiness means unpunctual or lazy. So, the answer is punctual.

Legible - handwriting, Tolerable - something you can tolerate, Literal - taking words in their usual sense and belligerent - a war like happening.

3. Anjali would _____ her little sister into an argument by teasing her and calling her names.

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| a. advocate | b. provoke | c. perforate |
| d. lament | e. Expunge | |

Answer: b.

Explanation:

Her sister made her angry. So, the answer is, provoke that means anger.

Advocate - incorrect, perforate - make holes, lament - very sad and expunge - remove.

Cloze test:

In the cloze test, the whole paragraph has to be taken into concentration. Sometimes clues are given later on also, so it is a good idea to read the whole paragraph and then keep filling it as and when you can.

Text 1.

Giant pandas are black-and-white Chinese bears that are on the verge of (1)_____. These large, cuddly-looking mammals have a big head, a heavy body, rounded ears, and a short tail. Most bears' eyes have round pupils. The (2)_____ is the giant panda, whose pupils

are vertical slits, like cats' eyes, these unusual eyes (3) _____ the Chinese call the panda "giant cat bear."

1. A) indication B) accommodation C) extinction.
2. A) dimension B) exception C) speculation
3. A) inspired B) predicated C) reversed

Answer:

1. Extinction.

The clue is on the verge.

2. Exception.

The clue is pupils are vertical slits.

3. Inspired.

Chinese inspired by the looking of giant pandas.]

Text 2.

Although the population of England in the nineteenth century was rising at a (1) _____ rate, that of the city was increasing by leaps. This was due to the effect of the industrial revolution; people were (2) _____ into the towns and cities in search of employment; for the same, it was also the call of the unknown, (3) _____ and a better way of life. This period is known to be the beginning of many new things.

1. A) crepuscular B) unprecedented C) reprehensible
2. A) flocking B) abrogating C) ensconcing
3. A) escapade B) pliable C) abstruse

Answer:

1. Unprecedented

Means like never before.

2. Flocking.

Means moving. The clue is town.

3. Escapade

Means adventurous