

## SENTENCE COMPLETION

Sentence completion questions test your ability to use your vocabulary and understanding of logical composition of the sentence. You need to know not only the dictionary meaning of the word but also the logical and stylistic sense of the sentence.

Sentences are composed of a number of words and ideas that are connected to one another in various ways. You are to figure out how the parts of the sentence are connected. When you understand how these ideas are connected in the sentence, you can say that you really understand the sentence.

### CONNECTIONS AND SIGNALS

Most often, some signal words or clues connect the parts of the sentence. These signal words are called "indicators". Let us discuss some high frequency connections and indicators used in the sentence completion section of the test.

#### CAUSE AND EFFECT:

In this type of sentence, one part of the sentence describes something that causes something in the other part of the sentence.

**Rizwana always win the debate competition because she works \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare the topic.**

- A. lazily
- B. hard
- C. continually
- D. spontaneously

(B). The first part of this sentence describes something – always win the debate competition – that is caused or influenced by what's described in the second part. Think over it, "What causes to win the competition?" Only the word "hard" is the correct choice.

The two parts of the sentence are connected by the word "because" that indicates the cause and effect composition of the sentence.

#### INDICATORS FOR CAUSE AND EFFECT:

because	so
so that	causes
accordingly	thus
consequently	hence
therefore	in order to

#### CONTRAST:

In this type of sentence, one part of the sentence expresses an idea that is opposite to the idea in another part of the sentence.

Zahid looks a noble person but he always becomes \_\_\_\_\_ any good deed.

- A. a supporter of
- B. an obstacle for
- C. swift to do
- D. a promoter for

(B). Here in this example the signal word "but" indicates a contrast in the second part of the sentence. An apparently, noble looking person should do wrong in the second part of the sentence; hence, the right choice is "obstacle for" the good deed.

### INDICATORS FOR CONTRAST:

but	though
on the other hand	on the contrary
despite	although
however	while
instead of	still

### SIMILARITY:

In this type of sentence, one part of the sentence expresses an idea, and the other part gives the explanation, elaboration or an example of that idea.

Jahania city council representative promised that he would consider all suggestions from down town residents and that he was willing, not only to discuss his proposal, but also to \_\_\_\_\_ it.

- A. change
- B. vanish
- C. accept
- D. disapprove

(A). The structural construction of the sentence "not only ... but also" indicates that the same idea should be in the "but also" part.

### INDICATORS FOR SIMILARITY:

not only ... but also	in the same way
like	similarly
resembles	
for example	for instance
such as	specifically



**RESTATEMENT:**

In this type of sentence, one part of the sentence rephrases or repeats what is expressed in the other part of the sentence.

Just as people of Jahania are doing their best to eradicate the social evils like family marriages, so the people of Bure Wala are making efforts \_\_\_\_\_ the penetration of foreign culture in their social norms.

- A. to absorb
- B. to accept
- C. to normalize
- D. to stop

(D). The composition of "Just as... as" leads towards restatement of the idea. What the people of Jahania are doing, the people of Burewala are doing the same thing. This is the restatement of the idea.

**Indicators for Restatement:**

that is  
in short

just as .... as  
in fact

**SOLVED EXAMPLES**

**Directions:** Each sentence below has one or two blanks. Below the sentence are four words or set of words. Choose the word or set of the words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Answer of each question has been given at the end of each question.

1. Fauzia presents herself as a bold journalist by asking people in politics the kinds of \_\_\_\_\_ questions that other reporters do not ask.
- A. controversial
  - B. circumnating
  - C. abnormal
  - D. Irrelevant

**The right answer is A.**

**Explanation:**

The sentence says that Fauzia earned a reputation for herself as a journalist by asking the questions that other reporters avoided. Its mean she asks probing questions about controversial issues. The only right answer that describes such questions is (A) controversial.

21. Ozone in the Earth's atmosphere \_\_\_\_\_ living organisms from damaging ultraviolet radiation.
- A. Irotects
  - B. warms
  - C. reflects
  - D. absorbs

**The right answer is A.**

**Explanation:**

Ozone provides a shield against harmful ultra violet radiation; hence it protects living things on the Earth.

22. So \_\_\_\_\_ was the sales persons' tone about the qualities of the new computer system that, Najam nearly missed the \_\_\_\_\_ in its calculations in his budget.

- A. persuasive ... flaw
- B. adopted .. accuracy
- C. harsh .. amount
- D. irritating .. greatness

**The right answer is A.**

**Explanation:**

The sales person's tone is always persuasive during sales talk. for the first blank and something like "flaw" for the second. Choice (A) is the right answer.

23. Despite his illness, Inzamam was \_\_\_\_\_ in his team's win.
- A. disappointing
  - B. useless
  - C. vigorous
  - D. instrumental

**The right answer is D.**

**Explanation:**

"Despite" is the key word. It leads you to predict the importance of Inzamam. Hence, the right answer choice is D.

24. Salma's home looked as though it had been \_\_\_\_\_ from a rag bin; her expensive burner was her sole \_\_\_\_\_ of luxury.
- A. clean .. expensive
  - B. computerized .. cost
  - C. modernized .. symbol
  - D. salvaged .. sign

**The right answer is D**

**Explanation:**

"from a rag bin" gives the idea of "salvaged". Opposite to it is sign of luxury. Hence, the right choice is D.

25. The applicant answered tough question with \_\_\_\_\_ candor, winning over many interviewers who had previously supported his rival.
- A. planed
  - B. impatient
  - C. unintentional
  - D. disarming

**The right answer is D.**

**Explanation:**

"disarming candor" means "with great confidence" in general. Obviously, it can get hold over the rival.

26. It was difficult to imagine Jameela, \_\_\_\_\_ woman, as a psychiatrist; listening while others talked was not her style.
- A. a talkative
  - B. a cheering
  - C. a smiling
  - D. a aggressive

**The right answer is A.**

**Explanation:**

Second part of the sentence indicates that Jameela is talkative and does not listen to others, so she cannot be a good psychiatrist. The right choice is A.



27. A rumor that the corporation was close to the \_\_\_\_\_ caused panic among its creditors and stockholders.
- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| A. new venture          | B. brink of bankruptcy |
| C. dividend declaration | D. annual BOD meeting  |

**The right answer is B.**

**Explanation:**

28. Panic can be caused by bankruptcy. The right answer is B.

Sajid appears to behave \_\_\_\_\_, actively helping class fellows to have their home assignment done.

- A. aggressively
- B. cooperatively
- C. rudely
- D. suspiciously
- E. mysteriously

**The right answer is B**

**Explanation:**

The sentence asks you to look for a word that describes how Sajid behaves. The information after the comma told that Sajid "actively help his class fellows." Only one word among the choices accurately describes this behavior: "cooperatively".

29. Both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Mazhar is seldom calm and never spent money.

- A. defensive ... stingy
- B. quarrel some ... miserly
- C. smart ... attractive
- D. cool... generous
- E. garrulous ... frugal

**The right answer is B.**

**Explanation:**

In this sentence, you are looking for two words that describe Mazhar. One of the words has to mean that he is "seldom calm" and the other that he "never spent money."

## PRACTICE EXERCISE

## Directions:

Each sentence below has one or two blanks. Below the sentence are four words or set of words. Choose the word or set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

The answers of the questions have been given at the next page after the exercise.

## QUESTIONS:

- Maria forced herself to eat every piece on her plate; although she found the food practically \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. delicious B. spicy  
C. inedible D. nourishing
- Until its defeat by Ireland, Pakistani team won most of its test matches by innings and had achieved an \_\_\_\_\_ series of wins.  
A. defeated B. unbroken  
C. difficult D. aggressive
- The whale shark is found in equatorial deep waters around the world, it is \_\_\_\_\_ encountered by divers.  
A. rarely B. successfully  
C. anxiously D. constantly
- Some of the sculptures formerly \_\_\_\_\_ the Hindu artist are now thought to have been created by one of his Muslim students.  
A. denied by B. attributed to  
C. adapted from D. submitted to
- Because its chief accountant altered figures and completely fabricated other, the company's financial records were entirely \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. hidden B. spurious  
C. transparent D. taxable
- As \_\_\_\_\_ as she is original, Tahira has created songs for theaters, classical concerts, and Pakistani movies.  
A. versatile B. old fashioned  
C. sophisticated D. solo
- The benefits of the cooperative program are \_\_\_\_\_, with both companies acquiring new production techniques.  
A. challenging B. exclusive  
C. normal D. mutual
- The author monotonously numerates the \_\_\_\_\_ points of scientific development, while omitting the details that might \_\_\_\_\_ the reader's interest.  
A. week ... sell to  
B. trivial ... boost  
C. stylistic ... irritate  
D. essential ... limit
- The final edition of the Love and Cheating consists of six volumes; however, only a small \_\_\_\_\_ of its full volume has ever been published.  
A. edition B. volume  
C. fraction D. chapter
- Muslim alchemists tried to attain wealth by \_\_\_\_\_ copper and other base metals into gold.  
A. placing B. coin aging  
C. melting D. transforming
- An editorial praised the generosity of an anonymous \_\_\_\_\_, who had donated over a million rupees and several priceless books to the college.  
A. hoarder B. benefactor  
C. promoter D. rich



12. Although officials claimed that its hull was \_\_\_\_\_, the Titanic sank after hitting an iceberg.
- A. iron made      B. impenetrable  
C. prominent      D. oval
13. Misrepresentative graphs and drawings \_\_\_\_\_ the real data and encourage readers to accept \_\_\_\_\_ arguments.
- A. obscure...legitimate  
B. distort...spurious  
C. illustrate...controversial  
D. complement...unresolved  
E. replace...esteemed
14. Conservative historians who represent a traditional account as \_\_\_\_\_ because of its age, may be guilty of taking on trust what they should have \_\_\_\_\_ in a conscientious fashion.
- A. ancient...established  
B. false...reiterated  
C. mythical...fabricated  
D. accurate...examined  
E. suspicious...challenged
15. The art of Shehnaz Begum often presents us with an idyllic vision that is subtly \_\_\_\_\_ by more sinister elements, as if suggesting the \_\_\_\_\_ beauty of our surroundings.
- A. enhanced...pristine  
B. invaded...flawed  
C. altered...unmarred  
D. redeemed...hallowed  
E. devastated...bland

**ANSWERS**

1	C	6	A	11	B
2	B	7	D	12	B
3	A	8	B	13	B
4	B	9	C	14	D
5	B	10	D	15	B

## BRAIN BUSTERS

## PRACTICE EXERCISE

## Directions:

Each sentence below has one or two blanks. Below the sentence are four words or set of words. Choose the word or set of the words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

The answers and explanations of the questions have been given at the next page after exercise.

- The \_\_\_\_\_ workshop had not been used in years.  
A. orphan B. advanced  
C. decorated D. renovated  
E. derelict
- Producers of Punjabi films have long decried the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lahore movie critics, whose reviews can determine the fate of a film in a month.  
A. fallacy B. poverty  
C. cruelty D. power  
E. absent mindedness
- With the current wave of crime, travelers on Lahore route are \_\_\_\_\_ to make sure their wallet is secure.  
A. banned B. irreverent  
C. illiterate D. urged  
E. permitted
- Working \_\_\_\_\_ under time pressure, Shamim didn't notice her \_\_\_\_\_ mistake.  
A. continually - simple  
B. meticulously - stupid  
C. hastily - careless  
D. continuously - abnormal  
E. leisurely - inevitable
- The cheerful, lively sound of folk music \_\_\_\_\_ almost everyone.  
A. expired B. consoled  
C. revived D. accustomed  
E. bared
- The \_\_\_\_\_ manner in which the trainee manager candidate addressed the board of selection committee was a basic reason for his rejection; the board members agreed that enthusiasm is an essential quality in a manager.  
A. imaginative B. superior  
C. timorous D. perfunctory  
E. suspicious
- As \_\_\_\_\_ of the Sindh supreme selection board, Allah Bachayo had free \_\_\_\_\_ to all Government rest houses throughout the country.  
A. a scholar - admission  
B. a survivor - passage  
C. an organizer - submission  
D. an institution - advice  
E. a member - entrance
- His \_\_\_\_\_ painting style made it difficult to follow his thought processes - no surprise to his contemporaries, who were familiar with his \_\_\_\_\_ manner of talking.  
A. hypnotic ... attractive  
B. complex ... affected  
C. laborious ... tedious  
D. convoluted ... circumlocutory  
E. precise ... arcane
- After completing her usual morning walk, Salma found herself \_\_\_\_\_ tired.  
A. surprisingly B. more  
C. slowly D. unceasingly  
E. incessantly
- The green supernova is still \_\_\_\_\_ cosmetologists, as it has never been seen clearly, making it impossible to study its nature.  
A. admiring for B. enigmatic to  
C. dangerous to D. exploited by  
E. famous among

## ANSWERS

1	E	6	D
2	D	7	E
3	D	8	D
4	C	9	A
5	C	10	B



**EXPLANATIONS:**

1. Derelict means —empty, —abandoned in this case.
2. If film critics can determine the fate of a movie in a month, then clearly they have —power.
3. Urged is a better choice than any other choice.
4. In this case, it appears that the mistakes are not inevitable; answer (C) is the only logical choice.
5. This sentence assumes that cheerful, lively music has a positive effect on people, so they revived.
6. The second half of the sentence states that enthusiasm in a trainee manager candidate is essential. Therefore, the word that describes the candidate they rejected should mean the opposite of —enthusiastic. —Perfunctory is the right choice.
7. It is more likely that a member of the original team rather than a scholar would have a free pass.
8. Case of similarity. The words —difficult to follow his thought processes make it clear that both missing words should mean —hard to understand, unnecessarily complicated.
9. It would be surprising to find yourself exhausted by routine exercise.
10. This sentence has a cause and effect relationship, as indicated by the word —as. If the green supernova —has never been seen clearly, one could logically conclude that it would be —enigmatic.

**END OF THE SECTION**