

What is Sentence Completion in IELTS Reading?

Worksheet

In sentence completion, you read incomplete statements and find the exact words from the text that complete them correctly. Accuracy and finding the precise context are essential.

Questions

1. Incomplete: 'Coffee sales have increased by ____ over the last decade.' Passage: 'The global coffee market has expanded by 35% in the past ten years.' Answer?
A) the last decade
B) 35%
C) expanded
D) global market
2. What is the most important rule for sentence completion?
A) Use your own words
B) Copy exact words from the passage
C) Guess if you are unsure
D) Write in full sentences
3. Incomplete: 'Dolphins are known for their ____ abilities.' Passage: 'Dolphins are renowned for their exceptional intelligence and complex communication skills.' What completes it?
A) exceptional intelligence
B) communication
C) complex
D) renowned abilities
4. How should you handle a word limit instruction (e.g., 'NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS')?
A) Ignore it
B) Write exactly two words
C) Extract words from the text respecting the limit
D) Write your own phrases
5. Incomplete: 'The temperature rise has caused ____ in polar regions.' Passage: 'Global warming has resulted in rapid melting of glaciers in polar regions.' Fill the blank.
6. Incomplete: 'Successful athletes train for ____ hours daily.' Passage: 'Elite athletes often dedicate 6 to 8 hours each day to rigorous training regimens.' Complete the sentence.
7. Incomplete: 'The new policy aims to reduce ____ by 50%.' Passage: 'The initiative targets a 50% reduction in carbon emissions within five years.' Fill the blank.
8. Define: What is sentence completion?
9. Define: Must answers be exact phrases from the text?
10. Define: How many words can sentence completion blanks take?

Answer Key

1. B) 35% — '35%' directly matches the increase mentioned in the passage.
2. B) Copy exact words from the passage — You must extract exact words/phrases from the text; paraphrasing is incorrect.
3. A) exceptional intelligence — 'Exceptional intelligence' is the phrase from the passage that fits the blank.
4. C) Extract words from the text respecting the limit — Extract exact words from the passage within the specified word count limit.
5. Identify the context: cause of temperature rise effects Look for words after 'caused' in similar sentences Found: 'resulted in rapid melting of glaciers' Answer: rapid melting of glaciers
6. Identify the blank: how many hours? Scan for duration information: found '6 to 8 hours' Answer: 6 to 8 hours
7. Find what is being reduced by 50% From passage: 'carbon emissions' Answer: carbon emissions
8. A reading task where you fill blanks in incomplete sentences using exact words from the passage.
9. Yes — you must use words directly from the passage, not paraphrased or your own words.
10. Usually 1-3 words per blank; instructions specify max words (e.g., 'use NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS').

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