

What is Summary Completion in IELTS Reading?

Worksheet

Summary completion is a reading task where gaps in a summary must be filled with words from a word bank. It tests comprehension, vocabulary, and scanning skills to match words to their correct context.

Questions

1. In summary completion, the words you fill blanks with come from where?
 - A) Your own knowledge
 - B) A word bank provided in the task
 - C) The passage vocabulary only
 - D) A prepared word list
2. What part of speech fits: 'The project showed ____ improvement'?
 - A) noun
 - B) verb
 - C) adjective
 - D) adverb
3. Which strategy is best for summary completion?
 - A) Fill blanks before reading
 - B) Skim passage, then match words to context
 - C) Guess from the word bank
 - D) Memorize the word bank first
4. If two words seem correct for a blank, what should you do?
 - A) Pick the first one
 - B) Pick the longest word
 - C) Re-read to find the key difference in meaning or grammar
 - D) Use both words
5. Fill: 'The research took place over ____ months.' Word bank: [three, studied, lasted, period]
6. Fill: 'The company's ____ increased by 40%.' Word bank: [revenue, profitable, income, business]
7. Fill: 'A new ____ species was identified in the forest.' Word bank: [previously, unknown, rare, discover]
8. Define: What is a word bank in IELTS summary completion?
9. Define: Can you use words outside the word bank?
10. Define: How many times can you use each word?

Answer Key

1. B) A word bank provided in the task — Summary completion always includes a specific word bank of words to choose from.
2. C) adjective — Before a noun ('improvement'), you need an adjective to describe it.
3. B) Skim passage, then match words to context — Understanding the passage context first helps you choose the correct word for each blank.
4. C) Re-read to find the key difference in meaning or grammar — Careful re-reading of both the passage and summary reveals why one word is the better choice.
5. Read the summary: 'over ___ months' needs a time period noun. Review word bank: 'three' is a number, 'studied' is past verb, 'lasted' is past verb, 'period' is a noun. The context 'over X months' requires a number or duration. Answer: 'three' fits the grammatical structure.
6. The gap follows a possessive and needs a noun: 'company's ____ increased'. 'revenue', 'income' and 'business' are all nouns, 'profitable' is an adjective. Scan the passage for which term appears: typically 'revenue' or 'income' for financial growth. Answer depends on passage language; both could work — use passage as guide.
7. The gap is between 'new' and 'species' — needs an adjective. 'previously' is an adverb, 'unknown' is an adjective, 'rare' is an adjective, 'discover' is a verb. Both 'unknown' and 'rare' are adjectives; check passage context. Answer: 'unknown' emphasizes the discovery of something not previously identified.
8. A list of provided words that you use to fill the gaps — you cannot use any other words.
9. No — you must use only words from the provided word bank.
10. Typically once — each word is used only once unless instructions state otherwise.

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