PIP 11+ PRACTICE

PRINT. TRY. UNDERSTAND. KEEP GOING.

FREE A4 WORKSHEET

11+ Cloze Worksheets

A clear method, twenty-four graduated gaps and fully explained answers.

WHAT IS INSIDE

Start with grammar and time clues. Then solve two connected passages using context, meaning and elimination, with an explanation for every answer.

8 pages | worked answers | no email needed

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A METHOD FOR EVERY GAP

Read around the blank.

A good cloze answer must fit the sentence and the whole passage, not just sound familiar on its own.

01

LOOK BACK

Who or what is the sentence about? Check the subject and the time.

02

LOOK FORWARD

Read past the gap. A later word may reveal a contrast, cause or definition.

03

RE-READ

Put your choice in the full sentence. Eliminate options that break grammar or meaning.

WORKED EXAMPLE

The runners waited ___ the whistle sounded, then they set off.

A until **B despite** **C unless** **D across**

Answer: A, until. The phrase 'then they set off' tells us when the waiting stopped. 'Despite' and 'across' do not fit the grammar; 'unless' changes the meaning.

Three stages follow. The final stage needs the sharpest context clues.

STAGE 1 / GRAMMAR AND MEANING

Sentence signals

Eight short gaps. For each one, choose the option that fits both grammar and meaning.

01 **Neither of the lanterns ___ working when we arrived.**

A. were
B. was
C. are
D. be

02 **By the time the rain stopped, the players ___ the hall.**

A. reach
B. have reach
C. reaching
D. had reached

03 **The map, along with its notes, ___ inside the folder.**

A. was
B. were
C. have
D. are

04 **Lena spoke so ___ that everyone heard the instructions.**

A. clear
B. clarity
C. clearly
D. clearest

05 **The team shared ___ ideas before choosing a plan.**

A. there
B. they're
C. their
D. them

06 **We waited ___ the bell rang, then entered the room.**

A. until
B. unless
C. despite
D. because

07 **Two ___ were printed on the invitation.**

A. address's
B. adress
C. address
D. addresses

08 **If the path is muddy, we ___ the longer route.**

A. had taken
B. will take
C. taking
D. takes

02 / THE GARDEN CLUE

Read the whole passage

The passage is continuous. Check the words on both sides of every gap.

At first, the class thought the patch of soil was empty. Then Leila noticed a [9] green shoot beside the fence. She crouched [10] she could see it without touching it. The shoot had pushed [11] the heavy earth. Every morning, the children [12] the patch and noted what had changed. [13] the stem bent in the wind, it did not break. They placed a small marker [14] it, without touching the stem, so nobody would step on it. By Friday, two new leaves had [15] and opened towards the light. Leila wrote that patient observation can reveal what hurried eyes [16] .

09

A. noisy **B.** tiny

C. distant **D.** wooden

10

A. despite **B.** unless

C. so that **D.** although

11

A. through **B.** across

C. between **D.** against

12

A. checking **B.** checks

C. will check **D.** checked

13

A. Unless **B.** Before

C. Therefore **D.** Although

14

A. inside **B.** beside

C. beneath **D.** over

15

A. borrowed **B.** corrected

C. unfurled **D.** erased

16

A. miss **B.** misses

C. missing **D.** missed

03 / THE OBSERVATORY

Read the whole passage

The final passage mixes time, grammar and precise vocabulary.

Although the path was steep, Arun [17] climbing. He had promised his aunt that he would bring back a sketch [18] the old observatory. From the gate, the dome looked [19] than it did from the town. The metal sign was difficult to read because its letters had [20] . Arun copied only the words he could [21] . He did not fill the gaps with guesses; [22] , he drew a small line where a word was missing. Later, his aunt compared the sketch [23] an old photograph. Together, they discovered the name of the person who had designed [24] building.

17

A. continued **B.** continues

C. continuing **D.** continue

18

A. on **B.** from

C. for **D.** of

19

A. largest **B.** larger

C. large **D.** most large

20

A. fading **B.** fade

C. faded **D.** fades

21

A. predict **B.** invent

C. decipher **D.** replace

22

A. instead **B.** meanwhile

C. because **D.** although

23

A. by **B.** at

C. into **D.** with

24

A. a **B.** the

C. an **D.** no article

WORKED ANSWER KEY

Answers 1 to 8

Read the reason before changing a response. The useful habit is knowing why another option fails.

01 B. was

'Neither' is singular, and 'when we arrived' places the sentence in the past.

02 D. had reached

The players reached the hall before the rain stopped, so the earlier past action takes 'had reached'.

03 A. was

The subject is the singular 'map'; the words between commas do not change it.

04 C. clearly

An adverb is needed to describe how Lena spoke. 'Clearly' is the adverb.

05 C. their

'Their' shows that the ideas belong to the team; 'there' is a place and 'they're' means 'they are'.

06 A. until

'Until' gives the time when the waiting ended. The next action began after the bell.

07 D. addresses

'Two' requires the correctly spelt plural 'addresses'.

08 B. will take

The condition is about a future possibility, so 'will take' completes the main clause.

WORKED ANSWER KEY

Answers 9 to 16

Read the reason before changing a response. The useful habit is knowing why another option fails.

09 B. tiny

A new shoot is small. 'Tiny' fits both the image and the context of careful observation.

10 C. so that

'So that' expresses her purpose: crouching lets her look closely without touching.

11 A. through

The shoot grows up through the soil, moving from below it to above it.

12 D. checked

The story is in the past, and the repeated action is described as completed: 'checked'.

13 D. Although

'Although' links a problem (bending) with the surprising result (not breaking).

14 B. beside

A marker beside the shoot identifies its position without covering or damaging it.

15 C. unfurled

Leaves 'unfurl' when they unfold. The following words, 'opened towards the light', confirm this.

16 A. miss

The subject 'eyes' is plural and the sentence states a general truth, so use 'miss'.

WORKED ANSWER KEY

Answers 17 to 24

Read the reason before changing a response. The useful habit is knowing why another option fails.

17 A. continued

The main story is told in the past, so 'continued' matches the sentence.

18 D. of

A sketch 'of' a building is a drawing that shows it.

19 B. larger

'Than' signals a comparison between two views, so the comparative 'larger' is needed.

20 C. faded

The letters had already become faint: 'had faded' is the past perfect form.

21 C. decipher

To 'decipher' is to make out difficult writing. He copies only words he can actually read.

22 A. instead

'Instead' introduces the action he chose in place of guessing.

23 D. with

We compare one thing 'with' another to look for similarities or differences.

24 B. the

The observatory has already been introduced, so 'the building' points back to that specific place.

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