

## LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2020/2020517-venus-fly-trap.html>

New research (1) d light on how carnivorous plants like the Venus fly trap developed a (2) d for meat. A study from the University of Würzburg in Germany suggests that subtle changes (3) b the genetics of plants led to some becoming carnivorous. These changes led to the development of some of nature's most (4) c species. Carnivorous plants adapted novel and devious ways to entice and snare insects. The Venus fly trap uses clam-like leaves that (5) c shut when an insect crawls between them. The pitcher plant is shaped like a vase - insects go inside and then cannot crawl up the (6) a insides. The sundew plant has long sticky leaves, which roll up after insects get stuck on them.

Researchers in a variety of (7) b collaborated in the study. They included computational evolutionary biologist Jörg Schultz and plant biologist Rainer Hedrich. They sequenced and compared the (8) a of carnivorous plants to non-carnivorous plants. They discovered that meat-eating plants developed from the same common ancestor about 60 million years ago. Dr Schultz said: "We were able to (9) b the origin of carnivorous genes back to a (10) c event that occurred many millions of years ago in the genome of the last (11) c ancestor of the carnivorous species." Dr Rainer added: "The function of these genes is related to the ability to sense and digest animals and to utilise their (12) d."

### Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |              |                |                 |               |
|-----|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) caves    | (b) shacks     | (c) cabins      | (d) sheds     |
| 2.  | (a) taster   | (b) tasted     | (c) tasty       | (d) taste     |
| 3.  | (a) by       | (b) in         | (c) at          | (d) on        |
| 4.  | (a) pressure | (b) myriad     | (c) ingenious   | (d) spectacle |
| 5.  | (a) close    | (b) clip       | (c) snap        | (d) boot      |
| 6.  | (a) slippery | (b) properly   | (c) surly       | (d) surely    |
| 7.  | (a) lawns    | (b) fields     | (c) parks       | (d) patches   |
| 8.  | (a) genomes  | (b) gnomes     | (c) gnocchi     | (d) gnostic   |
| 9.  | (a) etch     | (b) trace      | (c) sketch      | (d) draw      |
| 10. | (a) multiply | (b) times      | (c) duplication | (d) addition  |
| 11. | (a) heath    | (b) dale       | (c) common      | (d) moor      |
| 12. | (a) sentient | (b) recipients | (c) ingredients | (d) nutrients |

## Nonfiction Reading Comprehension Test

### Hummingbirds

**Directions:** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Refer to the text to check your answers when appropriate.

Have you ever heard the sound of a hummingbird? They make a buzzing noise when they fly. They make this noise because they beat their wings so fast. They beat their wings up to 80 times a second. All that flapping makes a lot of noise. That's why we call them hummingbirds.

Hummingbirds fly in a unique way. They move their wings so fast that they can hover. This means that they can stay in one spot in the middle of the air, like a helicopter. Sometimes they fly or hover upside down. They are the only bird that flies backward.

Hummingbirds are small. One type called the bee hummingbird is the smallest bird in the world. Bee hummingbirds weigh less than a penny. They are just a little bit bigger than bees. I guess that's where they get their name.

Bee hummingbirds build tiny nests. They use cobwebs and bits of bark to make their homes. Their homes are only an inch around. This is big enough for their eggs though. Their eggs are smaller than peas. People have found these tiny nests on a clothespin.

Hummingbirds move fast. It takes lots of energy to move as fast as they do. This means that they need to eat a lot of food. Their favorite food is nectar, a sweet liquid inside of some flowers. They drink more than their own weight in nectar daily. They have to visit hundreds of flowers to get enough nectar to live. They can only store enough energy to survive through the night. They live on the edge.



Hummingbirds don't use their long beaks like straws. They have a tongue just like you. They use their tongues for eating. They flick their tongues in and out of their mouths while inside of flowers. They lap up nectar. Flowers give them the energy that they need.

Hummingbirds help flowers too. They get pollen on their heads and bills when they feed. Flowers use pollen to make seeds. Hummingbirds help pollen get from one flower to the next. This helps flowers make more seeds. More seeds means more flowers. More flowers means more food for hummingbirds. Isn't it nice how that works out?

1. Why are they called hummingbirds?
  - a. They are very light
  - b. They sing when they fly
  - c. **Their wings make a humming sound**
  - d. Their song sounds like humming
  
2. How do hummingbirds eat?
  - a. They drink nectar through their beaks like a straw.
  - b. They chew up flower petals with their beaks.
  - c. They use their heads and bills to eat pollen.
  - d. **They lap up nectar with their tongues.**
  
3. How do hummingbirds help flowers?
  - a. They drink nectar.
  - b. They eat pollen.
  - c. **They bring pollen from one flower to the next.**
  - d. They plant seeds.
  
4. According to the text, which does the bee hummingbird use to make nests?
  - a. straw
  - b. concrete
  - c. **bark**
  - d. sticks
  
5. Which best describes the main idea of the fifth paragraph?
  - a. Hummingbirds move fast.
  - b. Hummingbirds like to eat nectar.
  - c. **Hummingbirds use lots of energy and eat often.**
  - d. Hummingbirds drink their own weight in nectar every day.
  
6. Which statement about bee hummingbirds is **not** true?
  - a. Bee hummingbird eggs are smaller than peas.
  - b. Bee hummingbirds weigh less than a penny.
  - c. Bee hummingbirds have built nests on clothespins.
  - d. **Bee hummingbirds do not grow larger than bees.**
  
7. What is unique about the way that hummingbirds fly?
  - a. They can fly faster than any other bird.
  - b. They can fly longer than any other bird.
  - c. **They can fly forward and backward.**
  - d. They can only fly for a few seconds at a time.
  
8. Which best defines the word **hover** as used in paragraph two?
  - a. **To stay in one spot in the air**
  - b. To clean an area thoroughly
  - c. An animal that has hooves
  - d. To move your wings very fast
  
9. Why do flowers need pollen?
  - a. Flowers eat pollen.
  - b. Pollen attracts hummingbirds.
  - c. Hummingbirds eat pollen.
  - d. **Flowers use pollen to make seeds.**
  
10. Which title best describes the main idea of this text?
  - a. *Bee Hummingbirds: The World's Smallest Bird*
  - b. *Pollination: How Birds and Flowers Work Together*
  - c. ***Hummingbirds: Unique and Uniquely Helpful***
  - d. *Interesting Facts About Birds*



## “Europe”

Reading Comprehension – Informational Passages



Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.

Europe is the second smallest continent, after Australia. Surprisingly, there are 44 countries in Europe. Over 700 million people live in Europe. European ideas are everywhere in the world. You can see examples of European culture, language, and buildings all around the world.

In sports, European soccer is very popular. Soccer teams from Europe have gone to the World Cup finals every year except 1930 and 1950. Many people say that the British, Italian, and Spanish soccer leagues are the world’s best. Cycling is also very popular in Europe – especially in France. The Tour de France is the biggest bicycle race in the world. In 1903, when the race first began, racers had to ride along the *entire* border of France. That’s a long distance!

In *industry*, Germany makes the most cars in Europe. In fact, if you visit Germany, you can go on a tour of the BMW factory. You can also go on a tour of the Porsche factory in Stuttgart, Germany. England is famous for china and pottery. Of course, the Champagne region in France is famous for its wine. Only a certain famous, bubbly wine from this area can be called by the name “*champagne*.” Flower farming is an important industry in Holland. Holland is famous for its tulips.

Europe is also famous for its food. The oldest cookbook in Europe was called *De Re Coquinaria*, or, “The Art of Cooking”. It was written in Latin. There is much *controversy* over the identity of the book’s author. Some people think the book was written by a very good cook named Marcus Gavius Apicus. Others don’t think that this book came from him. The book does not tell how to prepare the dishes, but it does tell what to put in each dish.

European historical architecture are among the most well-known in the world. One example of a famous architectural structure is called “Stonehenge,” in England. Stonehenge has many, very large stones set up in circles. No one knows why the stones were set up that way, because it was at a time before history was recorded. Many people think Stonehenge is holy. In addition to Stonehenge, The “Acropolis” in Athens, Greece is also very famous for its architectural structures. The Acropolis is a flat-topped hill, which lies about 150 meters above sea level. Many historical temples and other buildings were built on the Acropolis. The Acropolis is a huge tourist *site*. About 14 million people visit this location each year.

Modern European buildings are also tourist sites. The Eiffel Tower is the fifth tallest building in France. When it was built in 1889, it was the world’s tallest building. More than 200,000,000 people have visited the Eiffel Tower since it was built. It was named after Gustave Eiffel, who designed it. It is now a symbol of France. The year 2009 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of another famous tourist site in Europe: Big Ben. Big Ben is located atop the Westminster Palace in London, England. Big Ben is the largest four-faced chiming clock in the world. Chiming clocks are clocks that use bells to make their sound. Big Ben is a universal symbol of the United Kingdom.

Many European cities are famous for their churches and castles. The Sistine Chapel in the Vatican is the place where cardinals, very high Catholic bishops, meet to pick a new pope. The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was painted by the artist Michelangelo. The Cathedral of Seville, Spain, is also very *magnificent*. This grand cathedral is beautifully decorated with outstanding colors. It is also the place where Christopher Columbus is buried.

England is now getting ready for the 2012 Olympics. About 4,000 companies and 15,000 workers are working to get the city of Stratford ready. The workers are building a new shopping center and many new hotels, with about 2,000 hotel rooms just for Olympics visitors! Since so many people live in Europe, they *expect* many visitors. As the Olympic planners say, London, England is less than a 3-hour flight away for more than 300 million people.



## Questions:

1) What is the name of the famous European bicycle race?

- A. The French Open
- B. **The Tour de France**
- C. The French Excursion
- D. The Tour of the World
- E. The World Cup of France

2) Champagne is...

- A. a street in France.
- B. bubbly wine from Champagne, France.
- C. a famous type of French wine.
- D. Both A and B are correct
- E. **Both B and C are correct**

3) What was left out of the oldest European cookbook?

- A. What to put in the dishes
- B. Who wrote the cookbook
- C. What the dishes are called
- D. How to prepare the dishes
- E. **Both B and D are correct**
- F. Both B and C are correct

4) What is the Acropolis?

- A. A tourist site on the ocean
- B. A tourist site on a mountain
- C. A tourist site in a temple
- D. A tourist site in the sky
- E. **None of the above are correct**

5) What has its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in the year 2009?

- A. **Big Ben**
- B. Stonehenge
- C. The Vatican
- D. The Eiffel Tower
- E. Westminster Palace

6) Why are the people in England so busy?

- A. They are repairing Big Ben.
- B. They are working on Stonehenge.
- C. They are building a new shopping center.
- D. They are getting ready for the 2012 Olympics.
- E. None of the above are correct
- F. **Both C and D are correct**

## Vocabulary:

1) The best synonym for *entire* is...

- A. hole
- B. partial
- C. limited
- D. **whole**
- E. basic

2) *Industry* involves...

- A. power.
- B. monopoly.
- C. compensation.
- D. discipline.
- E. **manufacturing.**

3) The best synonym for *controversy* is...

- A. disdain.
- B. destruction.
- C. despair.
- D. **disagreement.**
- E. disrespect.

4) What is a *site*?

- A. A mile
- B. **A location**
- C. A tourist
- D. A symbol
- A. A designer

5) *Magnificent* means...

- A. grand.
- B. outstanding.
- C. beautiful.
- D. **Both A and B are correct.**
- E. Both A and C are correct.
- F. All of the above.

6) If you *expect* something to happen, you...

- A. understand it.
- B. **anticipate it.**
- C. contemplate it.
- D. decide upon it.
- E. disapprove of it.
- F. denounce it.

51. \_\_\_\_ I known you were coming, we would have stayed at home.  
A) Should B) **Had** C) Might D) Would
52. \_\_\_\_ I not heard the warning, I would have had a serious accident.  
A) **Had** B) If C) Should D) Would
53. \_\_\_\_ I listened to your advice, I wouldn't have had any trouble.  
A) When B) **Had** C) Although D) Then
54. The car \_\_\_\_ with gas if the service station had been open.  
A) should have filled B) would have been  
C) **would have been filled** D) could be filled
55. \_\_\_\_ Bruce not driven so fast, he wouldn't have had an accident.  
A) Should B) **Had** C) Might D) Would
56. Would Bruce \_\_\_\_ his car if he had driven slowly?  
A) damage B) have damage  
C) **have damaged** D) damaged
57. He wishes he \_\_\_\_ the exam.  
A) will pass B) **had passed** C) has passed D) can pass
58. Intolerance between ethnic groups \_\_\_\_ on lack of information.  
A) usually based B) which has been based  
C) which is usually based D) **is usually based**
59. \_\_\_\_ bough gasoline if they had had more money?  
A) **Would they have** B) Have they  
C) They had D) Had they
60. If I had checked the gas, I wouldn't \_\_\_\_ to walk to the gas station.  
A) has had B) **have had** C) had had D) had have
61. My mother, \_\_\_\_ you never met, works in a hospital.  
A) \_\_\_\_ B) that C) **who** D) whom
62. Helen's sister, for \_\_\_\_ we work, is really a good manager.  
A) \_\_\_\_ B) who C) that D) **whom**
63. Houses for \_\_\_\_ people pay high prices aren't always well built.  
A) \_\_\_\_ B) that C) **which** D) whom
64. Goods \_\_\_\_ we have paid for have not been delivered.  
A) **that** B) of which C) who D) whose
65. The room in \_\_\_\_ Peter works is very small.  
A) that B) **which** C) \_\_\_\_ D) who
66. The girl to \_\_\_\_ I spoke comes from Italy.  
A) \_\_\_\_ B) who C) whose D) **whom**
67. The letter \_\_\_\_ I wrote to him was foolish.  
A) who B) to which C) **\_\_\_\_\_** D) whose
68. Although he has money, with \_\_\_\_ he can do most things, he is rather unhappy.  
A) that B) \_\_\_\_ C) **which** D) who
69. Manuel asked \_\_\_\_ to the project.  
A) to work B) **to be assigned**  
C) for a job D) to be fired
70. The mechanic expects the car \_\_\_\_ by nylon.  
A) have fixed B) have finished  
C) to **have been repaired** D) repairing
71. What happened when the recipes \_\_\_\_ presented?  
A) **were being** B) are past  
C) have been D) will be
72. I expect all the arrangements \_\_\_\_ by tomorrow.  
A) **to have been made** B) will be making  
C) have been made D) were made
73. Irma wants \_\_\_\_ an opportunity to explain.  
A) being given B) **to be given** C) for D) to giving
74. This book is said \_\_\_\_ in the fourteenth century.  
A) many times B) **to have been written**  
C) when it was written D) by being written
75. One of the primary causes of traffic accidents \_\_\_\_ .  
A) **is reckless driving** B) people drive recklessly  
C) people who drive recklessly D) driving recklessly
76. Land \_\_\_\_ in large cities that architects conserve space by designing skyscrapers.  
A) is more expensive B) which is most expensive  
C) **is so expensive** D) the most expensive thing
77. \_\_\_\_ is to visit Asia and Africa.  
A) It would be exciting B) How interesting  
C) **What I'd like** to do D) That's what I'd do
78. \_\_\_\_ I am talking about does not really concern you.  
A) **What** B) That's what C) Why D) It's why
79. \_\_\_\_ requires a lot of patience to learn a second language.  
A) Teachers B) Students C) That D) **It**
80. \_\_\_\_ to know is the address of Tim's house.  
A) **What I will need** B) Had I needed  
C) That I will need D) What directions are needed
81. Crocodiles are different from alligators \_\_\_\_ they have pointed snouts.  
A) in which B) with which C) **in that** D) that
82. How long \_\_\_\_ here by the time she's sixty-five?  
A) will she work B) she will work  
C) does she work D) **will she have worked**
83. We \_\_\_\_ several possibilities before we made the decisions.  
A) had been B) hadn't been  
C) been considering D) **had been considering**
84. The lower the stock market falls, \_\_\_\_ .  
A) then the price of gold rises higher  
B) **the higher the price of gold rises**  
C) because the price of gold rises high  
D) the price of gold to rise higher
85. Rafts \_\_\_\_ the trunks of trees may have been the earliest vehicles.  
A) are made from B) **made from**  
C) which they are made from D) which made
86. For the past ten minutes I \_\_\_\_ for my friend to come. He hasn't arrived yet.  
A) wait B) am waiting  
C) **have been waiting** D) waiting
87. He \_\_\_\_ better as soon as he had eaten dinner.  
A) would feel B) will feel C) **felt** D) could feel
88. They took a rest after they \_\_\_\_ the yard.  
A) **had cleaned up** B) were cleaning up  
C) would clean up D) have cleaned up
89. For three days we \_\_\_\_ the living room, and still haven't finished.  
A) paint B) are painting  
C) have to paint D) **have been painting**
90. When she left the building, she had the feeling she \_\_\_\_ .  
A) is watched B) may be watched  
C) **was being watched** D) has been watched
91. I expect him \_\_\_\_ the job by four o'clock.  
A) finishing B) to be complete  
C) have been finished D) **to have completed**
92. I would like \_\_\_\_ to the concert last night.  
A) to go B) going  
C) to **have gone** D) will have gone
93. A chameleon is a tree lizard \_\_\_\_ can change colors in order to conceal itself in the vegetation.  
A) with which it B) **that** C) whose life it D) that it
94. He imagined the man \_\_\_\_ him.  
A) **to be following** B) were following  
C) want to follow D) follow
95. They were looking for a good \_\_\_\_ car.  
A) use B) **used** C) to use D) using
96. They had their car \_\_\_\_ at Nick's Garage.  
A) repairing B) to repair C) **repaired** D) repair
97. She was late to work. She \_\_\_\_ a taxi instead of waiting for the bus.  
A) would have taken B) might have taken  
C) must have taken D) **should have taken**
98. A new employee had \_\_\_\_ after Mr. Ferguson fired Oscar.  
A) to have been working B) to be working  
C) **to be hired** D) to be for the job
99. Hundreds of workers had \_\_\_\_ to build the pipeline.  
A) hired B) **to be hired** C) been hiring D) hiring
100. No one realized that the document was important. It \_\_\_\_ thrown out.  
A) would have been B) wouldn't have been  
C) should have been D) **might have been**



## Collocations – Nouns 2

Choose the best verb or adjective from the table below to go with the nouns and complete the sentences.

caught overnight sheer imposed fill deprived living	labor-saving call stamp out grants break checkered social
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1. If the local council GRANTS permission, building work can begin immediately.
2. The child came from a very DEPRIVED background and many of his problems at school could be understood.
3. Police said they were surprised that the bank robbers allowed themselves to be CAUGHT on camera during the robbery.
4. Modern houses today are filled with LABOUR SAVING devices such as the washing machine and food mixers.
5. With recent opinion polls showing the government doing well, many expect them to CALL a quick election.
6. After the release of her first record, she achieved OVERNIGHT fame and her life was never the same again.
7. His life has been a mix of personal misery and huge business success. All in all, he can be said to have a very CHECKERED history.
8. Trying to keep up with the constant changes and irregularities in a LIVING language can be difficult for both students and native speakers.
9. There is no way you can quit your job just because you don't like getting up early!! That is SHEER nonsense!
10. If we want to FILL this post by the start of the month, we have to start advertising immediately.
11. Despite many attempts to STAMP OUT racism in the workplace, it still exists unfortunately.
12. The international community IMPOSED sanctions on South Africa in the 1980s in an attempt to bring about political change.
13. The industrial revolution began in Britain and caused great SOCIAL upheaval, especially in the form of urbanization.
14. One of my favorite sounds of summer is the sound as waves BREAK on the beach.

# Vocabulary Formation Worksheet 3

For each question, fill the space or spaces in the sentence using the base word given in bold at the end. The required word may be a noun, adverb, adjective or verb and it may be either positive (e.g. helpful) or negative (e.g. unhelpful).

1. Buying and selling antiques can be a very profitable hobby if you know how to find a good bargain.

**profit**

2. We were left without any money for the last part of our holiday because we had underestimated the cost of the train ticket to Norway.

**estimate**

3. Mr. Transom stared crossly at the group of students talking in the corner and they shut up immediately.

**cross**

4. Jennings is so wonderfully enthusiastic about the game that his enthusiasm spreads to his team-mates and the result is usually a strong performance.

**wonder**

5. I think I was unfairly sacked and have decided to bring the company to court.

**fair**

6. Have you seen my handbag John? It seems to have totally disappeared!

**appear**

7. You know your father is the most unfashionable person in the world. He is sure to be wearing one of his old sweaters to the party.

**fashion**

8. People will need to see scientifically provable information before they can believe in something like life on other planets.

**science**



*Do you mind?*

- Q1 She was slowly going ..... her mind with worry until she heard her daughter was safe and well.  
(a) past by (b) in to (c) **out of** (d) straight through
- Q2 I do think you should ..... this in mind before you seriously think about changing jobs.  
(a) carry (b) stand (c) hold (d) **bear**
- Q3 I'd honestly never heard such an outstanding performance of that symphony — it simply ..... my mind.  
(a) **blew** (b) tore (c) split (d) broke
- Q4 The police officer asked him why he hadn't reported the matter earlier and he said simply that it had never ..... his mind.  
(a) travelled (b) **crossed** (c) found (d) discovered
- Q5 I'm inclined to give her a ..... of my mind considering all the trouble she has caused this month.  
(a) section (b) slice (c) **piece** (d) portion
- Q6 It's clear as they say that great minds think ..... because we have both come to exactly the same conclusion.  
(a) same (b) similar (c) like (d) **alike**
- Q7 He has a one ..... mind as all he ever talks about is money, money, money.  
(a) **track** (b) road (c) path (d) rail
- Q8 I just can't decide whether to go on holiday this week or later in the year. I'm really in ..... minds about it.  
(a) twice (b) double (c) **two** (d) dual
- Q9 There, I knew there was something I had to do today and now it's completely ..... my mind.  
(a) slid (b) glided (c) sailed (d) **slipped**
- Q10 I tried to show an interest in her future career but she simply told me to mind my own .....  
(a) state (b) **business** (c) activities (d) actions

Yes, Yes, Yes

- Q1 I am sure you made the right choice and I ..... support your decision.  
(a) fairly (b) quite (c) considerably (d) **wholly**
- Q2 You can ..... on me, have no fear about that!  
(a) support (b) **rely** (c) hold (d) hang
- Q3 No matter what happens, you must remember that I'm ..... you all the way.  
(a) in (b) from (c) **with** (d) by
- Q4 I know that they have all abandoned you one by one but I hope you won't forget I've ..... by you from the beginning.  
(a) adhered (b) fastened (c) joined (d) **stuck**
- Q5 I am convinced you are ..... right to take that action and should ignore any opposition.  
(a) **absolutely** (b) very (c) simply (d) all
- Q6 When it comes to the vote, you can ..... on me to support you.  
(a) stand (b) **count** (c) number (d) figure
- Q7 Even if things get difficult, I will not ..... or hesitate to stand up for you.  
(a) quiver (b) tremble (c) **waver** (d) waiver
- Q8 He was delighted that she hadn't ..... him down when he proposed to her.  
(a) put (b) **turned** (c) placed (d) switched
- Q9 The bank manager smiled and announced that his application for a loan had been .....  
(a) **approved** (b) improved (c) disproved (d) reprovved
- Q10 The pair of you have my ..... and I hope you have a happy marriage together.  
(a) wishing (b) praying (c) **blessing** (d) hoping