

"It snowed chocolate in a Swiss town"

GAP FILL

Switzerland is (1) _____ the world over for the quality of its chocolate. The nation has earned an international (2) _____ for its premium chocolate brands. However, residents in the Swiss town of Olten, near Zurich, got the (3) _____ of their lives earlier this week when it started snowing chocolate. Some locals (4) _____ if the brown dusting was a bizarre consequence of climate change. However, all became (5) _____ after the local chocolate manufacturer revealed the brown shower was the result of a (6) _____ at its factory. The chocolate maker Lindt confirmed that a (7) _____ defect in its cooling ventilation systems allowed gusty winds to (8) _____ up chocolate dust and sprinkle it over the town.

surprise
clear
renowned
whip
wondered
minor
reputation
malfunction

Many parts of the town were covered in a (9) _____ layer of light brown, milk-chocolate-flavoured dust. A representative from Lindt offered to pay for any cleaning services (10) _____ as a result of the event. To date, no one has asked for help. The spokeswoman reassured people in the (11) _____ of the factory that crushed cocoa beans are harmless to human (12) _____ and the environment. She added that factory engineers are (13) _____ working on repairing the technical hitch. The cocoa-dust incident led to a lot of (14) _____ on social media. A Twitter user wrote: "Chocolate snowflakes falling from the sky, (15) _____ do come true." Another tweeter posted a comment saying: "I'm dreaming of a (16) _____ Christmas."

health
required
dreams
fine
currently
vicinity
brown
banter

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

Architects in Japan are redesigning the public toilet. They have (1) _____ a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone (2) _____ the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive and usable. The idea was (3) _____ use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a (4) _____ of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architects such (5) _____ Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be (6) _____ around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a (7) _____ image of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, (8) _____ and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is (9) _____ waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining (10) _____ to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and sinks from the outside. (11) _____, when the door is locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly become (12) _____ so no one on the outside can see inside.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) wailed | (b) unveiled | (c) nailed | (d) veiled |
| 2. | (a) lockers | (b) locks | (c) lockets | (d) likens |
| 3. | (a) of | (b) by | (c) for | (d) to |
| 4. | (a) ghost | (b) spirit | (c) poltergeist | (d) sprite |
| 5. | (a) this | (b) that's | (c) has | (d) as |
| 6. | (a) splattered | (b) spitted | (c) dotted | (d) pitted |
| 7. | (a) negative | (b) negate | (c) negatives | (d) negotiate |
| 8. | (a) slinky | (b) swanky | (c) stinky | (d) shiny |
| 9. | (a) risky | (b) frighten | (c) tension | (d) secretly |
| 10. | (a) up | (b) down | (c) on | (d) under |
| 11. | (a) However | (b) Although | (c) Nevertheless | (d) Secondly |
| 12. | (a) opaque | (b) fake | (c) oblique | (d) risqué |

Name _____
 Date _____

• Reading Comprehension Assessment

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

Better for the Public

I was shocked and saddened to hear how the city of Metroville has decided to treat one of its finest citizens, Marcus Weyland. Weyland's Ice Cream Shop has been a favorite of my children and grandchildren alike for almost 30 years. We have never had a bad experience at Weyland's—the ice cream and the customer service have always been first-rate. We love that we can enjoy a treat while also supporting a local business. Furthermore, we sincerely appreciate the way Mr. Weyland gives back to the community by always donating 50% of his Friday night profits to the Metroville Animal Shelter.

It was with great disappointment that I learned that Metroville is determined to force Mr. Weyland out of business so that they can turn the ice cream shop into a parking deck. By stating that the parking deck will be “for the use of the public,” the city has been able to claim eminent domain. This gives the city the right to purchase Mr. Weyland's shop, provided that they pay him “fair market value.”

The amount of money that the government will give Mr. Weyland is only what his building is currently worth. They are not compensating him for the money it will cost to open a new shop in another location. They are not compensating him for the wages he will lose as he moves his business. They are not compensating him for the legal fees he has to pay while dealing with this issue. Moreover, the city will also do absolutely nothing to help the shop's five employees who will now be out of work.

The city **alleges** that the parking deck will be in the public's best interest—but what good will yet another parking deck do for the city? Downtown Metroville already has three parking decks, and they are never filled to capacity. On the other hand, Weyland's is a family-run business that employs local citizens and gives back to the community. How can a parking deck possibly be better for the public than Weyland's Ice Cream Shop?

Metroville's citizens deserve to keep their beloved ice cream shop. More importantly, Marcus Weyland deserves better treatment from the city of Metroville.



- 1) As discussed in the passage, which of the following presents an example of a case involving "eminent domain"?
 - A. The city of Green Pines closes down Joe's Diner because it has too many health code violations.
 - B. Fred's Tire Shop, a small local business, is bought out by TireLand, a large national auto supply store.
 - C. Sandra can no longer afford to pay the rent on her store, Sofa Safari, because city property taxes have become too high.
 - D. The city of Stillwater pays Mrs. Graham \$12,238 so that it can turn part of her farmland into a bike path connecting two public parks.

- 2) Paragraph 3 makes use of which of the following literary devices
 - A. *Symbolism*, characterized by the use of an object or action that contains several layers of meaning, often concealed at first sight. A symbol means something more than just its literal meaning.
 - B. *Parallelism*, characterized by the use of phrases or clauses that are similar or complimentary in structure.

Fill in the correct connectives and linking words from the list. There may be more than one answer in some sentences.

AS LONG AS - BECAUSE - DESPITE - DUE TO - EVEN THOUGH - HOWEVER - IN CASE - IN SPITE - NEVERTHELESS - THEREFORE

1. Take your camera with you, just _____ mine doesn't work.
2. _____ having muscle problems, the defender was able to play.
3. Bring an umbrella with you _____ it rains tomorrow.
4. Skiing is a safe sport _____ you obey the rules on the slope.
5. All flights to and from London have been cancelled _____ fog.
6. They arrived in time for the meeting _____ having to travel in bad weather.
7. I like travelling by underground, _____ it gets pretty crowded during rush hours.
8. She has been living in the country her whole life. _____, she has decided she wants a change and plans on moving to the city.
9. We had a wonderful time in Barcelona. _____, transport workers were on strike so we couldn't use the underground.
10. _____ life was hard during the war, we managed to survive.
11. _____ heavy traffic on the motorway, we couldn't make it in time.
12. _____ of the low temperatures during the winter, Moscow is always worth visiting.
13. I can't come now _____ the children are ill, and I have to look after them.
14. The economy collapsed, _____ the government had to resign.
15. You may go out with your friends tonight, _____ you never go alone and stay with them all the time.
16. I already knew a lot about cybersecurity. _____, the lecture was quite interesting.

Complete the sentences with one of the prepositions from the box.

**ACROSS - BESIDES - BETWEEN - BY - DOWN - DURING -
FOR - FROM - IN - INTO - OFF - ON - OVER - THROUGH -
TO - UNDER - UNTIL - UP - WITH - WITHOUT**

1. As time went on, the boy changed _____ a man.
2. She works at night and sleeps _____ the day.
3. He is very arrogant and always looks _____ at us.
4. We went _____ the stairs to get our gym clothes.
5. She couldn't talk to me because she was _____ a hurry.
6. He was so tired that he slept the whole night _____.
7. You can't drive over that bridge because it is _____ repair at the moment.
8. We shared the money we received _____ us.
9. She was able to solve the difficult math test _____ ease.
10. She prefers volleyball _____ basketball.
11. You can't leave _____ any money. You'll need some for your ticket.
12. Teachers have gone _____ strike in the past, so this situation is not unusual.
13. It took _____ an hour for the technicians to restore electricity to the village.
14. _____ now on you will report to me whenever something happens.
15. He will remain in the office _____ a successor is found.
16. The boy was very clever _____ his age.
17. You must hand in your thesis _____ next week, at the latest.
18. Do you speak any other languages _____ English?
19. The boy walked _____ the field to the house.
20. There's a sign that says, "Keep _____ the grass!"

Complete the sentences using SOME / ANY / SOMEONE / ANYONE / SOMETHING / ANYTHING / SOMEWHERE / ANYWHERE.

- ... otherwise, I bought _____ yesterday.
2. _____'s _____ at the door. – Are you expecting _____?
3. Did you go _____ last night?
4. You've got to do _____ about it. Otherwise the situation will get out of control.
5. Choose _____ number between 1 and 10. It doesn't matter which one.
6. I can't find my cell phone. I must have left it _____.
7. I need _____ tomatoes to make this salad. – Sorry, we haven't got _____ at home. – Well could you hop over to the greengrocer's and get _____, please.
8. I've got _____ banknotes, but I don't have _____ coins.
9. This party is so boring. – Let's go _____ else.
10. Is there _____ you need? – No, I'm just looking for _____.
11. Is there _____ in the classroom with a blue sweater?
12. John lives _____ in London, but I don't really know the exact address.
13. Does _____ in the audience have a mobile phone?
14. Could I have _____ more coffee please?
15. I would like to go _____ this summer, but not just _____. I'd like to travel abroad.
16. _____ can play this game. It's easy.
17. I went shopping yesterday. I bought _____ socks, but I didn't buy _____ shoes.
18. Have there been _____ phone calls for me while I was out? – Yes, _____ called an hour ago. There was _____ he had to tell you.
19. There isn't _____ sitting at the table, but there's _____ sitting at the bar.
20. Where is my notebook? – I can't find it _____.
21. There must be _____ you can add to our discussion. Just don't sit there without saying _____.
22. I don't want to go to the Jake's party. I don't know _____ there.
23. Can we go _____ else to talk? It's so loud here.
24. _____ bus will take you to the town centre.
25. There's _____ I want to introduce to you.



Rhyming Words

Circle the word on each row that rhymes with the word on the left.

priceless	plain	likeness	dislike
scrubs	clubs	gems	butter
float	earn	clue	boat
sail	point	halls	tale
celebrate	educate	city	mammal
find	beet	mind	soak
thread	bread	plow	birthday
noise	coal	boys	lake