

"Biden vows to repair global alliances"

GAP FILL

Joe Biden has promised to re-establish global alliances in his first speech as U.S. President. Mr Biden was (1) sworn in as the 46th U.S. President on Wednesday amid (2) tight security in Washington. In unprecedented scenes, around 25,000 National Guard troops were (3) positioned to make sure the inauguration took place without (4) incident. In the first days of his presidency, Mr Biden will make several (5) executive orders to change the direction of America's foreign policy. He will rejoin the Paris (6) climate accord. Biden spoke about restoring America's (7) reputation overseas. He said: "America has been tested. And we've come out stronger for it. We will (8) repair our alliances and engage with the world once again."

incident

climate

sworn

repair

positioned

reputation

tight

executive

Outgoing President Donald Trump left office (9) vowing to "be back". His parting words to the American public were: "Have a good life, we will see you soon." Mr Trump (10) broke with tradition by not attending his successor's inauguration. In his (11) farewell speech, Mr Trump said: "This has been an incredible four years. We've (12) accomplished so much together. What we've done has been amazing by any (13) standard." He added: "It's been a great honour and (14) privilege to be your president. I will always fight for you....I wish the new (15) administration great luck and great success. I think they will have great success. They have the foundation to do something really (16) spectacular."

farewell

privilege

accomplished

spectacular

vowing

administration

broke

standard

GAP FILL

"Electric -car battery charges in five minutes"

Car makers are (1) spending a lot of money on electric cars. In the future, electric cars will (2) replace petrol cars. Environmentalists believe this will reduce the (3) amount of CO2 put into the atmosphere. A big problem for electric cars is (4) charging the battery. Some batteries in today's electric cars can take up to 12 hours to charge (5) fully. However, a company in Israel says it has created a lithium-ion battery that people can charge in (6) just five minutes. This is the same amount of time it takes to fill a (7) tank of gas with petrol. The new lithium-ion batteries were developed by the Israeli company StoreDot. They are being (8) manufactured by a Chinese company called Eve Energy.

amount

fully

manufactured

spending

tank

replace

just

charging

The new batteries could (9) totally transform driving. They would mean electric cars would be able to travel as far as petrol cars. Many people with electric cars today (10) suffer from "range anxiety". This is stress caused by worrying about the battery (11) running out of electricity. A StoreDot spokesperson said: "You're either afraid that you're going to get (12) stuck on the highway, or that you're going to need to sit in a charging (13) station for two hours." The new batteries would end this anxiety. A StoreDot spokesperson said: "We're at the (14) point of achieving a revolution in the electric vehicle charging experience". He said it means the (15) switch from petrol to electric cars will happen much (16) faster.

switch

stuck

suffer

point

totally

running

faster

station

KEY

1. **A** little knowledge is **a** dangerous thing.
2. **The** Tower is one of **the** main attractions of London.
3. Where are **the** scissors you borrowed from me last week?
4. --- Elephants are very intelligent animals.
5. I need **a** little bit of time to think about **the** offer you made.
6. **The** President of **the** United States is going to give **an** interesting speech tonight.
7. There was **a** time in my life when I enjoyed --- skating.
8. I haven't been to **a** concert like that before.
9. Neill Armstrong made **the** first footprint on **the** moon.
10. I was in --- pain after I had twisted my ankle.
11. --- Teachers are people who normally like --- students.
12. It's a long way by --- train to **the** south of France.
13. I'm so tired. I think I'll be going to --- bed.
14. **The** Prime Minister is scheduled to give **a** speech this afternoon.
15. The worst part of living in **a** tent is the lack of --- space.
16. **The** French drink a lot of wine.
17. --- Dogs are wonderful pets.
18. Jane's husband got home early from --- work.
19. Of all the cars available I prefer **a/the** Japanese one.
20. This is **a** book on --- Irish history.
21. I live in **an** apartment, which is brand new.
22. Most cars start badly on --- cold mornings.
23. Does anyone know who invented **the** digital camera?
24. Before we landed at --- JFK airport we saw **the** Statue of Liberty and **the** Empire State building.
25. It was **a** cold morning on **the** first Monday in April.



● Sentence Completion 4 *(low-intermediate level)*

Directions: Choose the best word(s) to complete each sentence.

1. I went to the _____ with my boyfriend, but the movie was _____.
A. theater ... sold out
B. zoo ... fantastic
C. post office ... closed
D. high school ... boring
2. I don't know who stole my ring. It is a _____.
A. finger
B. diamond
C. mystery
D. necklace
3. Because Lauren _____ the bus, she was _____ to work.
A. crashed ... expected
B. missed ... late
C. took ... walking
D. likes ... driving
4. I _____ my keys. I don't know where they are.
A. used
B. lost
C. have
D. stole
5. Paula is very _____. She has been in the _____ for three days.
A. tired ... bed
B. angry ... room
C. beautiful ... mirror
D. sick ... hospital
6. Although Farsi is _____ language, it can still be _____ to know.
A. an uncommon ... helpful
B. a weird ... bad
C. a new ... impossible
D. a difficult ... hard
7. Mr. Matthews is the _____ of our school. He watches over all of the teachers and students.
A. teacher
B. student
C. janitor
D. principal
8. Mrs. Zheng used to _____ cigarettes, but she quit. She wants to improve her _____.
A. smoke ... health
B. buy ... wealth
C. sell ... business
D. make ... hands
9. Although I really want to go to the party tonight, I have to _____ instead. I have a test in the morning.
A. study
B. clean
C. dance
D. drink
10. Chuck and Dave are _____. They live on the same _____.
A. brothers ... island
B. neighbors ... street
C. friends ... boat
D. cousins ... farm



● **Sentence Completion 5** (*high-intermediate level*)

Directions: Choose the best word(s) to complete each sentence.

1. The _____ hurricane winds tore down houses and uprooted trees.
A. **furious**
B. tame
C. mild
D. moderate
E. humid
2. It takes _____ hands to hit a target with a bow-and-arrow.
A. delicate
B. rough
C. agile
D. **steady**
E. manicured
3. Unlike the _____ skin of a frog, that of a toad is more textured and _____.
A. slick ... slimy
B. tough ... scaly
C. greasy ... oily
D. green ... black
E. **smooth ... bumpy**
4. Despite her friends' best efforts at making her feel _____, Molly felt very _____ at the party.
A. sociable ... old
B. **relaxed ... uncomfortable**
C. humorous ... silly
D. helpful ... generous
E. miserable ... sad
5. The copied version was _____ reproduction; it was remarkable how closely it resembled the original.
A. an ancient
B. a false
C. **an accurate**
D. an authentic
E. a genuine
6. All of the initial reviews were rather _____, whereas the more recent ones seem overwhelmingly _____.
A. **scathing ... positive**
B. great ... upbeat
C. helpful ... insightful
D. negative ... doubtful
E. fake ... phony
7. Despite usually being _____, Lina was _____ when confronted by the dangerous bear.
A. tired ... drowsy
B. lost ... disoriented
C. arrogant ... courageous
D. **cowardly ... brave**
E. afraid ... frightened
8. The _____ shopkeeper _____ us; we certainly won't buy anything from him again.
A. generous ... welcomed
B. polite ... thanked
C. **greedy ... overcharged**
D. kind ... hated
E. sleepy ... excited



● Sentence Completion 2 *(low-advanced SAT level)*

Directions: Choose the best word(s) to complete each sentence.

- Despite her reputation for being a particularly _____ artist, her new work seemed to be _____ other artists and appears completely unoriginal.
A. talented ... copies of
B. skillful ... facsimiles of
C. bland ... descendents of
D. innovative ... derivative of
E. original ... unlike
- Although the crime scene investigator searched for fingerprints, he was unable to find any, suggesting that the culprit was _____ and had worn gloves while committing the crime.
A. cautious
B. lazy
C. inattentive
D. neglectful
E. carefree
- The late author J. D. Salinger was known for being _____, as he was unseen by the public for decades at a time.
A. adversarial
B. gregarious
C. adulated
D. sociable
E. reclusive
- My coworker is known for being a _____, as he always brownnoses and lauds the decisions of our boss in an attempt to gain his favor.
A. sycophant
B. usurper
C. fanatic
D. skeptic
E. zealot
- The famously _____ coach was known for being succinct and erring on the side of brevity when it came to giving post-game interviews.
A. loquacious
B. terse
C. innovative
D. insightful
E. intrepid
- The otherwise _____ employee surprised everyone when she was extremely _____ in meeting a deadline.
A. exquisite ... gorgeous
B. adept ... vulgar
C. skillful ... calculating
D. helpful ... pragmatic
E. punctual ... late
- So-called snake oil salesmen earned reputations as _____ of _____ merchandise, unnecessary wares, and tonics advertised as panegyrics that actually did nothing for those who consumed them.
A. distributors ... medicinal
B. hucksters ... shoddy
C. catalogers ... sufficient
D. misers ... dilapidated
E. educators ... innovative
- The Three Musketeers were known above all else for their unwavering loyalty to each other. Even the worst of situations, they never broke their _____ each other.
A. submission to
B. kindness toward
C. allegiance to
D. affinity for
E. animosity toward