

Check your ECCE Vocabulary Skills – Activity 1

Key and Item Analysis

Item (1)

Item Difficulty: Less challenging

I really loved your carrot cake! Can you give me the _____ so that I can make one for my kids?

- A. items
- B. materials
- C. recipe
- D. slices

Answer: C

Explanation: The correct choice is C. A “recipe” is a set of instructions that explains how something is cooked and what ingredients are needed.

Item(2)

Item Difficulty: Less challenging

Joe has an excellent _____ of humor.

- A. consideration
- B. impression
- C. recognition
- D. sense

Answer: D

Explanation: The correct choice is D. When you have a “sense of humor”, you are able to make others laugh or you are able to appreciate funny jokes and things. The other three choices are wrong as ‘consideration’, ‘impression’, and ‘recognition’ are not followed by “of humor.”

Item (3)

Item Difficulty: Less challenging

Be careful when you _____ the street.

- A. cross
- B. cut
- C. pass
- D. run

Answer: A

Explanation: The correct choice is A. “To cross the street” means to go from one side of the street to the other. Choice B is wrong as you cannot ‘cut’ a street. Choice C is wrong as the original sentence states that one should be careful when going from one side of the street to the other; however, when you ‘pass a street’, you go past it and not across it. Note that you could say “Be careful not to pass the street!” meaning that you should not go past it. Choice D is wrong as you cannot ‘run’ a street.

Item(4)**Item Difficulty:** Less challenging

That was a really nasty comment! You _____ my feelings!

- A. damaged
- B. harmed
- C. hurt
- D. spoiled

Answer: C

Explanation: The correct choice is C. The only word that can collocate with feelings is “hurt”. When someone ‘hurts’ your feelings they have said something terrible to you. The other three choices are wrong as you cannot ‘damage’, ‘harm’, or ‘spoil’ one’s feelings.

Item (5)**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

Helen _____ me not to go near her dog because it would bite me.

- A. prevented
- B. suggested
- C. threatened
- D. warned

Answer: D

Explanation: The correct answer is D. You ‘warn’ someone not to do something (go near the dog). Choice A is wrong because prevent is followed by someone + from + ing (She prevented me from going near the dog). Choice B is wrong because suggest is not followed by full infinitive (to go). The sentence would have to be changed into “Helen suggested that I did not go near her dog.” Choice C (threatened) is wrong as you do not threaten someone ‘not to do something’, but you ‘warn’ someone not to do something.

Item (6)**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

Your coat is _____ to mine, except that mine is a little longer.

- A. exact
- B. like
- C. same
- D. similar

Answer: D

Explanation: The correct answer is D. When two things look closely the same we use the expression “similar to”. Choice A (exact) is wrong because it makes the first part of the sentence ungrammatical and it does not fit the meaning of the sentence. We could use the adverb “exactly” in another sentence if we wanted to show that two things were the same: Your coat is exactly as mine. However, the sentence continues stating that one of the coats is “a little longer” and as such “exactly” cannot be used. Choice B is wrong as ‘like’ is not followed by “to”: Your coat is like mine. Choice C (same) is wrong as the expression we use to show that two things are “exactly” the same is “the same as”: Your coat is the same as mine. However, once again, “the same as” is inappropriate for the sentence since the two coats are not identical (exactly the same).

Item (7)**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

The boys _____ to cooperate with each other.

- A. avoided
- B. denied
- C. refused
- D. rejected

Answer: C

Explanation: The correct answer is C. the verb “refuse” is followed by a full infinitive. Choices A (avoided) and B (denied) are both followed by gerunds (cooperating). Choice D (reject) is not appropriate for the context as you cannot “reject to cooperate with someone”, but you can reject an ‘idea’. The boys rejected the idea that they should cooperate with each other.

Item (8)**Item Difficulty:** Moderate

When I was a child, I would _____ my father on many of his business trips.

- A. accompany
- B. enjoy
- C. plan
- D. proceed

Answer: A

Explanation: The correct answer is A. You ‘accompany’ someone (my father) somewhere (on business trips). To ‘accompany’ means to go with someone somewhere. Choice B is wrong as you cannot ‘enjoy’ someone (my father), but you enjoy spending time with someone or doing something: I enjoy spending time with my father – I enjoy going on many of my father’s business trips. Choice C is wrong as you plan something (plan my father’s trips) or plan ‘to do something’ (plan to go with my father on his business trips). Choice D is wrong as you cannot proceed (continue) someone, but you proceed to do something.

Item (9)**Item Difficulty:** More challenging

It’s taken me some time, but I’ve become _____ to his ways.

- A. adopted
- B. accustomed
- C. comfortable
- D. familiar

Answer: B

Explanation: The correct choice is B. You become ‘accustomed’ (familiar with) to something. Choice C (comfortable) and choice (D) are followed by the preposition with. Choice A (adopt) means to start using something as your own and is not followed by ‘to’: I have adopted his ways.

Item (10)

Item Difficulty: More challenging

The boat sustained only _____ damage in the storm.

- A. brief
- B. low
- C. major
- D. minor

Answer: A

Explanation: The correct answer is D. Since the sentence contains the word “only”, we can understand that the damage to the boat was not much. The correct word “minor” means ‘a little’. Choice A (brief) and Choice B (low) cannot be used to describe damage. Choice C (major) means “very much” and has the opposite meaning of the correct answer.