

Practice 1

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------|--------|
| warned | trouble | start | afford |
| amazement | punctual | rushed | dismay |

It was Monday. The day did not (1)_____ well for Greg. He woke up late and rushed through his bath and breakfast. He could not (2)_____ to be late again. He had been (3)_____ by the discipline master. This was not the first time he was late. He rushed out of the house, but to his (4)_____, he saw the bus pulling out of the bus bay. "Oh no!" he thought to himself. He knew he was in big (5)_____! So, he decided to run all the way to school. Luckily, he made it just in time, although he was huffing and puffing and his shirt was soaking wet.

Practice 2

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|---------------|
| noise | rarely | warning | popular |
| attention | notice | certainly | distinguished |

The van was parked across the street. Nobody paid any (1)_____ to it as it looked just like any other van. Mr Bernard (2)_____ did not notice it as he went about his way. It was his free day and he was out with his wife. He (3)_____ got to spend time with her as he was such a busy man. Being a (4)_____ scientist was not easy. As they chatted, they did not notice the van slowly driving up towards them. Suddenly, without any (5)_____, the van's side door slid open and a hand emerged. It grabbed Mr Bernard and dragged him into the van. The van then sped off, leaving his wife in shock.

Practice 3

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| enjoy activities | admire pleasure | known common | items occupy |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

Most people have hobbies. Hobbies are (1)_____ that people carry out during their free time. Lots of people have hobbies to (2)_____ their time and these hobbies give them great pleasure. Some of the more (3)_____ hobbies are reading, stamp-collecting and dancing. These are hobbies that both the young and old (4)_____. There are, however, some hobbies which we would think that only children would take up but are also taken up by adults. One of them is doll-collecting. Adults collect dolls because they (5)_____ them. They also keep the dolls carefully because they want to keep the dolls in good condition.

Practice 4

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| involved scampered | stop avoid | dashed profusely | groaned alighted |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|

Mariam is my classmate. She was (1)_____ in an accident while going to school last Saturday. She (2)_____ from the bus and was about to cross the road to get to her school. As she was in a hurry, she (3)_____ across without looking out for traffic. There was a loud screech as a car tried to (4)_____ hitting her. Unfortunately, the driver did not manage to stop his car in time. Mariam was flung onto the pavement. Mariam (5)_____ in pain. Some people tried to help her by talking to her. Soon the ambulance arrived.

Practice 5

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| poking | carefully | filled | clear |
| digging | trembling | satisfied | shovelling |

It was in the middle of the afternoon. The old man looked around (1)_____. When he was (2)_____ that he was really alone, he headed quickly for the spot under the tree. He took out a small shovel from under his coat. Glancing over his shoulders every now and then, he began (3)_____ a hole. After a while, the shovel hit something hard. Eagerly, the man used his hands to scrape off the sand. His hands touched the top of a box. The man's hands were (4)_____ with excitement. He quickly hid the box in his coat. (5)_____ the sand back into the hole, he walked home quickly. He had found the treasure!

Practice 6

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|----------|
| match | crowd | skilful | found |
| spectators | seated | applause | talented |

The atmosphere was great in the stadium. There was thunderous (1)_____ when the two teams walked onto the field. This was the final match between the two top football teams. Fans of both teams were (2)_____ on opposite sides of the stadium. During the kick-off, the (3)_____ cheered loudly. It was an exciting and fast game. Both teams played with an offensive strategy. The players were (4)_____ and played very well. Five minutes before the end of the game, the home team scored again and they won the (5)_____. What a good game it was!

Practice 7

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

using
mistake

informed
questioned

enough
terrified

trail
error

Linda and Lionel's hiking trip was a disaster. It was a/an (1)_____ right from the start. Firstly, their parents were not (2)_____ about the trip. It was the children's secret hiking trip. Secondly, they did not bring (3)_____ food and warm clothes. Most importantly, they both forgot to bring a map and torchlight. So, they ended up lost, cold and hungry on the hiking (4)_____. Things did not get any better when it turned dark. The darkness (5)_____ them. Luckily, one of them had a mobile phone and managed to call their parents. They got a huge scolding after their rescue!

Practice 8

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

news
signed

coach
struck

swing
programme

games
trainer

I will never forget the first and last time I played tennis. I watched a television (1)_____ about it and decided that it was fun. A tennis (2)_____ was giving lessons at the community centre near my home. So, I went there and (3)_____ up for the lessons. On the first lesson, we were taught how to hold our rackets properly. We were asked to (4)_____ the rackets back and forth, without hitting any balls. It was pretty boring, so I decided to try and hit a ball. I hit it too hard and it (5)_____ my coach right on his forehead! I never went back for tennis lessons again.

Practice 9

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| last quarrel | next fight | judge agreed | friend exhausted |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|

Frog and Toad were quarrelling. Each insisted that it could croak louder than the other. Their noisy (1)_____ caught the attention of Crocodile. Crocodile was asked to be the (2)_____ as to who could croak louder. The sly crocodile saw this as a chance to have both of them for dinner. So, he (3)_____. Frog went first and gave his loudest croak. Toad went (4)_____. Then they turned to Crocodile for his decision. Crocodile said that he could not decide and asked them to croak again. This went on for a long time until both Frog and Toad were (5)_____. Crocodile then pounced on them and ate them. Burp! What a tasty dinner!

Practice 10

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| bored comfort | fun fear | exploring characters | seeing people |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|

Reading is one of my favourite hobbies. Whenever I am (1)_____, I will reach for a book and start my fictional adventures. Well, I am not an adventurous person but I get my adventures through reading about the interesting things that the (2)_____ in my books do. I read about them (3)_____ dark caves and climbing steep hills, and I feel like I am also doing the same. Whenever they face danger, I feel the same (4)_____. Most importantly, I can do all these in the (5)_____ of my room! Reading is such a pleasure!

Practice 11

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| hear shocked | bite smell | surprise holidays | alighted excursion |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

Our teacher suggested going for a farm visit. We did not want to go to the farm for a/an (1)_____. We thought it would be a dirty and smelly place. But what a/an (2)_____ we had when we arrived at Mr Lim's farm. It was such a well-kept place. We were pleasantly welcomed by some cute lambs the moment we (3)_____ from the school bus. Some of us were a bit scared thinking that they would (4)_____. We were then brought around the farm. We could (5)_____ the neighing of the horses over at the stable and the squealing pigs over at the sty. Mrs Lim also showed us the vegetables she grew behind her house. It was a fun trip.

Practice 12

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|
| spread ingredients | recipe sprinkle | food receipt | put mix |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|

Have you tried making your own pizza? This is a (1)_____ for making pizza. First, you have to get the (2)_____. You will need some flour, warm water, a bit of yeast, some cooking oil and salt. (3)_____ them all up thoroughly until they form a soft dough. Leave the dough aside. Meanwhile, get the topping ready. You can use meat, chicken or vegetables. You will also need to have some sauce. My mother usually uses a mixture of tomato and chilli sauce. Have some slices of fresh tomatoes and capsicums too. Flatten the dough into a large circular shape. Then, (4)_____ the sauce on it and add the toppings. Finally, (5)_____ the shredded cheese. Bake the pizza for about 20 minutes. Yummy!

Practice 13

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| real responsibility | same work | easy think | correct opposite |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|

Most children like to have a dog or cat for a pet. They (1)_____ that it is fun to have one. Actually, having a pet is a huge (2)_____. The pet's owner has to make sure that it is well taken care of. He has to make sure that the pet gets the (3)_____ amount of food. Some children overfeed their pets. This makes their pets sick. Some children do the (4)_____. They do not feed their pets well and their pets fall ill. Besides that, the owners also have to make sure that their pets get enough exercise. It is not (5)_____ looking after a pet. It requires a lot of time and effort.

Practice 14

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| missed warned | tried something | habit succeeded | nothing difficulty |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|

John is an active boy. He had a (1)_____ of running down the stairs. Even when he was not in a hurry, he would dash down the stairs. His mother had (2)_____ him that it was dangerous but John would not listen to her. One day, John tried something new. Instead of running down the stairs one step at a time, he ran down two steps at a time. The first few times he tried it, (3)_____ happened. On his fourth attempt, he (4)_____ his step. He tumbled down the steps, sprained his ankle and hurt his knee. He had (5)_____ walking the next few days. John learnt his lesson.

Practice 15

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|------------|-------------|
| audience | tell | realised | announce |
| competitors | stage | auditorium | contestants |

It was the singing competition finals. There was a hush in the (1)_____. The compere was about to (2)_____ the winner. All the (3)_____ were nervously waiting behind the curtain, hoping that their names would be called out as the winner. Millie stood quietly in one corner and prayed hard. When the name was finally announced, Millie did not even hear it. She only (4)_____ that she won when everyone rushed up to her and hugged her. When she received the trophy, the (5)_____ clapped and cheered. They knew that she deserved to win because she was the best singer in the competition.

Practice 16

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|----------|---------|--------|--------------|
| careful | know | notice | fear |
| grateful | furious | shame | disappointed |

Something serious happened. Jill hung her head in (1)_____. Her parents must be so (2)_____ in her. Her parents had trusted her to take care of her sister. She was too busy talking on the telephone and did not (3)_____ her sister playing with the hot iron. It was only when her sister cried out that she realised she had burnt her hand. She quickly put some lotion on it and called her mother. When her parents found out what had happened, they did not scold Jill. They just told her that she must be more (4)_____ the next time. Jill was so (5)_____ to her parents for still trusting her. However, she still felt apologetic towards her little sister.

Practice 17

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|----------|------------|---------|--------|
| injured | trembled | escape | robbed |
| arranged | threatened | stuffed | warned |

Mr Tan was about to lock up his shop when two men rushed in. They pushed Mr Tan to the floor. They (1)_____ to harm him if he shouted. Mr Tan (2)_____ with fear. He remembered that the neighbouring shop owner was also (3)_____ a few weeks back. The two men went through his till. They took out all the money there and (4)_____ it in a bag. Luckily, they did not notice that Mr Tan had pressed the alarm button near the wall. Soon, a police car arrived and two policemen rushed into the shop. The robbers did not manage to (5)_____ and were caught. Mr Tan felt relieved.

Practice 18

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| soon | response | insisted | unconscious |
| bring | recovered | persuade | immediately |

Grandma used to live by herself in a rented flat. My parents tried to (1)_____ her to come and live with us but she refused. She (2)_____ on living on her own. One day, something happened that made her change her mind. That morning, we went to Grandma's home to pick her up for breakfast. We knocked but no one answered the door. We even made phone calls but there was no (3)_____. Worried, we (4)_____ called the fire department. The officers forced the door open. Grandma was lying (5)_____ in the hall. She had a bad fall and passed out. After that incident, she finally agreed to stay with us. We were so relieved!

Practice 19

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| acted | famous | guilty | wanted |
| ransom | information | pretended | notorious |

There was an important piece of news. The police caught a (1)_____ criminal early this morning. The criminal, known to the police as Ah San, was (2)_____ for many crimes. The police were given some vital (3)_____ from an unknown source. They then laid a trap for Ah San with the help of a detective. The detective (4)_____ to be a wealthy businessman. When Ah San found out about him, he decided to stage a kidnap. After he kidnapped the detective, he called and asked for a huge (5)_____. The police then ambushed him at the appointed place and apprehended him.

Practice 20

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|--------|
| source | areas | feet | called |
| freezing | heavy | unlike | known |

Penguins are special. They belong to a group of birds (1)_____ as flightless birds. (2)_____ other birds, penguins use their wings much like the way fish use their fins to move in water. Penguins are antarctic animals; they are found in the coldest (3)_____ in the world. Although they lack the ability to fly, penguins can swim better than any other kinds of birds. The feathers on a penguin protect every part of its body, except the beak and feet, from the (4)_____ cold. They spend a lot of time hunting in the water, which is their only (5)_____ of food. You can find penguins in many zoos around the world.

Practice 21

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| afraid | types | playing | avail |
| trapped | hiding | wonderful | favourite |

Tammy and Marie were playing hide-and-seek together. It was their (1)_____ game. They loved to play it at the yard near their home. There were many (2)_____ places to hide. That day, Tammy went to hide and after counting to ten, Marie went to look for her. But after searching for half an hour, Marie could not find her. She began to feel (3)_____. She ran off and told her mother. They searched together but to no (4)_____. Her mother then called the police who searched the whole yard. They found Tammy unconscious in an old refrigerator. The door had got stuck and she was (5)_____ in there. Luckily for her, they found her in time.

Practice 22

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|------------|-------|---------|---------|
| helpless | deal | always | resort |
| eventually | worry | opinion | careful |

Have you ever been bullied before? If you have, then you will know how (1)_____ and small someone who is being bullied feels. However, most of the time, bullies are people who themselves feel small. They actually have a very low (2)_____ of themselves. So, they (3)_____ to bullying to feel powerful. One of the best ways to (4)_____ with bullies is to stand up firmly to them. If you can show a bully that you are not scared of him, he will no longer feel powerful and will (5)_____ stop bullying you. Do not be afraid of bullies.

Practice 23

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| packed corridor | floor nearby | full inquired | saw thought |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|

It was the eve of Christmas. The shopping centre was (1)_____ with people. Angeline was there, looking for a gift for her father. While walking along the (2)_____ of the shopping centre, she spotted an old man sitting on the floor. He looked so tired and weak. Angeline felt sorry for him. She went over to him and (3)_____ if he was all right. He spoke so softly and Angeline needed to strain her ears to hear him. He was hungry. Without giving a second (4)_____, Angeline helped the old man to his feet. She took him to the food court (5)_____. She ordered some food and watched him eat. Afterwards, she gave the old man some money.

Practice 24

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| work crowds | pedestrians destinations | places drenched | shelter journeys |
|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|

The sky was overcast. It looked like it was about to rain. (1)_____ on the street looked anxious as they walked quickly. Everyone was in a hurry to get to their (2)_____ to avoid the rain. Suddenly, a flash of lightning streaked across the sky. Soon, big fat drops of rain began to fall. People scurried to find (3)_____ in the nearby buildings. Some took cover at the bus stops. In an instant, the rain began to pour. Those who were slow found themselves totally (4)_____ within seconds. People huddled together to wait for the rain to stop before they could continue on their (5)_____. It soon did.

Practice 25

*Fill in each blank with the most suitable word from the box.
USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE.*

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| both education | enter going | proud attending | course finally |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|

It is a weird feeling. Fran feels (1)_____ happy and sad at the same time. It is a dream come true for her. (2)_____, she has a place in a university. She wants to leap for joy when she reads the letter. Her parents are also (3)_____ of her. They know that she wished more than anything to (4)_____ university. The sad part of this is leaving her best friend, Sarah. The university that she will be (5)_____ is overseas. She will not be able to go out with Sarah that often any more.

