

# Sentence completion norms among adults: A corpus of sentences differing in length.

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## Overview

Thirty individuals were asked to read a series of sentences and supply an appropriate word to complete each sentence. A major aim of the study was the development of response norms and derivation of response time samples for these sentences. The report collates the responses given and gives an estimation of the time taken to read the sentence and generate a suitable completion.

## Background

A great deal of research into the psychological topic of working memory has used a 'reading span' task (Daneman & Carpenter, 1980). The task can take a number of forms. One of these involves a sentence completion paradigm - the final word in a sentence is missing, and completed by the participant who later recalls this word along with any other sentence completion words that make up the test trial. There are a number of advantages to using this type of processing task, one of which is that appropriate completions provide evidence of satisfactory comprehension. The task has been employed successfully when examining working memory in children (Hitch, Towse & Hutton, in press; Towse, Hitch & Hutton, 1998) and adults (Towse, Hitch & Hutton, in press). As part of an ongoing research programme, we wanted to expand and develop the corpus of sentences that could be used for this task. The present report describes a study that aimed to do this.

## Method

### Experimental participants, design and procedure

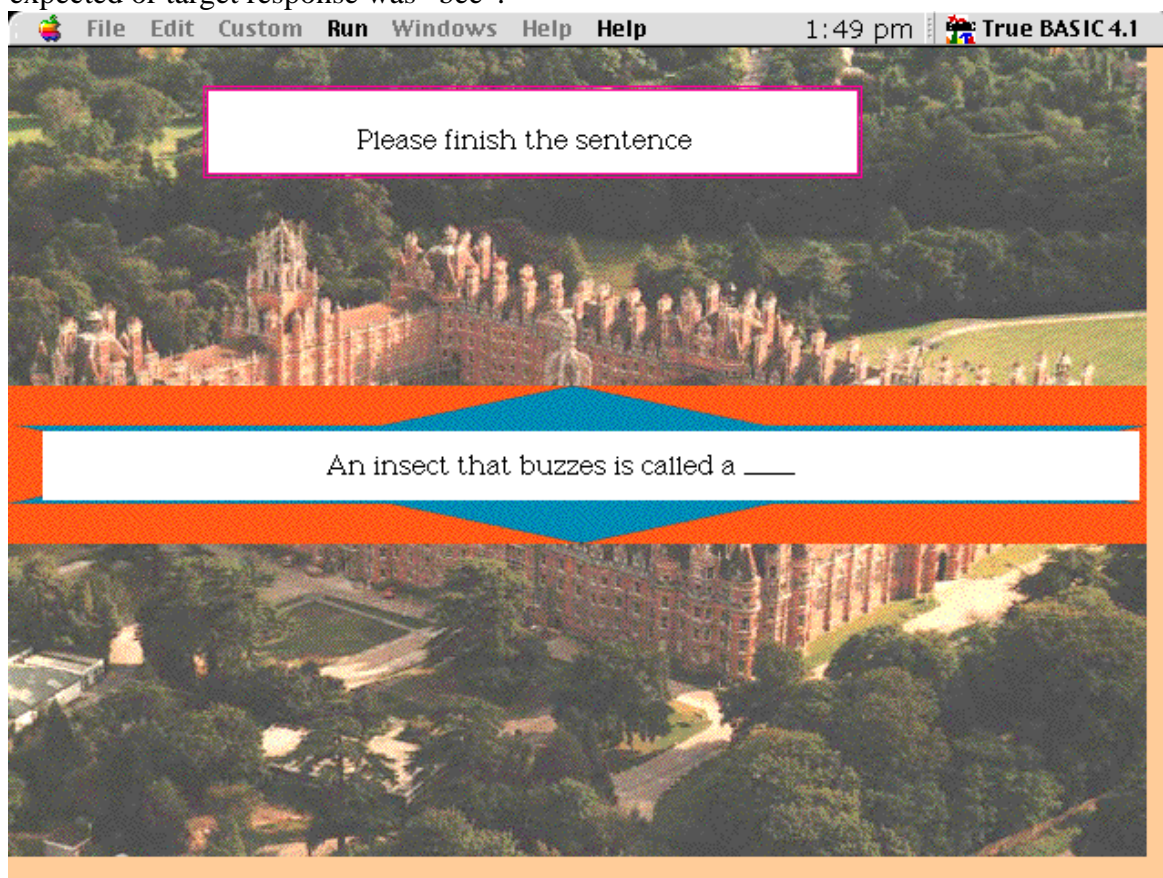
Data are reported on the responses of 30 individuals, pupils (and one teacher) from a secondary school in Berkshire, England, with a mean age 18 years, 8 months (standard deviation = 6.6 months).

Sentences were presented in 14-point font within a window of the 10.25" TFT colour screen of an Apple Powerbook 5300c computer. The window appeared on a pictured background. Participants were asked to read aloud the sentence and supply the sentence-terminal word shown as a "blank" – see the example in Figure 1. Presentation of 96 sentences for each participant involved a total of 8 blocks each with 12 sentences. There were short breaks between each block and participant feedback after each block indicated the average time to read and complete the sentence. The computer timed the interval between the onset of the sentence and the first response keystroke (made by the experimenter). Participants wore a lapel-microphone that allowed recording of their sentences onto tape for subsequent analyses.

All sentences were sampled without replacement from a total pool of 288 items. Sentences came in three types, labeled for convenience 'short', 'medium' and 'long'. Only one of the three sentence types was presented to the participant (this selection being made at random) since the three sentence forms were, by design, derivative. Many of the sentences had their origins in a previous corpus (Towse, Hutton & Hitch, 1997). However, those sentences had no more than two sentence length types, and half the corpus comprised only a single form of the sentence. Some previously used sentences were removed because of a relatively high rate of non-target word productions, and some new items were introduced (e.g., from Appendix 1, sentences 1, 4, 10, 188, 217, 220, 226, 229, 235, 238, 241, 247, 250, 253, 259, 262, 268, 271, 274, 277, 283, 286, and their respective variants).

Participants were initially shown laminated cards giving three examples of the sentence completion task, in the form shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Screenshot of an example sentence with the final word missing. In this case, the expected or target response was “bee”.

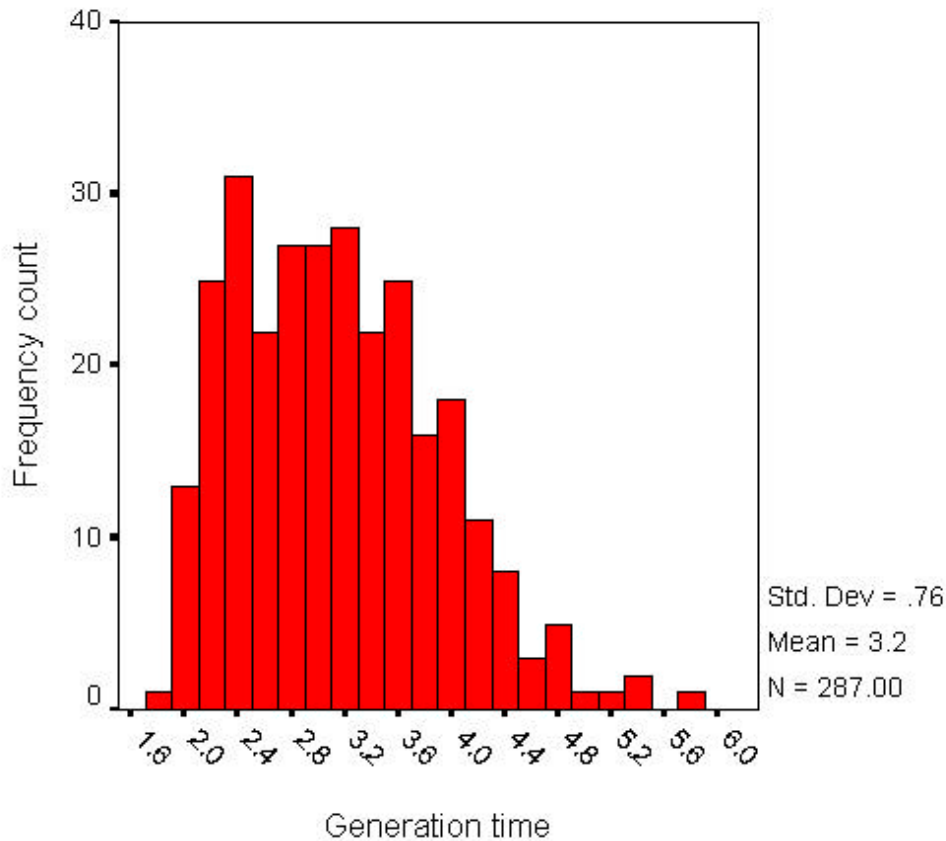


## Results

Previous analyses (Towse et al., 1997; Towse, Hutton & Hitch, 1998) have shown that, on the whole, the sentences reliably generated the predicted sentence-terminal word. The present set of sentences confirms this consistency. Even where, on occasion, a non-target word was given, this was usually semantically congruent with the target item. However, the present results also give information on the chronometric profile of the sentences.

Appendix 1 details the complete set of completion words that were generated, along with additional data available on the mean time taken to read each sentence. Figure 2 provides a histogram of the completion times for the corpus as a whole.

Figure 2. Mean completion time for each sentence type.

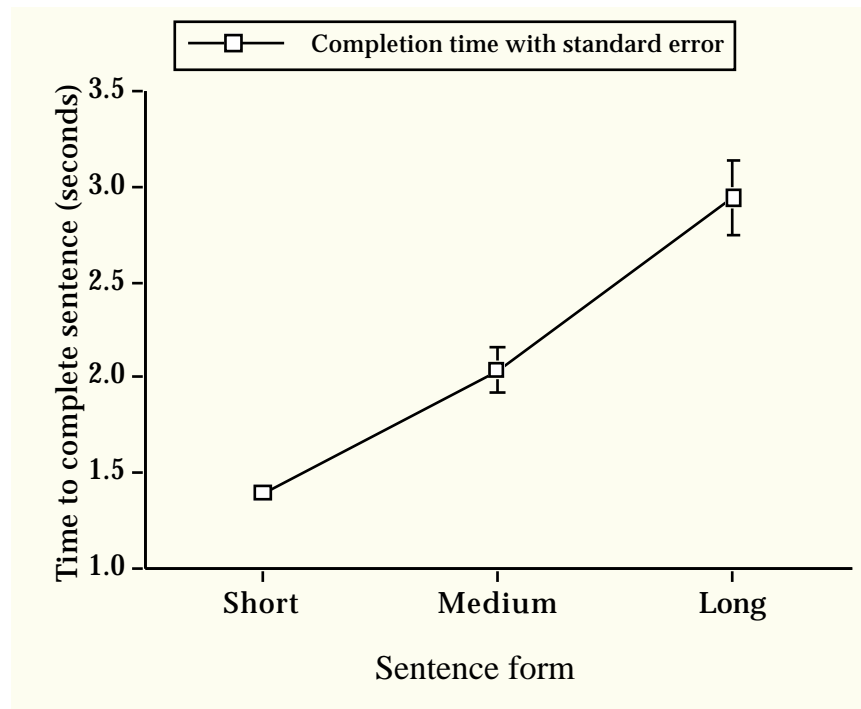


In Appendix 2, the three sentence forms are collapsed and an aggregate measure is derived of the proportion of times the target item is elicited by the sentence frame. The sentences are presented in order of target production likelihood.

With the sentence productions recorded onto audiotape, it was possible to examine that part of the speech component representing the pause while the sentence completion word was generated. As an initial analytic procedure, samples of the sentences were converted from cassette tape into digitised computer files. Sampling involved taking every 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence from each block of trials for all participants where recordings were available (28 cases). The waveforms of the digitised audio files were then inspected and the speech segment involving the articulation of the sentence up to the penultimate word was identified and distinguished from the gap, if any, before the completion word was produced. The time taken by the participant to generate the final word could then be estimated. This procedure was repeated for all the samples. However, it should be borne in mind that this method for determining word production delays is not exact. It makes the assumption that the articulation of each word is essentially independent. Participants could reduce the articulation speed of later words in the sentence whilst they began to ponder on the missing item, and this process is not incorporated within the delay measure here.

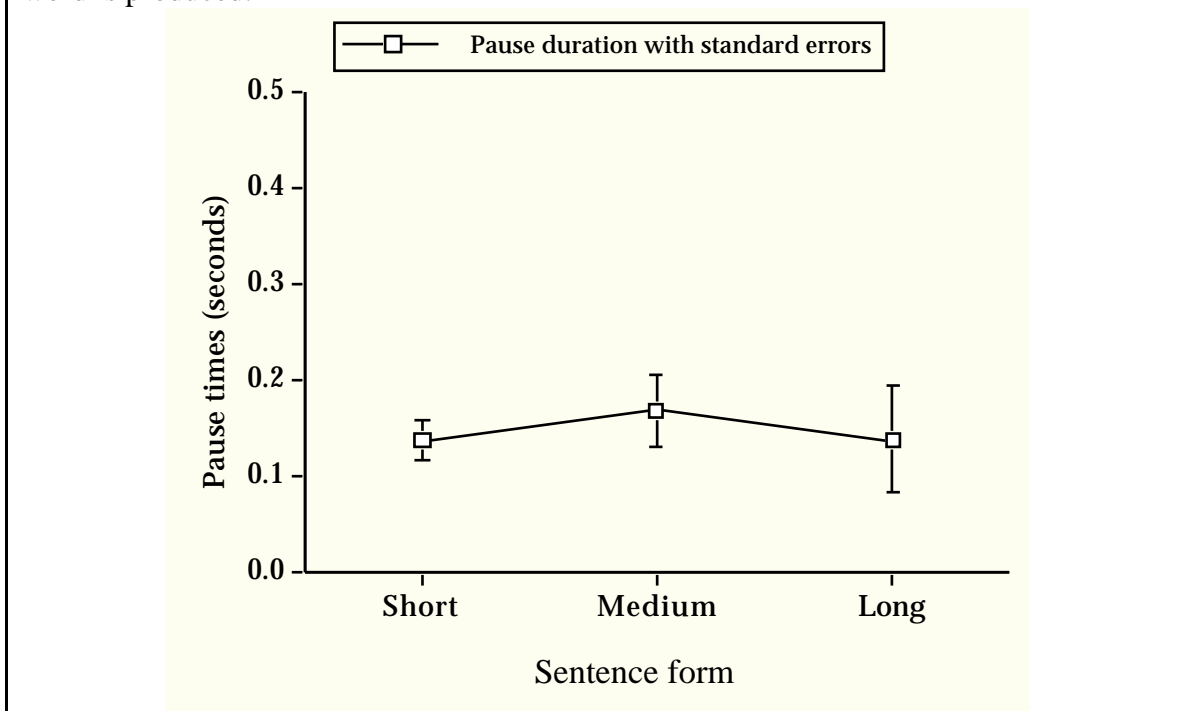
Figure 3 shows the total time (using the method described above) required to answer the sentence after its presentation. This illustrates the anticipated ordering, with participants taking more time over the longer sentences.

Figure 3. Mean sentence completion time (and standard errors) for the three sentence types.



Time spent reading the sentences in Figure 3 can be contrasted with the pause duration from sampled sentences in Figure 4. These data indicate that there is no corresponding monotonic change in pause lengths with increases in sentence reading times. The pause patterns confirm the view that long sentences are not the most difficult sentences, when measured in terms of generating a sentence-terminal word. In other words, the data support the argument (e.g. Towse, Hitch & Hutton, 1998) that sentences varied in reading or processing *time* rather than processing *intensity*.

Figure 4. Mean length of pause (and standard deviations) before the sentence-terminal word is produced.



An example of sentence productions from a single participant has been concatenated and converted to a wave file at the URL:

<http://www.pc.rhbnc.ac.uk/jt/example.wav>

(this should be playable via QuickTime or Netscape applications). The sampling rate of this digitised file is quite low in order to reduce the file size but the responses are illustrative of the performance on the task.

## References

Daneman, M., & Carpenter, P. A. (1980). Individual differences in working memory and reading. *Journal of Verbal Learning and Verbal Behavior*, 19, 450-466.

Hitch, G. J., Towse, J. N., & Hutton, U. (in press). What limits children's working memory span? Theoretical accounts and applications for scholastic development. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.

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Towse, J. N., Hitch, G. J., & Hutton, U. (In press). On the interpretation of working memory span in adults. *Memory & Cognition*.

Towse, J. N., Hutton, U., & Hitch, G. J. (1997). *Humpty Dumpty had a great... banana? Children's sentence completions on a working memory reading task* (Technical report CDRG1): Royal Holloway University of London.

Towse, J. N., Hutton, U., & Hitch, G. J. (1998). *Grass is coloured ... red? Further sentence completion norms for children during a working memory reading task* (Technical report CDRG3): Royal Holloway University of London.

**Appendix 1. Short, Medium and Long Sentence word completion data.** Tabulates the number of target and non target answers produced, in the latter case signifying the word. Also presented is the average time in seconds to produce a response.

**1. “Paint with a paint”, “brush”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.14
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**2. “I paint on paper with a paint”, “brush”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3
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**3. “I like to paint big pictures on paper with a paint”, “brush”**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.05
Non target answer	2 (pot)	Average time	5.50

**4. “The window is made of”, “glass”**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.21
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**5. “The window in my house is made of”, “glass”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.77
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**6. “You can see through a window when it is made of”, “glass”**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.08
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**7. “My teeth are in my”, “mouth”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.28
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**8. “My nice white teeth are in my”, “mouth”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.59
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**9. “You can see my nice white teeth when I open my”, “mouth”**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.97
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**10. “Snow is the colour”, “white”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.39
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**11. “Snow is very cold and the colour”, “white”**

Target answer	17	Average time	3.34
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**12. When it snows it is very cold and every thing turns the colour”, “white”**

Target answer	6	Average time	4.23
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**13. “Mary unlocks the”, “door”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.30
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**14. "Mary got home and unlocked the", "door"**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.74
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**15. "When Mary got home she found her key and unlocked the", "door"**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.03
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**16. "Mum sat down in an arm", "chair"**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.58
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**17. "Mum likes to sit down in an arm", "chair"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.89
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**18. "When Mum is tired she likes to sit down in an arm", "chair"**

Target answer	13	Average time	4.31
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**19. "The opposite of dark is", "light"**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.21
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**20. "To see in the dark you can turn on a", "light"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.10
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**21. "When you want to see in the dark you can turn on a", "light"**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.93
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**22. "Three and one makes", "four"**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.33
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**23. "The number after two and three is", "four"**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.52
Non target answer	1 (three)	Average time	2.42

**24. "The next number after one and two and three is", "four"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.91
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**25. "Jack and Jill went up the", "hill"**

Target answer	10	Average time	1.98
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**26. "After lunch Jack and Jill went up the", "hill"**

Target answer	16	Average time	3.41
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**27. "To fetch some water after lunch, Jack and Jill went up the", "hill"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.91
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**28. "The magician waved his magic", "wand"**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.56
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**29. "When he did the trick the magician waved his magic", "wand"**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.76
Non target answer	1	Average time	3.97

**30. "To make the funny trick work the magician waved his magic", "wand"**

Target answer	15	Average time	4.32
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**31. "Two and one makes", "three"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.43
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**32. "The next number after one and two is", "three"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.01
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**33. "After the number one is two and after the number two is", "three"**

Target answer	11	Average time	4.56
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**34. "The rocket went into", "space"**

Target answer	5	Average time	5.29
Non target answer	3 (--, space, orbit)	Average time	7.84

**35. "The rocket made a noise as it went into outer", "space"**

Target answer	11	Average time	4.2
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**36. "The rocket left earth with a noise and went up into outer", "space"**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.88
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**37. "Sky is coloured", "blue"**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.16
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**38. "The sky on a sunny day is coloured", "blue"**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.46
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**39. "On a nice bright sunny day without any clouds the sky is coloured", "blue"**

Target answer	16	Average time	4.85
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**40. "The moon comes out at", "night"**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.31
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**41. "When it is dark we can see stars at", "night"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.75
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**42. "When it is dark I can see the moon come out at", "night"**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.08
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**43. "Eight and one makes", "nine"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.80
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**44. "The next number after eight is", "nine"**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.60
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**45. "The number that comes after seven and eight is", "nine"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.10
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**46. "Four and one makes", "five"**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.07
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**47. "The next number after four is", "five"**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.53
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**48. "The number that always comes after three and four is", "five"**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.65
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**49. "The opposite of hot is", "cold"**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.31
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**50. "We wear a coat when we are", "cold"**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.03
Non target answer	1 (out)	Average time	5.65

**51. "In winter we all wear a coat because it is so", "cold"**

Target answer	5	Average time	3.43
Non target answer	1 (slow)	Average time	5.78

**52. "The dog wagged his", "tail"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.17
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**53. "The dog was so happy he wagged his", "tail"**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.79
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**54. "The dog was very happy and so he wagged his", "tail"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.53
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**55. "The farmer lives on a", "farm"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.12
Non target answer	1 (tractor)	Average time	3.28

**56. "The farmer and his sheep and pigs live on a", "farm"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.45
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**57. “The farmer and his wife, with their sheep and pigs and cows live on a”, “farm”**

Target answer	8	Average time	5.36
Non target answer	1 (field)	Average time	3.72

**58. “The fireman put out the”, “fire”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.17
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**59. “The fireman came to put out the”, “fire”**

Target answer	15	Average time	2.65
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**60. “The fire engine came and the fireman put out the”, “fire”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.7
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**61. “The football team scored a”, “goal”**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.82
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**62. “The football team scored the winning”, “goal”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.10
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**63. “Just in time the football team scored the winning”, “goal”**

Target answer	14	Average time	3.36
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**64. “Grass is coloured”, “green”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.15
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**65. “The grass in the fields is coloured”, “green”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.65
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**66. “When the grass grows in the fields it is coloured”, “green”**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.04
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**67. “Jim likes to eat fish and”, “chips”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.77
Non target answer	1 (meat)	Average time	6.5

**68. “Jim sometimes goes out to eat fish and”, “chips”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.27
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**69. “Jim likes to go out with his parents to eat fish and”, “chips”**

Target answer	6	Average time	3.60
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**70. “The baker made a loaf of”, “bread”**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.16
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Non target answer	1 (dough)	Average time	6.05
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**71. “Jane went to the baker who made a loaf of”, “bread”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.50
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**72. “Jane went to the baker and he then made a loaf of”, “bread”**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.82
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**73. “I like to play hide and”, “seek”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.61
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**74. “My friends and I play hide and”, “seek”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.59
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**75. “One game for friends to play is hide and”, “seek”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.33
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**76. “A dog can run very”, “fast”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.36
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**77. “A dog is in the park and it runs very”, “fast”**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.92
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**78. “Andrew plays with a dog in the park and it can run very”, “fast”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.84
Non target answer	1 (seek)	Average time	5.78

**79. “Leaves grow in the big”, “trees”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.56
Non target answer	4 ( forest, stalk, garden, winter)	Average time	5.16

**80. “The leaves grow in the big tall”, “trees”**

Target answer	4	Average time	5.4
Non target answer	1 (forest)	Average time	3.88

**81. “In the spring the leaves start growing on the big tall”, “trees”**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.12
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**82. “Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.48
Non target answer	1 (dwarves)	Average time	3.50

**83. “I like Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.57
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**84. “Mark heard the story of Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”**

Target answer	14	Average time	3.15
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**85. “If it rains I will get”, “wet”**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.34
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**86. “If I don’t have a coat and it rains I will get”, “wet”.**

Target answer	17	Average time	3.44
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**87. “I don’t have a coat with me so if it rains I will get”, “wet”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.86
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**88. “I put a hat on my”, “head”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.30
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**89. “If it is cold I put a hat on my”, “head”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.64
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**90. “If the sun is hot and bright I put a hat on my”, “head”**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.02
Non target answer	2 (glasses, hat)	Average time	4.68

**91. “A fire feels very”, “hot”**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.35
Non target answer	1 (warm)	Average time	2.60

**92. “In the middle of a fire it feels very”, “hot”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.18
Non target answer	1 (warm)	Average time	4.03

**93. “If I touched the fire then it would feel very”, “hot”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.23
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**94. “I go to sleep in my”, “bed”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.25
Non target answer	1 (pyjamas)	Average time	3.25

**95. “At night time I go to sleep in my”, “bed”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.16
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**96. “When I am tired at night time I go to sleep in my”, “bed”**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.14
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**97. “I see with my”, “eyes”**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.15
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**98. “We see things with our”, “eyes”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.45
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**99. “I can look around and see things with my”, “eyes”**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.51
Non target answer	1 (head)	Average time	4.08

**100. “I eat with a knife and”, “fork”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.15
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**101. “I eat my dinner with a knife and”, “fork”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.54
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**102. “I sit down and eat my dinner with a knife and”, “fork”**

Target answer	13	Average time	3.49
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**103. “I tell the time with a wrist”, “watch”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.77
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**104. “I can tell what the time is with my wrist”, “watch”**

Target answer	14	Average time	3.13
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**105. “I can tell what time it is when I look at my wrist”, “watch”**

Target answer	7	Average time	4.44
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**106. “A cow eats”, “grass”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.10
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**107. “A cow eats long green”, “grass”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.43
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**108. “A cow lives in a field and eats long green”, “grass”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.42
Non target answer	1 (leaves)	Average time	5.77

**109. “A clown has a happy”, “face”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.48
Non target answer	2 (smile, clown)	Average time	2.89

**110. "The clown had a big smiling", "face"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.59
Non target answer	2 (mouth x 2)	Average time	3.80

**111. "A clown always has a big smile on his", "face"**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.75
Non target answer	1 (clown)	Average time	3.15

**112. "A giraffe has a long", "neck"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.60
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**113. "A giraffe is an animal with a long", "neck"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.23
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**114. "A giraffe is a tall animal with four long legs and a great long", "neck"**

Target answer	9	Average time	5.18
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**115. "A post box is coloured", "red"**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.35
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**116. "The post box on the street is coloured", "red"**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.23
Non target answer	1 (black)	Average time	4.35

**117. "I can find a post box – a post box is coloured", "red"**

Target answer	14	Average time	4.23
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**118. "I have four fingers and one", "thumb"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.57
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**119. "On my hand I have four fingers and one", "thumb"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.28
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**120. "At the end of my hand I have four fingers and one", "thumb"**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.56
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**121. "Ben clapped his", "hands"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.23
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**122. "Ben laughed and then clapped his", "hands"**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.85
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**123. "Ben laughed at the joke and then clapped his", "hands"**



Target answer	14	Average time	3.09
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**124. “Ben ran fast and won the”, “race”**

Target answer	5	Average time	2.87
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**125. “Ben ran faster so that he could win the”, “race”**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.31
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**126. “Ben ran faster and faster so that he could try and win the”, “race”**

Target answer	12	Average time	4.31
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**127. “Birds use wings to”, “fly”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.17
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**128. “Birds flap and flap their wings to”, “fly”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.06
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**129. “If birds flap and flap their wings then they can learn to”, “fly”**

Target answer	10	Average time	4.31
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**130. “A house is built with”, “bricks”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.40
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**131. “You can build a house with”, “bricks”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.30
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**132. “To build a new house you will need lots of red”, “bricks”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.68
Non target answer	1 (paint)	Average time	3.75

**133. “My feet are at the end of my”, “legs”**

Target answer	6	Average time	3.24
Non target answer	1 (shoes)	Average time	3.75

**134. “My feet and toes are at the end of my”, “legs”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.07
Non target answer	1 (feet)	Average time	4.68

**135. “My toes are at the end of my feet and my feet are at the end of my”, “legs”**

Target answer	13	Average time	4.33
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**136. “My hand is at the end of my”, “arm”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.88
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**137. “My fingers and hands are at the end of my”, “arms”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.81
Non target answer	2 (toes, wrist)	Average time	4.01

**138. “My fingers are at the end of my hands and my hands are at the end of my”, “arms”**

Target answer	3.90	Average time	4.62
Non target answer	4 (wrist x 3, fingers)	Average time	7.18

**139. “A joke makes me”, “laugh”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.09
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**140. “If I hear a joke it makes me”, “laugh”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.59
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**141. “If I hear a funny joke I smile and it makes me”, “laugh”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.52
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**142. “Twinkle twinkle little”, “star”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.04
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**143. “Twinkle twinkle goes the little”, “star”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.95
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**144. “In the sky at night, twinkle twinkle goes the little”, “star”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.7
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**145. “The speed of a snail is”, “slow”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.77
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	5.10

**146. “The snail lost the race because it was very”, “slow”**

Target answer	14	Average time	3.51
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**147. “A snail takes a long time to move because its speed is very”, “slow”**

Target answer	8	Average time	4.02
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**148. “At night I fall”, “asleep”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.77
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**149. “At night I go to bed and fall”, “asleep”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.63
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**150. “At night I go to bed and close my eyes and fall”, “asleep”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.50
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**151. ““Quack quack” said the”, “duck”**

Target answer	9	Average time	1.94
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**152. ““Quack quack” said the mother to the little”, “duck”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.28
Non target answer	3 (duckling)	Average time	3.14

**153. “On the pond “quack quack” said mother to the little”, “duck”**

Target answer	6	Average time	4.83
Non target answer	2 (goose, chick)	Average time	5.34

**154. ““Choo choo” goes the”, “train”**

Target answer	15	Average time	2.06
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**155. “Around the track and “choo choo” goes the”, “train”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.33
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**156. “Up and down the hill on the track, “choo choo” goes”, “train”**

Target answer	6	Average time	3.8
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**157. “The opposite of bad is”, “good”**

Target answer	1	Average time	3.07
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**158. “The opposite of something bad is something”, “good”**

Target answer	5	Average time	2.65
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**159. “Everyone knows that the opposite of something bad is something”, “good”**

Target answer	17	Average time	3.07
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**160. “Wool comes from”, “sheep”**

Target answer	6	Average time	1.97
Non target answer	3 (--, trees x2)	Average time	4.93

**161. “The farm animals that wool comes from are”, “sheep”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.90
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	7.20

**162. “The farm animals that the farmer gets wool from are called”, “sheep”**

Target answer	10	Average time	4.58
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	11.28

**163. “Jane uses a skipping”, “rope”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.27
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**164. “Jane skips with a skipping”, “rope”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.45
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**165. “Jane and her friends play with a skipping”, “rope”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.19
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**166. “The pirate found silver and”, “gold”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.04
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**167. “On the pirate ship they found silver and”, “gold”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.44
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**168. “When they got onto the pirate ship they found silver and”, “gold”**

Target answer	14	Average time	4.26
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**169. “A man with a crown is called a”, “king”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.77
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**170. “An important man with a crown is called a”, “king”**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.95
Non target answer	1 (prince)	Average time	4.23

**171. “An important man who wears a gold crown is called a”, “king”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.96
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**172. “A baby dog is called a”, “puppy”**

Target answer	5	Average time	2.61
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**173. “When a baby dog is young it is called a”, “puppy”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.44
Non target answer	2 (pup)	Average time	3.17

**174. “When a baby dog is young and needs its mother it is called a”, “puppy”**

Target answer	9	Average time	4.81
Non target answer	7 (pup x 6, thing)	Average time	5.60

**175. “A woman with a crown is called a”, “queen”**

Target answer	14	Average time	3.14
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**176. “An important woman with a crown is called a”, “queen”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.14
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**177. “An important woman who wears a gold crown is called a”, “queen”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.49
Non target answer	1 (king)	Average time	4.33

**178. “He crossed the river in a rowing”, “boat”**

Target answer	13	Average time	3.05
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**179. “He rowed across the river in a rowing”, “boat”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.21
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**180. “He rowed really hard to get across the river in his rowing”, “boat”**

Target answer	7	Average time	4.94
Non target answer	1 (skills)	Average time	6.02

**181. “I am thirsty and I want a”, “drink”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.67
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**182. “I am very thirsty and I really want a”, “drink”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.92
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**183. “I told Mum that I was very thirsty and really wanted a”, “drink”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.82
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**184. “I cut my food with a”, “knife”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.57
Non target answer	2 (knife, knife and fork)	Average time	3.53

**185. “At lunchtime I cut my food with a”, “knife”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.23
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**186. “When I eat at the table I cut my food up with a”, “knife”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.86
Non target answer	1 (fork)	Average time	4.60

**187. “At the cinema we watched a”, “film”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.45
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Non target answer	1 (movie)	Average time	2.92
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**188. "I went to the cinema and watched a", "film"**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.80
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**189. "I went to the cinema with my friends and watched a", "film"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.64
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**190. "I wear socks on my", "feet"**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.36
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**191. "I wear shoes and socks on my", "feet"**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.76
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**192. "During the day I wear shoes and socks on my", "feet"**

Target answer	15	Average time	3.15
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**193. "I smell with my", "nose"**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.21
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**194. "I can smell lots of smells with my", "nose"**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.83
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**195. "I see with my eyes and I can smell with my", "nose"**

Target answer	16	Average time	3.02
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**196. "I wave goodbye with my", "hand"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.63
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**197. "I leave and wave goodbye with my", "hand"**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.38
Non target answer	1 (friend)	Average time	3.63

**198. "I leave my friends and wave goodbye with my", "hand"**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.45
Non target answer	1 (mum)	Average time	4.18

**199. "Rob spent his money at a sweet", "shop"**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.97
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**200. "Robin likes to spend all of his money at a sweet", "shop"**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.66
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**201. “Robin spent his money and bought some sweets in the sweet”, “shop”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.66
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**202. “The colour of a banana is”, “yellow”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.15
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**203. “The colour of a banana is bright”, “yellow”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.84
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**204. “Cherries are coloured red and bananas are coloured”, “yellow”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.40
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**205. “The opposite of fat is”, “thin”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.46
Non target answer	4 (skinny, thin x 3)	Average time	3.66

**206. “The complete opposite of fat is”, “thin”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.83
Non target answer	1 (skinny)	Average time	3.47

**207. “The complete opposite of fat is called”, “thin”**

Target answer	5	Average time	3.53
Non target answer	2 (slim, skinny)	Average time	3.72

**208. “The opposite of long is”, “short”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.46
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**209. “The complete opposite of long is”, “short”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.03
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**210. “The complete opposite of long is called”, “short”**

Target answer	5	Average time	3.21
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**211. “I play soccer with a foot”, “ball”.**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.41
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**212. “They played soccer with a foot”, “ball”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.36
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**213. “I played soccer during lunch time with a foot”, “ball”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.61
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**214. “While sleeping I had a strange”, “dream”**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.95
Non target answer	1 (night)	Average time	9.38

**215. “While I was sleeping I had a strange”, “dream”**

Target answer	8	Average time	3.11
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**216. “While I was sleeping I had a strange and scary”, “dream”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.78
Non target answer	2 (nightmare)	Average time	3.69

**217. “The bus driver drives a”, “bus”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.49
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**218. “The bus driver’s job is to drive the”, “bus”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.98
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**219. “The bus driver helps people by driving the”, “bus”**

Target answer	6	Average time	3.77
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**220. “I went to the pool to”, “swim”**

Target answer	13	Average time	2.58
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**221. “I went to the swimming pool with Dad to”, “swim”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.12
Non target answer	1 (play)	Average time	7.53

**222. “I went to the swimming pool and changed to go for a”, “swim”**

Target answer	6	Average time	4.23
Non target answer	1 (shower)	Average time	9.37

**223. “I was reading a”, “book”**

Target answer	8	Average time	1.92
Non target answer	1 (story)	Average time	1.60

**224. “Mum and I read a story from a”, “book”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.96
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**225. “I chose a story and then Mum and I read it from a”, “book”**

Target answer	10	Average time	4.90
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**226. ““Moo moo” said the”, “cow”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.31
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**227. ““Moo moo” said the black and white”, “cow”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.88
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	6.10

**228. “After milking was over “Moo moo” said the black and white”, “cow”**

Target answer	7	Average time	5.88
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	10.80

**229. “I like my teddy”, “bear”**

Target answer	17	Average time	2.05
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**230. “I like to play with my teddy”, “bear”**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.30
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**231. “My friends and I like to play with my teddy”, “bear”**

Target answer	3	Average time	3.47
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**232. “If my hands are cold I wear”, “gloves”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.96
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**233. “If I am cold on my hands I should wear my”, “gloves”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.79
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**234. “If my hands are cold to keep them warm I should wear my”, “gloves”**

Target answer	13	Average time	3.65
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**235. “He has a bow and”, “arrow”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.67
Non target answer	4 (tie x 3, plate)	Average time	4.02

**236. “He aimed with his new bow and”, “arrow”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.70
Non target answer	2 (shot)	Average time	5.88

**237. “He aimed at the apple and shot it with his bow and”, “arrow”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.71
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**238. “The chicken laid an”, “egg”**

Target answer	9	Average time	1.82
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**239. “The mother chicken laid an”, “egg”**

Target answer	8	Average time	2.39
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**240. “The mother chicken sat down in her nest and laid an”, “egg”**

Target answer	13	Average time	3.63
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**241. “A robin is a”, “bird”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.18
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**242. “A dog is an animal and a robin is a”, “bird”**

Target answer	15	Average time	3.34
Non target answer	1 (animal)	Average time	3.85

**243. “A tree is a plant, a dog is an animal and a robin is a”, “bird”**

Target answer	6	Average time	3.81
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**244. “A cat has baby”, “kittens”**

Target answer	7	Average time	3.31
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	4.62

**245. “A mother cat has baby”, “kittens”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.00
Non target answer	2 (cubs, wounded)	Average time	4.67

**246. “A mother dog has puppies and a mother cat has baby”, “kittens”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.77
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	8.52

**247. “A cat drinks”, “milk”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.09
Non target answer	1 (water)	Average time	2.33

**248. “The cat likes drinking”, “milk”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.27
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**249. “The thirsty cat wants to drink the creamy”, “milk”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.39
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**250. “The dog chased the”, “cat”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.13
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**251. “The big noisy dog chased the”, “cat”**

Target answer	12	Average time	3.50
Non target answer	2 (stick, person)	Average time	6.88

**252. “The big noisy dog barked and chased after the”, “cat”**

Target answer	5	Average time	3.60
Non target answer	1 (person)	Average time	4.23

**253. “Stop look and”, “listen”**

Target answer	8	Average time	1.93
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**254. “We have to stop look and”, “listen”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.73
Non target answer	2 (watch, think)	Average time	4.40

**255. “To cross the road we have to stop look and”, “listen”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.03
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	12.33

**256. “A snowman is made of”, “snow”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.24
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**257. “To make a snowman you need”, “snow”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.47
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**258. “To make a snowman in the winter you need”, “snow”**

Target answer	13	Average time	3.28
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**259. “Mum made a birthday”, “cake”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.41
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**260. “I blew the candles out on my birthday”, “cake”**

Target answer	6	Average time	4.38
Non target answer	1 (party)	Average time	3.48

**261. “I made a wish and blew the candles out on my birthday”, “cake”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.77
Non target answer	1 (party)	Average time	5.78

**262. “To keep hair short it is”, “cut”**

Target answer	11	Average time	4.23
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Non target answer	2 (--)	Average time	9.25
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**263. “If my hair gets too long I have it”, “cut”**

Target answer	3	Average time	3.27
Non target answer	1 (cut it)	Average time	4.20

**264. “If my hair is too long I go to the hairdressers to have it”, “cut”**

Target answer	19	Average time	4.04
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**265. “Snoopy is a”, “dog”**

Target answer	6	Average time	2.44
Non target answer	0	Average time	

**266. “Daffy is a duck and Snoopy is a”, “dog”**

Target answer	15	Average time	3.40
Non target answer	1 (cartoon)	Average time	8.88

**267. “Tom is a cat, Daffy is a duck and Snoopy is a”, “dog”**

Target answer	10	Average time	4.03
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**268. “I went for a bicycle”, “ride”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.10
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**269. “I put on my helmet and went for a bicycle”, “ride”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.90
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**270. “After school I put on my helmet and went for a bicycle”, “ride”**

Target answer	10	Average time	4.26
Non target answer	1 (ride)	Average time	9.15

**271. “It stuck together with”, “glue”**

Target answer	4	Average time	2.75
Non target answer	1 (tape)	Average time	3.65

**272. “I stuck them together with some sticky”, “glue”**

Target answer	4	Average time	3.25
Non target answer	5 (tape)	Average time	3.62

**273. “I stuck my finished work together with some sticky”, “glue”**

Target answer	3	Average time	3.93
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Non target answer	11 (tape)	Average time	4.30
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**274. “Water makes plants”, “grow”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.17
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**275. “Food and water makes plants”, “grow”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.99
Non target answer	1 (breathe)	Average time	6.57

**276. “The sun, food and water make plants”, “grow”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.88
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**277. “An elephant has a long”, “trunk”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.49
Non target answer	2 (nose)	Average time	3.13

**278. “An elephant’s long nose is called a”, “trunk”**

Target answer	10	Average time	3.24
Non target answer	1 (--)	Average time	8.05

**279. “An elephant has a long nose, which is called a”, “trunk”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.97
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**280. “Every day I comb my”, “hair”**

Target answer	9	Average time	2.29
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**281. “Every day I wash and comb my”, “hair”**

Target answer	10	Average time	2.96
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**282. “Every day in the morning I wash and comb my”, “hair”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.19
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**283. “With tooth paste I clean my”, “teeth”**

Target answer	11	Average time	2.69
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**284. “I have a tooth brush to help clean my”, “teeth”**

Target answer	7	Average time	2.81
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**285. “I have a tooth brush and some tooth paste to clean my”, “teeth”**

Target answer	11	Average time	3.71
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**286. “The spider has eight”, “legs”**

Target answer	14	Average time	2.33
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**287. “The big spider has eight hairy”, “legs”**

Target answer	12	Average time	2.95
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**288. “The spider walking on the floor has eight hairy”, “legs”**

Target answer	9	Average time	3.98
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## Appendix 2. Short, medium and long sentences ordered according to percentage answered incorrectly.

Sentence Group	Percentage Incorrect
“The window is made of”, “glass”	0
“The window in my house is made of”, “glass”	
“You can see through a window when it is made of”, “glass”	
“Snow is the colour”, “white”	0
“Snow is very cold and the colour”, “white”	
“When it snows it is very cold and every thing turns the colour”, “white”	
“Mary unlocks the”, “door”	0
“Mary got home and unlocked the”, “door”	
“When Mary got home she found her key and unlocked the”, “door”	
“The opposite of dark is”, “light”	0
“To see in the dark you can turn on a”, “light”	
“When you want to see in the dark you can turn on a”, “light”	
“Mum sat down in an arm”, “chair”	0
“Mum likes to sit down in an arm”, “chair”	
“When Mum is tired she likes to sit down in an arm”, “chair”	
“Jack and Jill went up the”, “hill”	0
“After lunch Jack and Jill went up the”, “hill”	
“To fetch some water after lunch, Jack and Jill went up the”, “hill”	
“Two and one makes”, “three”	0
“The next number after one and two is”, “three”	
“After the number one is two and after the number two is”, “three”	
“Sky is coloured”, “blue”	0
“The sky on a sunny day is coloured”, “blue”	
“On a nice bright sunny day without any clouds the sky is coloured”, “blue”	
“The moon comes out at”, “night”	0
“When it is dark we can see stars at”, night”	
“When it is dark I can see the moon come out at”, “night”	
“Eight and one makes”, “nine”	0
“The next number after eight is”, “nine”	
“The number that comes after seven and eight is”, “nine”	
“Four and one makes”, “five”.	0
“The next number after four is”, “five”	
“The number that always comes after three and four is”, “five”	
“The dog wagged his”, “tail”	0

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“The dog was so happy he wagged his”, “tail”	
“The dog was very happy and so he wagged his”, “tail”	
“The fireman put out the”, “fire”	0
“The fireman came to put out the”, “fire”	
“The fire engine came and the fireman put out the”, “fire”	
“The football team scored a”, “goal”	0
“The football team scored the winning”, “goal”	
“Just in time the football team scored the winning”, “goal”	
“Grass is coloured”, “green”	0
“The grass in the fields is coloured”, “green”	
“When the grass grows in the fields it is coloured”, “green”	
“I like to play hide and”, “seek”	0
“My friends and I play hide and”, “seek”	
“One game for friends to play is hide and”, “seek”	
“If it rains I will get”, “wet”	0
“If I don’t have a coat and it rains I will get”, “wet”.	
“I don’t have a coat with me so if it rains I will get”, “wet”	
“I eat with a knife and”, “fork”	0
“I eat my dinner with a knife and”, “fork”	
“I sit down and eat my dinner with a knife and”, “fork”	
“I tell the time with a wrist”, “watch”	0
“I can tell what the time is with my wrist”, “watch”.	
“I can tell what time it is when I look at my wrist”, “watch”	
“A giraffe has a long”, “neck”	0
“A giraffe is an animal with a long”, “neck”	
“A giraffe is a tall animal with four long legs and a great long”, “neck”	
“I have four fingers and one”, “thumb”	0
“On my hand I have four fingers and one”, “thumb”	
“At the end of my hand I have four fingers and one”, “thumb”	
“Ben clapped his”, “hands”	0
“Ben laughed and then clapped his”, “hands”	
“Ben laughed at the joke and then clapped his”, “hands”	
“Ben ran fast and won the”, “race”	0
“Ben ran faster so that he could win the”, “race”	
“Ben ran faster and faster so that he could try and win the”, “race”	
“Birds use wings to”, “fly”	0
“Birds flap and flap their wings to”, “fly”	
“If birds flap and flap their wings then they can learn to”, “fly”	
“A joke makes me”, “laugh”	0
“If I hear a joke it makes me”, “laugh”	
“If I hear a funny joke I smile and it makes me”, “laugh”	
““Choo choo” goes the”, “train”	
“Around the track and “choo choo” goes the”, “train”	0

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“Up and down the hill on the track, “choo choo” goes”, “train”	
“The opposite of bad is”, “good”	0
“The opposite of something bad is something”, “good”	
“Everyone knows that the opposite of something bad is something”, “good”	
“Jane uses a skipping”, “rope”	0
“Jane skips with a skipping”, “rope”	
“Jane and her friends play with a skipping”, “rope”	
“The pirate found silver and”, “gold”	0
“On the pirate ship they found silver and”, “gold”	
When they got onto the pirate ship they found silver and”, “gold”	
“I am thirsty and I want a”, “drink”	0
“I am very thirsty and I really want a”, “drink”	
“I told Mum that I was very thirsty and really wanted a”, “drink”	
“I wear socks on my”, “feet”	0
“I wear shoes and socks on my”, “feet”	
“During the day I wear shoes and socks on my”, “feet”	
“I smell with my”, “nose”	0
“I can smell lots of smells with my”, “nose”	
“I see with my eyes and I can smell with my”, “nose”	
“Rob spent his money at a sweet”, “shop”	0
“Robin likes to spend all of his money at a sweet”, “shop”	
“Robin spent his money and bought some sweets in the sweet”, “shop”	
“The colour of a banana is”, “yellow”	0
“The colour of a banana is bright”, “yellow”	
“Cherries are coloured red and bananas are coloured”, “yellow”	
“The opposite of long is”, “short”	0
“The complete opposite of long is”, “short”	
“The complete opposite of long is called”, “short”	
“I play soccer with a foot”, “ball”.	0
“They played soccer with a foot”, “ball”	
“I played soccer during lunch time with a foot”, “ball”	
“The bus driver drives a”, “bus”	0
“The bus driver’s job is to drive the”, “bus”	
“The bus driver helps people by driving the”, “bus”	
“I like my teddy”, “bear”	0
“I like to play with my teddy”, “bear”	
“My friends and I like to play with my teddy”, “bear”	
“If my hands are cold I wear”, “gloves”	0
“If I am cold on my hands I should wear my”, “gloves”	
“If my hands are cold to keep them warm I should wear my”, “gloves”	

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“The chicken laid an”, “egg”	0
“The mother chicken laid an”, “egg”	
“The mother chicken sat down in her nest and laid an”, “egg”	
“A robin is a”, “bird”	0
“A dog is an animal and a robin is a”, “bird”	
“A tree is a plant, a dog is an animal and a robin is a”, “bird”	
“A snowman is made of”, “snow”	0
“To make a snowman you need”, “snow”	
“To make a snowman in the winter you need”, “snow”	
“Every day I comb my”, “hair”	0
“Every day I wash and comb my”, “hair”	
“Every day in the morning I wash and comb my”, “hair”	
“With tooth paste I clean my”, “teeth”	0
“I have a tooth brush to help clean my”, “teeth”	
“I have a tooth brush and some tooth paste to clean my”, “teeth”	
“The spider has eight”, “legs”	0
“The big spider has eight hairy”, “legs”	
“The spider walking on the floor has eight hairy”, “legs”	
“Twinkle twinkle little”, “star”	0
“Twinkle twinkle goes the little”, “star”	
“In the sky at night, twinkle twinkle goes the little”, “star”	
“I went for a bicycle”, “ride”	0
“I put on my helmet and went for a bicycle”, “ride”	
“After school I put on my helmet and went for a bicycle”, “ride”	
“The speed of a snail is”, “slow”	0
“The snail lost the race because it was very”, “slow”	
“A snail takes a long time to move because its speed is very”, “slow.”	
“Snoopy is a”, “dog”	3.13
“Daffy is a duck and Snoopy is a”, “dog”	
“Tom is a cat, Daffy is a duck and Snoopy is a”, “dog”	
“At the cinema we watched a”, “film”	3.23
“I went to the cinema and watched a”, “film”	
“I went to the cinema with my friends and watched a”, “film”	
“A woman with a crown is called a”, “queen”	
“An important woman with a crown is called a”, “queen”	3.23
“An important woman who wears a gold crown is called a”, “queen”	
“He crossed the river in a rowing”, “boat”	3.23
“He rowed across the river in a rowing”, “boat”	
“He rowed really hard to get across the river in his rowing”, “boat”	
“A house is built with”, “bricks”	3.23
“You can build a house with”, “bricks”	
“To build a new house you will need lots of red bricks”	
“A post box is coloured”, “red”	3.23

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“The post box on the street is coloured”, “red”	
“I can find a post box – a post box is coloured”, “red”	
“A cow eats”, “grass”	3.23
“A cow eats long green”, “grass”	
“A cow lives in a field and eats long green”, “grass”	
“I see with my”, “eyes”	3.23
“We see things with our”, “eyes”	
“I can look around and see things with my”, “eyes”	
“Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”	3.23
“I like Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”	
“Mark heard the story of Goldilocks and the three”, “bears”	
“A dog can run very”, “fast”	3.23
“A dog is in the park and it runs very”, “fast”	
“Andrew plays with a dog in the park and it can run very”, “fast”	
“Jim likes to eat fish and”, “chips”	3.23
“Jim sometimes goes out to eat fish and”, “chips”	
“Jim likes to go out with his parents to eat fish and”, “chips”	
“A man with a crown is called a”, “king”	3.23
“An important man with a crown is called a”, “king”	
“An important man who wears a gold crown is called a”, “king”	
“I was reading a”, “book”	3.33
“Mum and I read a story from a”, “book”	
“I chose a story and then Mum and I read it from a”, “book”	
“I go to sleep in my”, “bed”	3.33
“At night time I go to sleep in my”, “bed”	
“When I am tired at night time I go to sleep in my”, “bed”	
“The baker made a loaf of”, “bread”	3.33
“Jane went to the baker who made a loaf of”, “bread”	
“Jane went to the baker and he then made a loaf of”, “bread”	
“My teeth are in my”, “mouth”	3.33
“My nice white teeth are in my”, “mouth”	
“You can see my nice white teeth when I open my”, “mouth”	
“Water makes plants”, “grow”	3.45
“Food and water makes plants”, “grow”	
“The sun, food and water make plants”, “grow”	
“A cat drinks”, “milk”	3.45
“The cat likes drinking”, “milk”	
“The thirsty cat wants to drink the creamy”, “milk”	
“Three and one makes”, “four”	5.56
“The number after two and three is”, “four”	
“The next number after one and two and three is”, “four”	
“I went to the pool to”, “swim”	6.25
“I went to the swimming pool with Dad to”, “swim”	

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“I went to the swimming pool and changed to go for a”, “swim”	
“Paint with a paint”, “brush”	6.25
“I paint on paper with a paint”, “brush”	
“I like to paint big pictures on paper with a paint”, “brush”	
““Moo moo” said the”, “cow”	6.45
““Moo moo” said the black and white”, “cow”	
“After milking was over “Moo moo” said the back and white”, “cow”	
“I wave goodbye with my”, “hand”	6.45
“I leave and wave goodbye with my”, “hand”	
“I leave my friends and wave goodbye with my”, “hand”	
“A fire feels very”, “hot”	6.45
“In the middle of a fire it feels very”, “hot”.	
“If I touched the fire then it would feel very”, “hot”	
“I put a hat on my”, “head”	6.45
“If it is cold I put a hat on my”, “head”	
If the sun is hot and bright I put a hat on my head.	
“The farmer lives on a”, “farm”	6.45
“The farmer and his sheep and pigs live on a”, “farm”	
“The farmer and his wife, with their sheep and pigs and cows live on a”, “farm”	
“The magician waved his magic”, “wand”	6.67
“When he did the trick the magician waved his magic”, “wand”	
“To make the funny trick work the magician waved his magic”, “wand”	
“The opposite of hot is”, “cold”	6.67
“We wear a coat when we are”, “cold”	
“In winter we all wear a coat because it is so”, “cold”	
“Mum made a birthday”, “cake”	7.14
“I blew the candles out on my birthday”, “cake”	
“I made a wish and blew the candles out on my birthday”, “cake”	
“My feet are at the end of my”, “legs”	7.40
“My feet and toes are at the end of my”, “legs”	
“My toes are at the end of my feet and my feet are at the end of my”, “legs”	
“An elephant has a long”, “trunk”	7.69
“An elephant’s long nose is called a”, “trunk”	
“An elephant has a long nose, which is called a”, “trunk”	
“I cut my food with a”, “knife”	8.82
“At lunchtime I cut my food with a”, “knife”	
“When I eat at the table I cut my food up with a “”, “knife”	
“The rocket went into”, “space”	9.68
“The rocket made a noise as it went into outer”, “space”	
“The rocket left earth with a noise and went up into outer”, “space”	

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“While sleeping I had a strange”, “dream”	9.68
“While I was sleeping I had a strange”, “dream”	
“While I was sleeping I had a strange and scary”, “dream”	
“The dog chased the”, “cat”	10.00
“The big noisy dog chased the”, “cat”	
“The big noisy dog barked and chased after the”, “cat”	
“Stop look and”, “listen”	10.34
“We have to stop look and”, “listen”	
“To cross the road we have to stop look and”, “listen”	
“To keep hair short it is”, “cut”	11.11
“If my hair gets too long I have it”, “cut”	
“If my hair is too long I go to the hairdressers to have it”, “cut”	
“A cat has baby”, “kittens”	13.30
“A mother cat has baby”, “kittens”	
“A mother dog has puppies and a mother cat has baby”, “kittens”	
“Leaves grow in the big”, “trees”	16.13
“The leaves grow in the big tall”, “trees”	
“In the spring the leaves start growing on the big tall”, “trees”	
“Wool comes from”, “sheep”	16.13
“The farm animals that wool comes from are”, “sheep”	
“The farm animals that the farmer gets wool from are called”, “sheep”	
““Quack quack” said the”, “duck”	16.67
““Quack quack” said the mother to the little”, “duck”	
“On the pond “quack quack” said mother to the little”, “duck”	
“A clown has a happy”, “face”	16.67
“The clown had a big smiling”, “face”	
“A clown always has a big smile on his”, “face”	
“He has a bow and”, “arrow”	18.75
“He aimed with his new bow and”, “arrow”	
“He aimed at the apple and shot it with his bow and”, “arrow”	
“My hand is at the end of my”, “arm”	22.22
“My fingers and hands are at the end of my”, “arms”	
“My fingers are at the end of my hands and my hands are at the end of my”, “arms”	
“The opposite of fat is”, “thin”	24.14
“The complete opposite of fat is”, “thin”	
“The complete opposite of fat is called”, “thin”	
“A baby dog is called a”, “puppy”	26.47
“When a baby dog is young it is called a”, “puppy”	
“When a baby dog is young and needs its mother it is called a”, “puppy”	

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“It stuck together with”, “glue”	60.71
“I stuck them together with some sticky”, “glue”	
“I stuck my finished work together with some sticky”, “glue”	

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Sentence Length. One-Word Sentences. Sentence Structure. Theoretically speaking a sentence can be of any length, as there are no linguistic limitations for its growth, so even monstrous constructions of several hundred words each, technically should be viewed as sentences. Indeed, psychologically, no reader is prepared to perceive as a syntactical whole those sentences in which the punctuation mark of a full stop comes after the 124th word (Joyce Carol Oates. Expensive People), or 128th word (E. Hemingway. The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber), or 256th word (T. Pynchon. An exercise for IELTS Reading Sentence Completion. Read the passage below and then answer the questions. The War on Smoking. Make no mistake, the move to introduce plain packaging is just the latest front in the war against smoking. One requires just brief notes and the other requires grammatically correct sentences to be completed. We don't use articles or prepositions in most notes, but we do in sentences. Reply. Austine says. The closest answer in the passage was "adult's working life", and the model answer in the answer key was give as "a lifetime." So can you actually have completely different words to fill in but conveying the same meaning or do the words have to be the exact from the passage/paragraph? How about other categories of the questions also? Sentence completion norms for children and adolescents are provided in the online supplement. For each valid response, cloze probability (the number of times the same word was chosen by a specific group for a given sentence context) was computed. Additionally, in order to understand how the production of less common words and invalid responses differed across groups, the numbers of idiosyncratic (valid words generated by only 1 individual) and invalid (words that do not appropriately complete the sentence) responses were computed. Invalid responses were classified as structural or semantic err