

A. Read the following text and answer the questions.

Delays on the San Miguel Project

The team working on the San Miguel overpass had a difficult weekend. The lead engineer was supposed to review the safety reports, but that task was postponed. He later admitted he should have stayed at the site and finished the documentation, especially with the inspection coming up.

On Saturday, some of the team members thought they needed to have more materials for the drainage installation, so they ordered extra supplies. In the end, the order wasn't urgent, and the budget was affected. They didn't have to go to the supplier in person, but they decided to go anyway, which took up most of the afternoon.

On Sunday, another group visited the storage unit to prepare equipment for the week. Because of safety regulations, they had to wear a uniform, including helmets and reflective vests. However, some of the inspection group members didn't follow the rules as they were supposed to, and they were called-out.

Now that Monday has arrived and the deadlines are approaching, several team members agree they should have used their time more efficiently over the weekend.

1. What was the lead engineer supposed to do?

- a. He was supposed to call the contractors over some documents.
- b. He was supposed to check some safety-related documents.
- c. He was supposed to sign some safety documents.
- d. He was supposed to postpone the signing of some documents.

2. The engineer shouldn't have procrastinated on his tasks at the site. T / F

3. Fortunately, the inspection is not happening soon. T / F

4. Mention the two actions that the team didn't have to do, but did anyway.

- _____.
- _____.

5. What type of preparation was necessary from the team that visited the storage unit?

- a. They had to ask for special permits to move around the inspection site.
- b. They had to inform their manager that they were going to the storage unit.
- c. They had to wear protective clothing as stated by the inspection rules.
- d. They had to leave any potentially flammable objects at the inspection site.

6. State at least 3 things that the inspection team should have done better.

Follow the example: *The inspection team should have pressured the engineer to check the documents.*

- _____.
- _____.
- _____.

B. Read the following text and answer the questions below.

The Airport Renovation Setback

The team was working on the final phase of the airport renovation when unexpected problems appeared. A lack of coordination between two subcontractors made the situation worse, and tension grew quickly.

To stay away from more conflict, the site manager held a quick meeting. The goal was to pinpoint the main issue before things got out of control. After some discussion, they realized that poor scheduling had led to two teams arriving to work in the same space at the same time.

Instead of pretending the situation wasn't happening, the manager chose to address it directly. He asked both teams to propose solutions and handle the task together. It wasn't easy, but they eventually came across a compromise that worked for everyone.

In the end, better planning could have fixed the issue earlier, but the team learned from the experience and finished the week with a stronger process.

1. In the text, the sentence "a lack of coordination made the situation worse" could be replaced by...

- a. A lack of coordination caused the situation.
- b. A lack of coordination originated the situation.
- c. A lack of coordination aggravated the situation.
- d. A lack of coordination solved the situation.

2. The meeting that the site manager proposed is a way of...

- a. Aggravating the situation.
- b. Avoiding more conflict.
- c. Causing more problems.
- d. Identifying the cause.

3. In the text, poor scheduling had led to logistical problems, which means...

- a. Poor scheduling caused logistical problems.
- b. Poor scheduling dealt with logistical problems.
- c. Poor scheduling ran into logistical problems.
- d. Poor scheduling avoided logistical problems.

4. In the text, the sentence “the manager chose to address the situation directly” could be replaced by...

- a. The manager avoided the situation.
- b. The manager aggravated the situation.
- c. The manager dealt with the situation.
- d. The manager ignored the situation.

5. The best synonym of “The goal was to pinpoint the main issue” is...

- a. The goal was to aggravate the main issue.
- b. The goal was to run into the main issue.
- c. The goal was to ignore the main issue.
- d. The goal was to identify the main issue.

6. In the text, the sentence “instead of pretending the situation wasn’t happening” could be replaced by...

- a. Instead of solving the problem
- b. Instead of ignoring the problem
- c. Instead of causing a problem
- d. Instead of identifying the problem

7. In the end, “they eventually came across a compromise” which means...

- a. They ran into a compromise.
- b. They ignored the compromise.
- c. They identified a compromise.
- d. They avoided a compromise.

8. In the text, the sentence “better planning could have fixed the issue earlier” could be replaced by...

- a. Better planning could have caused other problems from the start
- b. Better planning could have aggravated the initial problem
- c. Better planning could have solved the problem earlier
- d. Better planning could have made them run into more problems

C. Read the following text and fill in the gaps with the verbs of belief that correspond. Remember to make the necessary changes.

assume – suspect – be positive – be sure – bet – suppose – doubt – know for a fact – ~~have a hunch~~

I arrived at the office this morning and noticed my manager wasn't there. I had a hunch something unusual was going on—she's never late. Some people _____ she just took the day off, but I'm not so sure. I _____ she's dealing with a family emergency. Apparently, no one knew that she would be absent. I _____ we were all caught off guard.

However, I _____ that she'll be coming into the office later today. I wouldn't _____ on it being before lunch, though.

She's very responsible, so I _____ she is absent with a good reason. I _____ she'll be back tomorrow.