

Task 1

You are going to read an article about what silence might mean. Some words are missing from the text. Use the words in brackets to form the words that fit in the gaps (1-9). Then write the appropriate form of these words on the lines after the text. There might be cases when you do not have to change the word in brackets. Use only one word for each gap. There is an example (0) at the beginning.



THE POWER OF SILENCE

Studies show that typically we leave just a fraction of a second between taking turns to talk. But while this pattern may be (0) universal (universe), our perceptions of silence differ (1) (dramatic) across cultures. Native English speakers tend to be most uncomfortable with long gaps in a discussion. And yet, knowing when to be tight-lipped can give you the upper hand in everything from sales deals and pay (2) (negotiate) to presentations and staff development. Silence really is golden. Research conducted at the University of Groningen found that when a silence in conversation stretched to four seconds, people started to feel (3) (confuse). A separate study of business meetings found that (4) (Japan) people were happy with silences of 8.2 seconds – (5) (near) twice as long as in Americans' meetings. The Finns – who respect (6) (private), reserve and the art of listening – are also happy to sit in studied thoughtfulness. The fact that English speakers generally dread silence is partly why it can be such a (7) (power) tool. Learning how to face silence is an (8) (essence) skill, says psychologist Matthew MacLachlan. "Chinese negotiators are very, very aware that Americans like to fill silences and they are trained to stay silent and (9) (emotion) because that will make the Americans uncomfortable and possibly make concessions without the Chinese having to do anything," he says. So, what's the best response? "Grit your teeth and wait it out. Don't offer a compromise or concession just because they are not speaking."

(<http://www.bbc.com>)

Task 2

You are going to read an article about the history of a commonly used phrase. Some words are missing from the text. Choose the most appropriate answer from the options (A-D) for each gap (10-18) in the text. Write the letter of the appropriate answer in the white box. There is one example (0) at the beginning.



ROGER THAT

The term "Roger that" is a widespread term for confirmation, (0) C between truckers on their CB radios, kids playing back and forth with walkie-talkies, or even face to face. It's easy to (10) the phrase and understand what it means without ever really knowing (11) . So here's a brief history for you.

"Roger" comes from the phonetic alphabet (12) by military and aviation personnel during WWII, when the use of two-way radios became the main form of communication, and operators needed crystal clear ways to spell things out with (13) for misinterpretation.

But the use of "Roger" as a confirmation has roots (14) go back even further. In the Morse code days, when sending long messages (15) exhausting, a useful shorthand was to respond with single, meaningful letters. Responding to a message with the letter "R," for instance, simply let the sender know that their message (16) received. When two-way radio (17) , the shorthand continued, but with the word "Roger" instead of "R" itself.

(18) Roger has since been replaced with Romeo (and was "Robert" before it was ever Roger), the widespread use of two-way radio during WWII wildly popularized the saying we still use so casually today.

(<http://www.popularmechanics.com>)

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|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 0) <u>A both</u> | <u>B in</u> | <u>C whether</u> | <u>D useful</u> |
| 10) A adapt | B admit | C add | D adopt |
| 11) A where it comes from | B what is its origin | C where did we borrow it | D what does it say |
| 12) A been used | B that used | C used | D to be used |
| 13) A failure | B no way | C lack | D no room |
| 14) A might | B that | C all | D what |
| 15) A must be | B could be | C were | D ought to be |
| 16) A had been | B is to be | C would be | D has been |
| 17) A came back | B came up | C came along | D came to |
| 18) A Despite | B However, | C Since | D Even though |

Task 3

You are going to read an article about a special marriage proposal. Some words are missing from the text. Your task is to write the missing words on the dotted lines (19-26) after the text. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

THE SWEETEST TATTOO

While most people's tattoos have meanings behind them, one guy now has an inking more moving (0) than most – his proposal. When Vinny Smith, a tattoo artist from Denver, decided he (19) was going to propose to his girlfriend, Brooke Wodark, he just knew he had to (20) because his profession involved somehow.

Vinny had first met Brooke (21) while tattooing her in his studio – and so he decided to take the proposal back to the day they met, but this time, with Brooke in the tattooist's seat.

Not wanting to give anything away, Vinny asked Brooke to come along to the studio to tattoo his ankle with a delicate heart. As she (22) had never tattooed anyone before, Brooke was incredibly nervous and was shaking at the thought of putting the needle to her partner's leg. Her hands became even more unstable when Vinny, (23) because she had been dating for a year and a half, pulled up his trousers to reveal a new tattoo that asked (24) for her hand in marriage.

Vinny had also inked two boxes, one for 'yes' and one for 'no', underneath the drawing. Brooke was (25) to give her answer to his proposal with an 'X' inking. Of course, Brooke inked an X into the 'yes' box – though she was shaking (26) so much that the X later had to be re-touched to make the tattoo cleaner.

(<http://metro.co.uk>)

Task 4

You are going to read an article about an innovative business idea. In most lines there is one word that should not be there. It is either grammatically incorrect or does not fit in with the sense of the text. Read the text and then copy the extra word in the space provided after each line. Some lines are correct. Indicate these lines with an "OK". The task begins with two examples (0).

GEESE POLICE

Coming up with winning business concepts is not easy. However,

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| 0) | there is one of simple recipe: combine a need with something you | <u>of</u> |
| 0) | love. David Marcks discovered a great business opportunity when he | <u>OK</u> |
| 27) | used his dog to solve a problem that he constantly faced with when | <u> </u> |
| 28) | working at a golf course – the so increasing number of geese. While | <u> </u> |
| 29) | they add a "natural look" to golf courses, no one else would want to | <u> </u> |
| 30) | play on a golf course where the grass couldn't be seen under the cover | <u> </u> |
| 31) | of goose droppings. David had not tried sprays, fences and flags to | <u> </u> |
| 32) | chase geese away but nothing worked. One day, however, he has | <u> </u> |
| 33) | discovered that his Border Collie had a natural talent for driving geese | <u> </u> |
| 34) | away. David started his company Geese Police in 1986. They use to | <u> </u> |
| 35) | trained Border Collies as to drive away the geese from town parks and | <u> </u> |

golf courses without harming them. Today, the company earns more than \$3 million a year.

(<https://www.powerhomebiz.com>)