

Close Comprehension Practice 3

Read each pair of sentences below. Then change a word from the first sentence to complete the second sentence. You may not use a word from the first sentence just as it is; the word must be in a different form to be correct. Only **ONE WORD** can be used in each blank. **DO NOT TRY TO USE TWO!** Write the word you make in the blank space.

EXAMPLE: **Billy plays basketball.**
 Billy is a basketball player.

1. Long ago most people couldn't even write their own names. They just wrote X or a cross to stand for their names.

Long ago a cross or X _____ for people's names.

2. Then they kissed the paper the X was written on to show that they were sincere.

People would put a _____ on the paper that had the X on it. People did this to show their _____.

3. Diamonds are often worth a lot of money. Just how much money a diamond is worth depends on many things.

How much a diamond is worth is _____ on many things.

4. It doesn't just depend on a diamond's size. It also depends on its colour, hardness, brilliance, the family from which it comes and how well it is cut.

Other things influence a diamond's size, like what colour a diamond is, how _____ it is, how _____ it shines, and the family it from which it comes.

5. Many of the diamonds that have been discovered were found by chance. Often people didn't know that they had found a diamond.

Many diamonds have been chance _____. Often, the fact that they had found a diamond was _____ to people.

6. The attractive, greasy-looking pebble caught their eye. Sometimes years passed before people found out that their sparkling stones were diamonds.

The greasy-looking pebble _____ their eye. After the _____ of some years, people found out that the stones were diamonds.