

WHAT IS A BRIDGE-SENTENCE?

Now let's take a closer look at making up sentences for the key words in an analogy problem. The sentences that we made in the last section formed something like a bridge between the two key words. Just as a bridge joins two shores of a river, each of our sentences joined the key words in a simple sentence that made sense. That's why we call this type of sentence a *Bridge-Sentence*.

Using the Key Words in Reverse Order

Sometimes it's easier to construct a bridge-sentence by reversing the order of the key words. For example, if you are given the key words BLACKBOARD : CHALK, you might make up a bridge-sentence with the key words reversed. It would read like this:

You use chalk on a blackboard.

Here are some examples of two different ways to construct bridge-sentences for key words:

Key Words	Sentences
RADIO : MUSIC	<i>A radio plays music.</i> or <i>Music is played on a radio.</i>
TYPEWRITER : KEYS	<i>A typewriter has keys.</i> or <i>Keys are part of a typewriter.</i>
NECKLACE : BEADS	<i>A necklace is made up of beads.</i> or <i>Beads make up a necklace.</i>
HAMMER : CARPENTER	<i>A hammer is used by a carpenter.</i> or <i>A carpenter uses a hammer.</i>
WRESTLER : POWERFUL	<i>A wrestler is powerful.</i> or <i>The word powerful describes a wrestler.</i>

Now let's look at the complete analogy problem containing the key words BLACKBOARD : CHALK.

Problem

BLACKBOARD : CHALK : :

- a. music : song
- b. grass : lawn
- c. ink : pen
- d. nail : wood
- c. paper : pencil

Bridge-Sentence: *You use chalk on a blackboard.*

Remember, since the order of the words is reversed in the bridge-sentence for the key words, the order of the words in all the choices must also be reversed when you make up bridge-sentences for them.

Sentences

- a. *You use a song on music.*
- b. *You use a lawn on grass.*
- c. *You use a pen on ink.*
- d. *You use wood on a nail.*
- e. *You use a pencil on paper.*

Answer: (e) paper : pencil

Analyses

- No. This is not true.
- This doesn't make sense, either.
- Never.
- No. You use a nail on wood.
- Yes. This makes sense.

Here's another analogy problem.

Problem

ENEMY : FEUD : :

- a. meal : eat
- b. knowledge : study
- c. scene : observe
- d. thief : respect
- e. rival : quarrel

You might try a bridge-sentence like this:

An enemy is a person with whom you feud.

That's okay, but if you find the phrasing a bit awkward, you reverse the key words, as is done in the following sentence.

Bridge-Sentence: *You feud with an enemy.*

Sentences

- a. *You eat with a meal.*
- b. *You study with knowledge.*
- c. *You observe with a scene.*
- d. *You respect with a thief.*
- e. *You quarrel with a rival.*

Analyses

- No. You eat a meal, but you don't eat *with* a meal.
- When you study you are usually seeking knowledge that you do not have. This sentence, therefore, does not seem like a good choice.
- No. You observe a scene.
- This sentence doesn't make sense.
- This fits the pattern of the bridge-sentence exactly, so this is the best choice.

Answer: (e) rival : quarrel
