Working with Analogies

SPI 0801.5.5 Choose a logical word to complete an analogy, using synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, categories/subcategories, whole/part, functions, verb forms, rhymes, scrambled words, homophones.
Analogies test your ability to:

• Recognize the relationship between the words in a word pair
• Recognize when two word pairs display equal relationships
To answer an analogy question you must:

- Recognize the relationship between the words in the given word pair
- Select the answer containing words related to one another in *most nearly the same way*
- Recognize when two word pairs display equal relationships
Analogies look like this:
Up:Down :: Over:Under
Up is to Down as Over is to Under
Examples of possible relationships in an analogy:

- Synonyms or antonyms
- A part to the whole
- A member to the category that contains it
- Cause to effect (or effect to cause)
- Varying degrees of a quantity or quality
- Object to function
Here is one example of Synonym relationships:

Infant: Baby:: Grown-Up: ________?

Infant: Baby:: Grown-Up: Adult
Here is one example of Antonym relationships:
Big:Small::Full:_________
Big:Small::Full:Empty
Here is one example of Part to Whole relationships:

Wheel:Car::Branch:________?

Wheel:Car::Branch:Tree
Here is one example of Member to Category relationships:

Apple:Fruit::Carrot:________?

Apple:Fruit::Carrot:Vegetable
Here is one example of Cause Effect relationships:

Sliver:Pain::Heat:__________

Sliver:Pain::Heat:Boil
Here is one example Matters of Degree relationships:

Warm: Hot:: Cool: ______?

Warm: Hot:: Cool: Frigid
Here is one example of Object to Function relationships:

Truck: Transport::Oven: ______?

Truck: Transport::Oven: bake
PRACTICE

Can you identify the relationship?

1. PLATOON:SOLDIER
2. HOT:SCALDING
3. STARVATION:BINGING
4. GILLS:BREATHING
5. PERSUASIVE:CONVINCING
6. SOCCER:SPORT

a) Synonyms or antonyms
b) A part to the whole
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Approaches that may be helpful in answering analogy questions:

• Try to determine the precise relationship between the words in the given pair
• Form a sentence that captures the relationship between the two words
• Then look for the answer choice containing the word pair whose relationship is closest to that of the given pair and can be expressed in a similar fashion
Example

APPLE : FRUIT ::

A. Salad : Mix
B. Orange : Banana
C. Juice : Can
D. Slice : Core
E. Butterfly : Insect
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How do you know if you have a good sentence?

• Look at the answer choices
• If more than one answer choice seems to fit, then your sentence is too general
• If none of them work, then your sentence is too specific
Example

PEN : WRITE ::
A. Pencil : Sharpen
B. Ink : Blue
C. Letter : Compose
D. Knife : Cut
E. Mistake : Erase
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Helpful Approaches con’t:

- Pay attention to the order of the words in the pair
- Pay attention to the parts of speech
- The relationships you need to explain will be constant relationships
- Analogy questions are vocabulary intensive
- Remember that a single word can have several different meanings
- Never decide on the best answer without reading all the answer choices
- Practice recognizing and formulating relationships between word pairs
Practice

Large : Big::
A. Remember : Forget
B. Triumph: Success
C. Nostril : Smell
D. Audio : Hear
E. Glasses : See
Practice

Large : Big::
A. Remember : Forget
B. **Triumph:** **Success**
C. Nostril : Smell
D. Audio : Hear
E. Glasses : See
Practice

Bat : Hitter
A. Score: Win
B. Walk : Run
C. Mars : Venus
D. Stick : Hockey Player
E. Basketball: Hoop
Bat : Hitter
A. Score: Win
B. Walk : Run
C. Mars : Venus
D. **Stick : Hockey Player**
E. Basketball: Hoop
Practice

Come : Came::
A. Walk : Walking
B. Ride : Rode
C. Left : Arrived
D. Did : Had Done
E. See : Seen
Practice

Come : Came ::
A. Walk : Walking
B. **Ride** : **Rode**
C. Left : Arrived
D. Did : Had Done
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Online Practice

- Analogies Game
- Awesome Analogies
- Gamequarium Analogies
- Analogy of the Day
Written Practice

- Sampler Daily Analogies
- Understanding Analogies
- Analogies Worksheet
- Analogies Dining
- Analogies Notes
- Analogies Graphic Organizer