

B1 Preliminary · Reading Parts 5–6: lexical and open cloze

B1 Preliminary strategy notes; invented examples, not official Cambridge items.

The chess opening and the kitchen

Part 5 is a chess opening — many moves look natural, one is right. Part 6 is still the kitchen: cook the word yourself.

The near-synonym minefield

- 1 **The gap** She ____ me a story. A) say B) tell C) speak D) talk.
- 2 **The collocation** tell a story — the fixed pair.
- 3 **The others** say takes the words; speak takes languages; talk takes about.

Decision

Meaning alone is not enough; the company the word keeps decides.

Your turn: the party

Your turn

We ____ a lot of photos during the trip.

- A. made
- B. took
- C. did
- D. got

The open cloze, B1 edition

The gap's job	The B1 answers
articles / prepositions	a, an, the / in, on, at, by, for, with
pronouns / relatives	it, they, who, which, that, where
auxiliaries and modals	is, are, was, has, had, would, could
linkers	but, so, because, although, if, when
fixed phrases	there is/are, as soon as, used to

Use the evidence

The relative pronouns join the menu: the shop where I bought it.

Your turn: the helper gap

Your turn

I ____ never seen snow before that winter.

- ☐ A. have
- ☐ B. had
- ☐ C. did
- ☐ D. was

The fake friendliness

All four options look friendly at B1

At A2, two options were obviously wrong; at B1, all four smile at you.

Slow down and check the collocation and the after-word: she insisted ____ going — on.

Try it

- 1 **Part 5 style** We ____ a lot of photos during the trip. — took.
- 2 **Part 6 style** The film ____ we watched last night was amazing. — that/which.
- 3 **The lesson** The shelf and the kitchen are both open at B1.

Decision

Collocation for the shelf; the small grammar words for the kitchen.

Check yourself

- She told me a story — the collocation decides.
- listen to music — the gap owns its neighbour.
- The shop where I bought it — the relative joins the menu.
- I had never seen snow — the helper fills the gap.