COMMONLY CONFUSED AND MISUSED WORDS

Directions: Choose the right answer for each item below.

1. Even though we warned Jake not to eat a (A) hole pie at one sitting, he (B) sat at the kitchen table and (C) proceeded to consume slice after slice.

   A. whole
   B. set
   C. preceded
   D. No change is necessary.

2. Give Jerrod a (A) compliment because his shoelaces (B) complement the colors in his plaid shirt. His fashion (C) since is gradually improving.

   A. complement
   B. compliment
   C. sense
   D. No change is necessary.

3. If you go (A) by the supermarket, (B) buy a package of hotdog buns. (C) Than we can grill the sausage for dinner.

   A. buy
   B. by
   C. Then
   D. No change is necessary.
4. Heed my (A) **advice**, and don’t (B) **loose** your receipt. The college bookstore will not (C) **accept** any excuse if you need to return those books.

   A. advise  
   B. lose  
   C. except  
   D. No change is necessary.

5. The (A) **heard** of gazelle leaped (B) **through** the air as the animals tried to (C) **elude** the cheetah.

   A. herd  
   B. threw  
   C. allude  
   D. No change is necessary.

6. (A) **Maybe** Gerald is caught in traffic, or he (B) **maybe** flirting with the cute cafeteria cashier. Either way, don’t (C) **accept** any excuse for his tardiness.

   A. May be  
   B. may be  
   C. except  
   D. No change is necessary.

7. When (A) **there** are (B) **fewer** students in a class, the professor has (C) **less** worries that everyone is getting individual attention.

   A. their  
   B. less  
   C. fewer  
   D. No change is necessary.
8. We (A) **were** successful baking 300 cupcakes for the charity event, but today (B) **we’re** exhausted after spending all night preparing the (C) **desserts**.

A. we’re  
B. were  
C. deserts  
D. No change is necessary.

9. Gregory (A) **passed** his chemistry final, so now he won’t (B) **lose** his scholarship. As he walked (C) **past** the diner, he rewarded himself with a milkshake.

A. past  
B. lose  
C. passed  
D. No change is necessary.

10. Mr. Ramos hopes to (A) **except** the bid on the house. He has agreed to all the buyer’s conditions, (B) **except** retiling the master bathroom (C) **since** it would be too much work.

A. accept  
B. accept  
C. sense  
D. No change is necessary.