

Cambridge First Certificate (FCE) Key Word Sentence Transformations Student A

Without looking at your partner's worksheet, work together to decide if each pair of sentences below has (exactly) the same meaning or if the two similar sentences actually have (slightly or very) different meanings. Write S if they mean the same thing or D if there is some kind of difference in meaning.

1. Tom thought the film would be funnier than it was.
2. I regret not spending more time with him.
3. Tom sent the naked photos of his boss by accident.
4. Tom has the skills to win the competition.
5. Tom asked John if he knew what the best souvenir would be.
6. Tom asked John if he knew the time of the fireworks display.
7. "Is there a newsagent's near here?" asked Tom.
8. Everyone says that the president has a secret Swiss bank account.
9. We won't cancel the picnic despite the sun disappearing.
10. Italian cheese is being labelled as Russian to the sanctions.
11. I will get in touch with you by Monday.
12. I only went to the cram school because all my friends went there.
13. Tom had never been robbed before.
14. John has a key, so it is possible that it was him.
15. My boss is too inflexible to accept those kinds of new ideas.
16. Instead of searching for the spare key, he just climbed in through the window.
17. You shouldn't pay attention to his feedback.
18. Tom is the only person who fancies Indian food.
19. "What is the length of the run?" the woman asked.

20. Tom asked if he could change the photo on his security card.
21. The last time I cried was when the movie ET first came out.
22. Sometimes a drop in temperature causes it to rain.
23. We will be able to catch the last train unless they have to take penalties at the end.
24. The new product was so successful that it sold out in ten minutes.

Hint: There should be the same number of S ones and D ones above.

Look at both worksheets to start checking your answers.

Check your answers as a class or with the answer key.

Cambridge First Certificate (FCE) Key Word Sentence Transformations Student B

Without looking at your partner's worksheet, work together to decide if each pair of sentences below has (exactly) the same meaning or if the two similar sentences actually have (slightly or very) different meanings. Write S if they mean the same thing or D if there is some kind of difference in meaning.

1. The film was not as funny as Tom thought it would be.
2. I wish I spent more time with him.
3. Tom meant to send the naked photos of his boss.
4. Tom is so skilful that he could win the competition.
5. Tom asked John whether he knew what the best souvenir would be.
6. Tom asked "What time is the fireworks display, John?"
7. "Is there a newsagent's near here?" Tom asked.
8. The president said that he has a secret Swiss bank account.
9. We won't call the picnic off even if the sun disappears.
10. They label Italian cheese as Russian to avoid the sanctions.
11. I won't contact you until Monday.
12. I wouldn't have gone to the cram school if all my friends hadn't gone there.
13. It was the first time that anyone had ever robbed Tom.
14. It could be John because he has a key.
15. My boss isn't flexible enough to accept those kinds of new ideas.
16. Rather than climbing in through the window, he just searched for the spare key.
17. If I were you, I wouldn't ignore his feedback.
18. Apart from Tom, everybody wants to eat Indian food.
19. The woman asked how long the run was.

20. "Would it be possible to change the photo on my security card?" said Tom.
21. I haven't cried since the movie ET first came out.
22. Sometimes there is a drop in temperature because of the rain.
23. We will be able to catch the last train as long as they don't have to take penalties at the end.
24. The new product was such a success that there were none left after ten minutes.

Hint: There should be the same number of S ones and D ones above.

Look at both worksheets to start checking your answers.

Check your answers as a class or with the answer key.

Without looking back at your worksheets for now, try to remember or think of a sentence which has (exactly) the same meaning as each one given below, using the key word (without changing the key word in any way).

Tom thought the film would be funnier than it was.
NOT

I regret not spending more time with him.
WISH

Tom sent the naked photos of his boss by accident.
MEAN

Tom has the skills to win the competition.
SO

Tom asked John if he knew what the best souvenir would be.
WHETHER

Tom asked John if he knew the time of the fireworks display.
DO

“Is there a newsagent’s near here?” asked Tom.
ASKED

Everyone says that the president has a secret Swiss bank account.
SAID

We won’t cancel the picnic despite the sun disappearing.
EVEN

Italian cheese is being labelled as Russian to the sanctions.
THEY

I will get in touch with you by Monday.
LATER

I only went to the cram school because all my friends went there.
IF

Tom had never been robbed before.
FIRST

John has a key, so it is possible that it was him.
COULD

My boss is too inflexible to accept those kinds of new ideas.

FLEXIBLE

Instead of searching for the spare key, he just climbed in through the window.

RATHER

You shouldn't pay attention to his feedback.

I

Tom is the only person who fancies Indian food.

APART

"What is the length of the run?" the woman asked.

WAS

Tom asked if he could change the photo on his security card.

WOULD

The last time I cried was when the movie ET first came out.

SINCE

Sometimes a drop in temperature causes it to rain.

BECAUSE

We will be able to catch the last train unless they have to take penalties at the end.

DON'T

The new product was so successful that it sold out in ten minutes.

SUCH

Check your answers as a class or with the answer key.

Suggested answers

Different ones are in bold with the ones with the meaning afterwards following a dash.

Tom thought the film would be funnier than it was.
The film was not as funny as Tom thought it would be.

I regret not spending more time with him.
I wish I spent more time with him. – I wish I had spent more time with him.

Tom sent the naked photos of his boss by accident.
Tom meant to send the naked photos of his boss. – Tom didn't mean to send the naked photos of his boss.

Tom has the skills to win the competition.
Tom is so skilful that he could win the competition.

Tom asked John if he knew what the best souvenir would be.
Tom asked John whether he knew what the best souvenir would be.

Tom asked John if he knew the time of the fireworks display.
Tom asked "What time is the fireworks display, John?" – Tom asked "Do you know what time the fireworks display is, John?"

"Is there a newsagent's near here?" asked Tom.
"Is there a newsagent's near here?" Tom asked.

Everyone says that the president has a secret Swiss bank account.
The president said that he has a secret Swiss bank account. – The president is said to have a secret Swiss bank account.

We won't cancel the picnic despite the sun disappearing.
We won't call the picnic off even if the sun disappears. – We won't call the picnic off even though the sun has disappeared.

Italian cheese is being labelled as Russian to the sanctions.
They label Italian cheese as Russian to avoid the sanctions. – They are labelling Italian cheese as Russian to avoid the sanctions.

I will get in touch with you by Monday.
I won't contact you until Monday. – I won't contact you later than Monday.

I only went to the cram school because all my friends went there.
I wouldn't have gone to the cram school if all my friends hadn't gone there.

Tom had never been robbed before.
It was the first time that anyone had ever robbed Tom.

John has a key, so it is possible that it was him.
It could be John because he has a key. – It could have been John because he has a key.

My boss is too inflexible to accept those kinds of new ideas.
My boss isn't flexible enough to accept those kinds of new ideas.

Instead of searching for the spare key, he just climbed in through the window.
Rather than climbing in through the window, he just searched for the spare key. –
Rather than searching for the spare key, he just climbed in through the window.

You shouldn't pay attention to his feedback.
If I were you, I wouldn't ignore his feedback. – If I were you, I would ignore his feedback.

Tom is the only person who fancies Indian food.
Apart from Tom, everybody wants to eat Indian food. – Apart from Tom, no one wants to eat Indian food.

"What is the length of the run?" the woman asked.
The woman asked how long the run was.

Tom asked if he could change the photo on his security card.
"Would it be possible to change the photo on my security card?" said Tom.

The last time I cried was when the movie ET first came out.
I haven't cried since the movie ET first came out.

Sometimes a drop in temperature causes it to rain.
Sometimes there is a drop in temperature because of the rain. – Sometimes there is rain because of a drop in temperature.

We will be able to catch the last train unless they have to take penalties at the end.
We will be able to catch the last train as long as they don't have to take penalties at the end.

The new product was so successful that it sold out in ten minutes.
The new product was such a success that there were none left after ten minutes.

Write similar tasks to test another team with, maybe using a real exam book to help you.