

**Correct the typical Cambridge First Certificate (FCE) Use of English key word sentence transformation mistakes**

*A candidate has answered all the FCE Use of English Part Four questions below but has made one mistake in each answer. Find the one error in each gap and correct it.*

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

**COULD**

I \_\_\_\_\_ WISH I COULD COME \_\_\_\_\_ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

**TIME**

Tom asked John what \_\_\_\_\_ TIME DID HE WANT TO \_\_\_\_\_ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

**HARDLY**

There are \_\_\_\_\_ HARDLY PLACES LEFT \_\_\_\_\_ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

**BOUGHT**

An increasing number of vinyl records \_\_ARE BOUGHT FROM \_\_\_\_\_ music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

**SALE**

The new mePhone 7 will not \_\_\_\_\_ BE ON SALE BY \_\_\_\_\_ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

**BEEN**

I would have gone skiing if \_\_\_\_\_ IT HADN'T BEEN SNOWED \_\_\_\_\_ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

### FIRST

It \_\_\_\_\_ IS THE FIRST TIME THAT \_\_\_Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

### KNOWN

I \_\_\_\_\_ COULD NOT KNOWN \_\_\_\_\_ that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

### LONG

The time available \_\_\_\_\_ WASN'T ENOUGH LONG \_\_\_\_\_ to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

### FEW

Very \_\_\_\_\_ A FEW MINDS WERE CHANGED \_\_\_\_\_ in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

### INSTEAD

We lost the contract because we emphasized price \_ INSTEAD OF STRESS OUR\_ technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

### THINK

Tom advised me \_\_\_\_\_ NOT THINKING TOO LONG \_\_\_\_\_ before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

### SUCH

He \_\_\_\_\_ HAS SUCH A MESSY NOTES \_\_\_\_\_ that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

### WORTH

It's \_\_\_\_\_ NOT WORTH TO ASK \_\_\_\_\_ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

### HAD

I have never \_\_\_\_\_ HAD MY HAIR CUT SUCH \_\_\_\_\_ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

### LENDING

Would \_\_\_\_\_ YOU LENDING ME \_\_\_\_\_ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

### ALTHOUGH

Tom has quit his job, although \_\_\_\_\_ NOT HAVING ANOTHER \_\_\_\_\_ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

### BETTER

You \_\_\_\_\_ HAD BETTER TO GET YOUR \_\_\_\_\_ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

### CASE

I'll take a map \_\_\_\_\_ IN CASE OF TOM DOESN'T \_\_\_\_\_ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

### FAULT

It was \_\_\_\_\_ MY FAULY WHY WE COULDN'T \_\_\_\_\_ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

### FOR

It \_\_\_\_\_ SPENT FIVE YEAR FOR TOM'S \_\_\_\_\_ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

**LET**

Tom's boss \_\_\_\_\_ WOULDN'T LET HIM TO HIRE \_\_\_\_\_ more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

**MUST**

This \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRANCE MUST NOT LOCKED \_\_\_\_\_ during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

**MAY**

Tom \_\_\_\_\_ MAY LEFT \_\_\_\_\_ it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

**LONG**

Tom's essay was \_\_\_\_\_ NOT TOO LONG TO \_\_\_\_\_ get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

**TEMPER**

Tom \_\_\_\_\_ LOST THE TEMPER BECAUSE OF \_\_\_\_\_ his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**TOUCH**

Please feel free \_\_\_\_\_ TO GET IN TOUCH TO \_\_\_\_\_ me if you have any more questions.

*Hint: Some answers have over five words and so you need to delete a word. The others have the wrong word, mixed words, wrong forms of the right words, missing words or extra words.*

*Check your answers with the answer key or as a class. Some might be correct in different ways, so if you have made different corrections please check with your teacher.*

*Try to remember or work out the answer to the blank versions of the questions above which are below. Don't look above or at your corrected versions.*

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

**COULD**

I \_\_\_\_\_ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

**TIME**

Tom asked John what \_\_\_\_\_ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

**HARDLY**

There are \_\_\_\_\_ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

**BOUGHT**

An increasing number of vinyl records \_\_\_\_\_ music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

**SALE**

The new mePhone 7 will not \_\_\_\_\_ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

**BEEN**

I would have gone skiing if \_\_\_\_\_ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

**FIRST**

It \_\_\_\_\_ Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

**KNOWN**

I \_\_\_\_\_ that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

**LONG**

The time available \_\_\_\_\_ to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

**FEW**

Very \_\_\_\_\_ in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

**INSTEAD**

We lost the contract because we emphasized price \_\_\_\_\_ technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

**THINK**

Tom advised me \_\_\_\_\_ before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

**SUCH**

He \_\_\_\_\_ that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

**WORTH**

It's \_\_\_\_\_ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

**HAD**

I have never \_\_\_\_\_ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

**LENDING**

Would \_\_\_\_\_ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

**ALTHOUGH**

Tom has quit his job, although \_\_\_\_\_ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

**BETTER**

You \_\_\_\_\_ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

**CASE**

I'll take a map \_\_\_\_\_ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

**FAULT**

It was \_\_\_\_\_ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

**FOR**

It \_\_\_\_\_ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

**LET**

Tom's boss \_\_\_\_\_ more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

**MUST**

This \_\_\_\_\_ during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

**MAY**

Tom \_\_\_\_\_ it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

**LONG**

Tom's essay was \_\_\_\_\_ get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

**TEMPER**

Tom \_\_\_\_\_ his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**TOUCH**

Please feel free \_\_\_\_\_ me if you have any more questions.



**Suggested answers**

*Other answers might be possible, so if you wrote something different please check with your teacher. Students get one mark for each part before and after the slash.*

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

**COULD**

I \_\_\_\_\_ WISH I COULD (1)/ HAVE COME (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

**TIME**

Tom asked John what \_\_\_\_\_ TIME HE (1)/ WANTED TO (1) \_\_\_\_\_ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

**HARDLY**

There are \_\_\_\_\_ HARDLY ANY (1)/ PLACES LEFT (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

**BOUGHT**

An increasing number of vinyl records \_ARE BEING (1)/ BOUGHT FROM (1) \_ music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

**SALE**

The new mePhone 7 will not \_\_\_\_\_ BE ON SALE (1)/ UNTIL (1) \_\_\_\_\_ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

**BEEN**

I would have gone skiing if \_\_\_\_\_ IT HADN'T (1)/ BEEN SNOWING (1) \_\_\_\_\_ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

### FIRST

It    WAS THE FIRST (1)/ TIME (THAT) (1)    Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

### KNOWN

I    COULD NOT (1)/ HAVE KNOWN (1)    that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

### LONG

The time available    WASN'T (1)/ LONG ENOUGH (1)    to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

### FEW

Very    FEW (PEOPLE'S) MINDS (1)/ WERE CHANGED (1)    in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

### INSTEAD

We lost the contract because we emphasized price    INSTEAD OF (1)/ STRESSING OUR (1)    technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

### THINK

Tom advised me    NOT TO THINK (1)/ TOO LONG (1)    before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

### SUCH

He    HAS SUCH (1)/ MESSY NOTES (1)    that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

### WORTH

It's \_\_\_\_\_ NOT WORTH (1)/ ASKING (1) \_\_\_\_\_ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

### HAD

I have never \_\_\_\_\_ HAD MY HAIR (1)/ CUT SO (1) \_\_\_\_\_ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

### LENDING

Would \_\_\_\_\_ YOU MIND (1)/ LENDING ME (1) \_\_\_\_\_ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

### ALTHOUGH

Tom has quit his job, although \_\_\_\_\_ HE DOESN'T (1)/ HAVE ANOTHER (1) \_\_\_\_\_ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

### BETTER

You \_\_\_ HAD BETTER (1)/ GET YOUR (1) or HAVE YOUR (1) \_\_\_ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

### CASE

I'll take a map \_\_\_\_\_ IN CASE (1)/ TOM DOESN'T (1) \_\_\_\_\_ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

### FAULT

It was \_\_\_\_\_ MY FAULT (1)/ WE COULDN'T (1) \_\_\_\_\_ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

### FOR

It \_\_\_\_\_ TOOK FIVE YEARS (1)/ FOR TOM'S (1) \_\_\_\_\_ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

**LET**

Tom's boss \_\_\_ WOULDN'T LET (1) or DIDN'T LET (1)/ HIM HIRE (1) \_\_\_\_\_ more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

**MUST**

This \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRANCE MUST NOT (1)/ BE LOCKED (1) \_\_\_\_\_ during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

**MAY**

Tom \_\_\_\_\_ MAY HAVE (1)/ LEFT (1) \_\_\_\_\_ it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

**LONG**

Tom's essay was \_\_\_\_\_ NOT LONG (1)/ ENOUGH TO (1) \_\_\_\_\_ get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

**TEMPER**

Tom \_\_\_ LOST HIS TEMPER (1)/ BECAUSE OF (1) or OWING TO (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**TOUCH**

Please feel free \_\_\_ TO GET IN (1)/ TOUCH WITH (1) \_ me if you have any more questions.