

Sample Cloze Passage

Directions:

Read the following passage. As you read, ask yourself if you need a synonym for *good*, *nice*, or *bad* to fill in each blank. Then fill in the blanks with synonyms from your word web. Do not use the same word twice. Make sure the words you select make sense in the context of the passage.

First Day of Work

Saturday morning I felt _____ because I was starting my first day of work as a cashier at Mr. Gordon's supermarket. I got dressed in the new outfit my mother bought me for work, and searched my closet for a pair of shoes that were _____ for standing on my feet all day.

I headed downstairs to eat the breakfast my little sister had prepared for me. The eggs tasted _____, but I ate them anyway because I wanted her to feel _____. After breakfast, I grabbed my jacket, dashed to the door, and kissed my mother goodbye. "Have a _____ day," my mother called to me as I headed down the porch stairs.

The weather was _____, especially after the _____ storm the night before, so I decided to walk the seven blocks to the store. Turning the corner, I passed a construction crew repairing a(an) _____ pothole in the street. One of the crew workers tipped his hat to me. I smiled at him just as a gust of wind blew dust from the construction onto my outfit. I tried to brush the dust away, and felt _____ that I didn't have to do such a(an) _____ job like the construction workers.

Halfway to the store, a man walked by with two _____ dogs that kept growling at me and yanking their chains. "Don't worry," the man assured me. "They won't hurt you; they're _____ dogs." I decided to cross to the other side of the street, just in case. I wasn't going to let anything ruin my _____ day. Just as I reached the other side of the street, a bus roared by, splashing the water from a puddle onto my clothes.

By the time I reached Mr. Gordon's store, my feet were aching and my clothes were ruined. I sat down on a bench outside the store to rub my feet. I felt so _____ that I almost cried. But I knew I had to keep going; Mr. Gordon was depending on me. I finally stood up and pulled on the door to the store, but it did not open. Then I noticed that it was dark inside the store, and a sign was posted on the door: CLOSED DUE TO POWER OUTAGE. I sat back down on the bench. What a(an) _____ day!