Open Cloze

A walking route for everyone

Complete original B2 First exam-style task. Independent practice material, not an official Cambridge paper.

Write one word in each gap.

Our library asked local residents to help make a walking map of the town. I thought I knew the area, but soon discovered unfamiliar places.

People of different ages joined our group. I was responsible (1) _____ checking the map. We agreed to find out (2) _____ much of the route was suitable for someone with a pushchair. Before we set off, the organiser reminded us (3) _____ take notes.

We wanted a route (4) _____ would avoid busy roads and include somewhere to rest. At first, we walked more quickly (5) _____ we had planned. Then we reached a path that was not wide (6) _____ for two people to walk side by side.

We had to choose between going through the park (7) _____ following the main road, so we took the quieter option. Back at the library, we compared our notes and drew the route together. The project was not only useful (8) _____ also a good way to meet our neighbours.

Your answers

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

Answers & explanations

Question 1 | for

I was responsible for checking the map.

The usual combination is responsible for something or responsible for doing something. Checking is an -ing form after the preposition. Do not choose a preposition just because it works with a different adjective.

Question 2 | how

We agreed to find out how much of the route was suitable for someone with a pushchair.

How much asks about an amount: here, the amount of the route that was suitable. The words 'find out' introduce an indirect question. What much and which much do not form this question structure.

Question 3 | to

The organiser reminded us to take notes.

Use remind someone to do something when you help them remember an action. Us is the person being reminded; to take is the infinitive. Although remind can be followed by other prepositions in other patterns, they do not fit before the verb take here.

Question 4 | which / that

We wanted a route which/that would avoid busy roads.

Both which and that can refer to a thing in this defining relative clause. The relative pronoun is the subject of would avoid, so it cannot be left out. Where would need its own subject here, as in 'a place where we could rest'.

Question 5 | than

We walked more quickly than we had planned.

The comparative more quickly is followed by than. The sentence compares the group's actual speed with the speed they had planned. As belongs to a different pattern, such as 'as quickly as'.

Question 6 | enough

The path was not wide enough for two people to walk side by side.

Enough follows an adjective: wide enough. The rest of the sentence explains what the width needed to allow. Too goes before an adjective, so it cannot fill the space after wide.

Question 7 | and

We had to choose between going through the park and following the main road.

Use between A and B to name the two alternatives. Both alternatives use an -ing form: going and following. Either A or B is another pattern, but the word already given here is between.

Question 8 | but

The project was not only useful but also a good way to meet our neighbours.

Not only ... but also connects two positive points. The project produced a useful map and helped people meet. Look back to not only before deciding which word should come before also.