

For questions 9-16, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example: AMONG

Training a cat

A commonly held idea **0** _____ people is that cats are difficult, or even impossible, to train a cat. They are believed to be too proud or independent, and they respond poorly to **9** _____ attempts at teaching them something, so this indeed might be a bigger challenge **10** _____ training a dog. Is there any particular technique worth knowing?

Training a cat is not much **11** _____ from training any other animal, whether it is a dog or a bird. The most important aspect is so-called positive reinforcement – if your cat performs the action you want them **12** _____, you should give them a treat – a bite of their favourite food will do. Another tip is to keep your training sessions fairly brief, as cats have a rather short attention span and **13** _____ they get easily distracted. Ultimately, no training will be successful **14** _____ patience from you, so be ready to repeat the same thing over and over until your pet establishes a pattern.

One good example is litter training. Most cats are usually smart **15** _____ to do their business in the litter box without having to be taught to do so. If they haven't figured this **16** _____ themselves, you can put them in the litter box after they have eaten and pet them lightly.

Answers and explanations

9. **Any/All.** We are looking for a negative meaning introduced by the adverb ‘poorly’. Both ‘all’ and ‘any’ work fine in the negative context like this one.
10. **Than.** There is a comparison of how difficult it might be to train a cat to training a dog.
11. **Different.** If something isn’t much different to (or from) something else, it means it is more or less the same.
12. **To.** We are omitting the main verb here because contextually it is clear what we refer to.
13. **Therefore.** The author establishes the connection between the short attention span and how easy it is for a get to feel distracted. ‘Therefore’ is a good cause and effect word here.
14. **Without.** Patience is the key element in training your pet, so without it it will all come to nothing.
15. **Enough.** If somebody is smart enough to do something, it means they have enough intelligence to accomplish the task.
16. **Out.** Yet another phrasal verb, to figure something out means to understand how something functions. Phrasal verbs are a big part of FCE Use of English Part 2, so be ready to see at least a couple in your test.