B1 Preliminary · Reading Parts 3–4: detailed meaning and cohesion

B1 Preliminary strategy notes; invented examples, not official Cambridge items.

Meaning in one, cohesion in the other

> Part 3 asks what does it mean? Part 4 asks where does it snap in? Meaning in one, cohesion in the other.

- Part 3: one long text, five 4-option questions.
- Part 4: five removed sentences, eight candidates, three **decoys** — the famous jigsaw.

The half-true trap

Opinion, attitude, implication

"What does the writer think?" — hunt the feeling words and the modals.

"What does she suggest you do?" — should, might, it's worth, if I were you.

Your turn: the suggestion

Your turn

"It's worth booking early." — the writer's suggestion is...

A. the course is expensive
B. book early
C. the course was cancelled
D. never book

The sentence jigsaw

The glue	What to check
pronouns	he, it, they, this — the owner must sit before the gap
time and order words	then, after that, at first, finally
linkers	but, however, so — the two sides must contrast or agree
repeated ideas	the neighbours and the sentence share a topic

Use the evidence

Check both sides of every gap.

Your turn: find the owner

Your turn

"…the bakery opens at six. ____. By eight, the queue reaches the corner." Which sentence fits?

A. "The smell of fresh bread fills the street by seven."

B. "It closes again at noon."

C. "Buses are often late."

D. "The corner shop sells stamps."

Implication is justified, not written

written

"The course was hard." — the fact, on the page.

implied

"I wouldn't say it was easy, but it was worth every evening."

Positive, with effort — the but carries it.

Try it

1. **The gap** "…the bakery opens at six. ____. By eight, the queue reaches the corner."
2. **The candidate** "The smell of fresh bread fills the street by seven."
3. **The glue** Time chain: six → seven → eight. Topic: the bakery. Both sides hold.

Decision

Easiest gap first; **decoys** last.

Check yourself

- What does the writer suggest you do? — hunt should, might, it's worth.
- A candidate's he or this needs an owner before the gap.
- A decoy fits the grammar and betrays the logic.
- Easiest gap first; the decoy list shrinks.