

Cloze Practice 1

Complete the passage by filling in each blank with a suitable word of your own. (15 x 1 = 15 marks)

It was an extremely hot afternoon. Ken and I, **1** _____ with our dog, Caesar, left the village and went down to the river for a swim. The water was cool and refreshing. We jumped in immediately, **2** _____ the water about merrily. Caesar, however, did not like the water. It was contented to sit by the river **3** _____ and watch us.

I was having a leisurely swim when, suddenly, I heard Caesar **4** _____ furiously. I turned around and to my **5** _____, I saw Ken struggling to **6** _____ afloat in the water. He had suffered a cramp and was at the **7** _____ of the current. He was in **8** _____ difficulty.

With quick **9** _____, I swam towards Ken and grabbed him. However, his body had **10** _____ limp and I did not have the **11** _____ to drag him back to the bank alone.

Just as I was beginning to feel helpless, I heard a loud splash and was surprised to find Caesar by my **12** _____. The brave dog gently supported Ken's arm on its neck and joined me in **13** _____ Ken safely back to shore.

Caesar had sensed that the job was too much for me to handle **14** _____. Caesar was truly a brave and remarkable dog. If Caesar had not helped me, Ken would surely have **15** _____ in the river.

Answers:
1. together
2. splashing
3. bank
4. bark
5. surprise / dismay
6. keep / stay
7. mercy
8. great
9. strokes
10. become
11. strength
12. side
13. bringing
14. alone
15. drowned