Analogy Notes

An analogy is a type of word problem. It is made up of two word pairs. Your goal in solving an analogy is to find a word that correctly completes the second pair. Both the pairs have the same kind of relationship. To solve the analogy you need to find that relationship.

*An analogy looks like this: puppy : dog :: kitten : cat

*When you say it out loud it sounds like this: “puppy is to dog as kitten is to cat”

*There are different types of comparisons such as these:

1. **Part to Whole**, in which one word is a part or piece of the other as in
   nose : face :: ace : deck of cards

2. **Antonyms**, words that have the opposite meaning as in
   night : day :: cold : hot

3. **Synonyms**, words that have the same or similar meanings as in
   happy : glad :: sliding : skidding

4. **Description or Characteristic**, in which one word describes the other word as in
   sandpaper : rough :: ocean : wet

5. **Item to Category**, in which one word names something that falls into the group named by the other word as in
   bird : blue jay :: season : winter

6. **Rhyme words**: nose : hose :: dryer : hire

7. **Worker to tool**: mechanic : wrench :: programmer : computer

There are many more types of analogies. Sometimes you just have to invent a relationship (type) that solves a certain analogy. For instance, there might be one that just counts the letters in the words. Here’s an example:

   nose : take :: apple : happy

**Order matters!** You must place the parts of the analogy in the same order on both sides of “::”. For instance, if the analogy relationship is “Whole to Part,” and you place “whole” first on one side then “whole” must be first on the other side.

   car : tire :: glasses : nosepiece