Analogies: Part to Whole / Whole to Part

These analogies show relationships between things and their parts. Want examples? A flap is part of an envelope, and one of the book’s parts is its cover.

Which word best completes the analogy? tail : dog :: ceiling : ____________

a. roof  b. wall  c. room  d. floor

EXPLANATIONS: We all know that a tail is part of a dog. Since ceiling is the first word in the second pair, we know that it, too, is a part. A ceiling isn’t part of a roof or a wall. And it’s the opposite of the floor. Therefore, the answer must be room.

Some of these analogies may test the limits to your vocabulary.

Directions: Read the list of boldface wholes. Then circle the part that matches each whole.

1. salad  entrée  bowl  tomato  menu
2. skeleton  liver  pancreas  femur  tendon
3. melody  symphony  instrument  scale  note
4. engine  transmission  carburetor  ignition  exhaust
5. tooth  plasma  enamel  cartilage  nostril
6. shark  hoof  fin  tentacle  udder
7. steel  aluminum  copper  titanium  iron
8. cotton  linen  fiber  weaves  synthetic
9. atmosphere  hemisphere  troposphere  orbit  satellite

Directions: Identify the relationship between the first pair of words. Then circle a letter to show the same relationship between the words in the second pair.

10. sentence : word ::
dictionary : ____
da. thesaurus
b. volume
c. entry
d. reference
11. palm : hand ::
knuckle : ____
da. knew
b. joint
c. neck
d. finger
12. country : continent ::
country : ____
da. state
b. city
c. commonwealth
d. neighborhood
13. pencil : lead ::
coconut : ____
da. palm
b. milk
c. branch
d. sweet
14. encyclopedia : volume ::
series : ____
da. network
b. episode
c. plot
d. rerun
15. violin : string ::
trumpet : ____
da. keyboard
b. reed
c. valve
d. bow
16. vertebra : spine ::
____ : dentures
da. cell
b. ganglia
c. ulna
d. molar
17. wedding : vows ::
funeral : ____
da. eulogy
b. cremation
c. consternation
d. diatribe
18. flower : stamen ::
____ : tumbler
da. clown
b. glass
c. lock
d. key