

Test on Grammar and Usage

based on the BBC news report

For the blanks below, where a word is given, put it in the right form. Where no word is given, see whether a preposition is needed. Question 1 has been done for illustration.

1. **Plunging** (Plunge) temperatures **wreaking** (wreak) havoc across the US and Canada can lead **to** frostbite on bare skin in only five to 10 minutes, experts are warning.
2. A powerful Arctic winter storm has placed more than 135 _____ (million/millions) people _____ weekend weather alerts ahead _____ the busiest travel days of the year.
3. The alerts stretch _____ coast to coast and reach _____ far south as the US-Mexico border and Florida, the Sunshine State. Major airports have cancelled _____ (thousand/thousands) of flights as the storm intensifies.
4. Frostbite is caused when blood flow is reduced, often _____ extremities like the nose and cheeks or fingers and toes. The lack _____ warm blood can lead to tissue _____ (freeze) and _____ (rupture), and in some cases, _____ (amputate).
5. "This is not like a snow day, when you were a kid, this is serious _____ (staff/stuff)," President Joe Biden said in a White House briefing _____ Thursday. The governor of New York state, Kathy Hochul, declared a state _____ emergency in anticipation _____ the storm.
6. The NWS has described it _____ a "once-in-a-generation" winter weather event, _____ (say) on Thursday that "life-threatening wind chills" will strike the east coast on Friday.
7. More than 5,300 flights in the US _____ (cancel, already, Passive Voice) on Thursday and Friday, according _____ the flight-tracking site FlightAware. _____ anticipation of travel disruptions, major airlines including United, Delta and American have offered _____ (waive) fees for travellers who wish to reschedule their _____ (fly).
8. Americans in the upper Midwestern US and Great Lakes region - where more than one foot (30cm) of snow _____ (is/are) expected in some areas - should abide _____ a rule of thumb for household storm _____ (prepared).

9. _____ (individual) and families should have enough food, water and essential medications to last at least 72 hours. It's wise to be prepared _____ supplies _____ even longer periods than that, especially _____ vulnerable populations like the elderly and those _____ health conditions.
10. Michael Muccilli, the winter programme co-ordinator with the National Weather Service, advises _____ (stock) up on first aid supplies, a torch and batteries _____ case of a power outage.
11. For longer journeys, travellers should aim to be "well _____ (rest), well _____ (feed) and well _____ (hydrate)" before _____ (start) a winter journey, Dr Stern said, _____ (add) that their vehicle should be _____ good condition and have snow tires _____ (fit).
12. Before heading out, drivers need to stock their car _____ a full tank _____ petrol as well as an emergency supply kit _____ (contain) warm clothing, a mobile phone charger, jumper cables, a first aid kit as well as salt, a snow shovel and snow brush for if the car gets _____ (stick), according to experts.
13. If conditions turn out to be more dangerous than _____ (expect), reassess, said Dr Stern. "Do not let pride stop you _____ turning around or _____ (seek) safety along the way," he said.
14. And for those stuck _____ traffic, the safest bet is almost always to stay in the car _____ long as it has heat, as stepping outside in a blizzard can lead _____ hypothermia and cause drivers to become _____ (disorient), according to experts.