**Fill in the gaps choosing the words from the options below.**

For over three hundred years men had been trying to make a gun that would ﬁre more than one shot without reloading. Then, Samuel Colt succeeded where other men had failed.

Samuel Colt had long been interested in gunpowder. When he was twelve years old, he discovered a recipe describing how to make gunpowder. Sam, being a daring and adventurous boy, decided to make 1\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and try it in a gun. When the director of the school he was attending asked Sam to stop making the gunpowder 2\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it was dangerous, Sam did not obey. A few days after the warning from the director there was an explosion in the school; however, no one was hurt. To avoid being expelled, Sam ran 3\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Although Sam’s father was sympathetic with his son’s interest in guns and gunpowder, he also knew that a young man must 4\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a trade. When his father suggested to Sam that he should take a job on a ship sailing from Boston to India, the young man agreed. So, at the age of sixteen, Samuel Colt became a 5\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. In the long hours on board the ship, Sam had lots of time to think about guns, and he dreamed of a gun that would shoot 6\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than one shot without being reloaded.

One day while 7\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the pilot wheel of the ship, Sam Colt got the idea he needed.

By watching the spokes of the pilot wheel, he saw how he could bring the bullets of a gun into position to be ﬁred. He spent many hours making drawings of his gun and carving parts from wood. But he knew that the real gun would 8\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_be made of steel.

Colt’s perseverance in trying to make a better pistol earned him the praises of his countrymen. The repeating pistol also earned Samuel Colt a fortune and made him one of the 9\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ men in the U.S. after 1850. However, his real reward was not the money, but the knowledge that no man wanted to go into danger without a Colt. In fact, some men at the time 10\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ four Colt pistols, two in their belts and two in their saddlebags.

l. a) any b) several c) some d) a few

2. a) because b) therefore c) that’s why d) when

3. a) out b) in c) away d) about

4. a) teach b) train c) study d) learn

5. a) captain b) navy c) sailor d) tradesman

6. a) more b) most c) less d) least

7. a) watched b) was watching c) watching d) were watching

8. a) must b) have c) have to d) need

9. a) fortune b) lucky c) richest d) poorest

10. a) carried b) carry c) carrying d) carries