ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Adjectives – Adverbs – Comparisons Test A2 – B1 Grammar Exercises

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Explanations

1. A: Betty's perfume smells _____.

B: It is a _____ perfume and isn't known by many people.
✔ **C) beautiful / new**
After **smell**, **look**, **taste** and **sound** we use an adjective, not an adverb: **smells beautiful**. Before a noun we also use an adjective: **a new perfume**. Not **beautifully**, because **smell** here describes the perfume, not an action.

2. The baby is sleeping _____, but I think she will wake up in an hour because she is _____.
✔ **A) peacefully / hungry**
An adverb tells us how someone does something: she is sleeping **peacefully**. After **be** we use an adjective: she is **hungry**.

3. A: Can a whale swim _____ a dolphin can?

B: I don't know. Ask Joseph. You can get a _____ answer to your question.
✔ **C) as fast as / better**
as + adverb + as compares two things: **as fast as** a dolphin. **a better answer** uses the comparative of **good**: Joseph can give a better answer than I can. Not **the best**, because we can't say **a the best answer**.

4. Your watch says 10:45 a.m., mine says 11 a.m.; in this case either your watch is very _____ or my watch is very _____.
✔ **D) slow / fast**
After **be** we use an adjective: your watch is very **slow**, or my watch is very **fast**. There is no **than** in the sentence, so we don't need comparatives like **slower**.

5. A: Do you know Calvin?

B: Yes, but I don't know him very _____.
✔ **B) well**
well is the adverb of **good**. It describes the verb **know**: **I don't know him very well**. Not **good**, because **good** is an adjective.

6. The United States is _____ away from Turkey than the Republic of Ireland.
✔ **D) farther**
The word **than** shows we need a comparative: **far – farther – the farthest**. So: **farther away than**.

7. The _____ way of travelling is by plane, and it is also _____ in my opinion.
✔ **B) fastest / the most comfortable**
The + superlative compares one thing with all others: **the fastest way**. After **is** we need an adjective, here also a superlative: **the most comfortable**. Not **comfortably**, because an adverb can't follow **is** here.

8. The artist has painted this portrait _____ than most of his other paintings, so I think it is _____ of all.
✔ **A) more colourfully / the most beautiful**
than shows a comparative, and an adverb describes how he painted: **more colourfully than**. **of all** shows a superlative adjective after **is**: **the most beautiful of all**.

9. A: How did you find the hotel?

B: It was _____ hotel I have ever stayed in.

A: I am glad you liked it.
✔ **B) the nicest**
We use the superlative with **I have ever**: **the nicest hotel I have ever stayed in**. Not **nicer than**, because nothing comes after **than**.

10. The bus wasn't _____ it was yesterday, but a lady asked me _____ if she could have my seat.
✔ **C) as full as / politely**
as + adjective + as compares the bus today and yesterday: **wasn't as full as**. An adverb tells how the lady asked: **politely**.

11. My teacher doesn't have a _____ voice, but she always speaks _____.
✔ **B) loud / clearly**
An adjective goes before a noun: **a loud voice**. An adverb tells how she speaks: **speaks clearly**. Not **loudly**, because it can't describe the noun **voice**.

12. My sister has bought a (an) _____ dog from the animal shelter. I think she is _____ dog I have ever seen.
✔ **C) big brown / the prettiest**
Size comes before colour: **a big brown dog**. With **I have ever seen** we use the superlative: **the prettiest dog**. Not **black short**, because the order should be **short black**.

13. Joan is _____ at playing video games, but her brother Lee plays them very _____.
✔ **B) terrible / well**
After **is** we use an adjective: Joan is **terrible at** video games. An adverb tells how Lee plays: **very well**. Not **good**, because **good** is an adjective.

14. James couldn't finish the task _____ the other employees, so the boss _____ asked one more time, "Have you finished your work?"
✔ **A) as quickly as / impatiently**
as + adverb + as compares how James and the others worked: **as quickly as**. An adverb tells how the boss asked: **impatiently**. Not **quicker than**, because **finish** needs an adverb (**more quickly**), not an adjective.

15. Neriman and Suna solved the maths puzzles _____; they think that maths is an _____ subject.
✓ C) easily / easy
An adverb tells how they solved the puzzles: **easily**. Before a noun we use an adjective: **an easy subject**.

16. **Kerim told his friends that Paris had _____ than London.**
✓ D) more cars on the road
Answer 4 says the traffic in Paris was very congested and London had less traffic, so Paris had **more cars on the road**. Not **more modern buildings**: Kerim says London's buildings are too modern.

17. **Kerim found the weather in London to be _____.**
✓ B) terrible, freezing and wet
Answer 5 says London's weather is **the worst**, it rained every day and it was very cold. So it was **terrible, freezing and wet**.

18. **Which of the following is true?**

Paris _____ than London.
✓ C) has nicer architecture
Answer 2 says the buildings in the centre of Paris are **more beautiful** than the buildings in London, so Paris **has nicer architecture**. Not **is more amazing**: Kerim says both cities are amazing.

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