ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Adjectives and Adverbs Advanced Level MCQs Test With Answers 1

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Explanations

1. I've had a full day's rest now and I feel much _____; at least _____ enough to be able to get out of bed.
✔ **B) better / well**
Much strengthens a comparative, so **much better**. In the second gap we need an adverb or adjective before **enough**: **well enough to get out of bed** (well = in good health). Not **worse**, because after a full day's rest the speaker is improving.

2. There is nothing _____ a slight breeze on a hot, sunny day.
✔ **C) more refreshing than**
There is nothing + comparative + than means that something is the best of its kind: **nothing more refreshing than a breeze**. **Refreshing** describes the breeze's effect; **refreshed** describes how a person feels, so **as refreshed as** is wrong.

3. The survey confirmed that house prices are _____ higher in the South than in the North.
✔ **E) much**
To make a comparative adjective stronger we use **much**, **far** or **a lot**: **much higher**. **More** cannot go before **higher**, because **higher** is already comparative.

4. There is _____ a shortage of qualified teachers in England _____ the government is paying students to train in teaching.
✔ **A) such / that**
Use **such (a/an) + (adjective) + noun + that** to show a result: **such a shortage … that the government is paying students**. **So** is used before an adjective or adverb alone, not before **a + noun**.

5. My father treasures the gold watch that he was given _____ a retirement present.
✔ **B) as**
As shows the role or function of something: the watch was given **as a retirement present** (it was the present). **Like** would mean 'similar to a present', which is not what we mean.

6. Some of the delegates were _____ with the Chairman's speech _____ they walked out.
✔ **C) so disappointed / that**
So + adjective + that shows a result: they were **so disappointed that** they walked out. People feel **disappointed**; the speech is **disappointing**. Not **too … that**: **too** is followed by **to + infinitive**, not a **that**-clause.

7. Without the heavy make-up she wears, she looks _____ in real life _____ she does on television.
✔ **C) younger / than**
The sentence compares two situations, so we need a comparative with **than**: she looks **younger** in real life **than** she does on television.

8. He wasn't _____ studious student in the class, but he worked _____ to pass the final examinations.
✔ **A) the most / hard enough**
The most studious student in the class is a superlative (one student compared with the whole class). **Hard enough to pass** means 'as hard as necessary'. Not **hardly**, which means 'almost not'.

9. After we had been shopping, Alice and May went bowling, but I was _____ to join them.
✔ **D) too tired**
Too + adjective + to + infinitive means 'so much that it was impossible': **too tired to join them**. **So tired that** would need a clause after it (**so tired that I couldn't join them**), and **tiring** describes the activity, not the person.

10. The spot where Vicki's new house is located is _____ that all her friends and relatives want to visit her.
✔ **E) so picturesque**
So + adjective + that shows a result: the spot is **so picturesque that** everyone wants to visit. **Such a picturesque** needs a noun after it (**such a picturesque spot that…**).

11. The amazing thing about "*Oltu stone*" is that _____ you keep it, _____ it gets.
✔ **D) the longer / the shinier**
The double comparative **the + comparative …, the + comparative …** shows that two things change together: **the longer** you keep it, **the shinier** it gets. Not **the longest / the shiniest**: superlatives are not used in this pattern.

12. For me, _____ aspect of the conference was the decision to concentrate on environmental issues.
✔ **D) the most encouraging**
The speaker picks one aspect out of all the aspects of the conference, so we need a superlative: **the most encouraging aspect**. The aspect gives encouragement, so it is **encouraging**, not **encouraged**.

13. My father plays golf just for fun, although sometimes he plays _____ some professionals.
✔ **B) as skilfully as**
Plays is a verb, so it needs an adverb, and **as + adverb + as** compares two equal things: he plays **as skilfully as** some professionals. **More skilfully** would need **than** after it.

14. She couldn't believe that her son had behaved _____ to be disciplined by the teacher.
✔ **E) badly enough**
Adverb + enough + to-infinitive shows the degree needed for a result: he behaved **badly enough to be disciplined**. **Behave** needs an adverb (**badly**), so **as bad as** and **worse than** are wrong. **So badly that** would need a full clause after it.

15. The court dealt with the shopkeeper who had sold alcohol to teenagers _____ tolerantly _____ most people considered appropriate.
✔ **D) less / than**
Less + adverb + than is a comparison of inferiority: the court was **less tolerant** in its treatment **than** people expected. Not **more / as**: **more** must be followed by **than**, not **as**.

16. Because it all happened _____, he couldn't give the officer an accurate description of his attackers.
✔ **A) so suddenly**
Happened is a verb, so it needs an adverb, and **so** adds emphasis that leads to a result: it happened **so suddenly** that he couldn't describe them. **Too sudden** is an adjective and would need **to + infinitive**.

17. The players have _____ distrust of the referee that few of them expect the match to be fair.
✔ **B) such**
Such + (adjective) + uncountable noun + that shows a result: they have **such distrust** of the referee **that** few expect fairness. **So** goes before adjectives or adverbs, not before a noun. **Much** would need **so** (**so much distrust that**).

18. He is feeling _____ can be expected after _____ a major operation.
✔ **C) as well as / such**
As well as can be expected is a fixed phrase meaning 'as healthy as is normal in the situation'. **Such a + adjective + noun** gives emphasis: **such a major operation**. Not **so**, which cannot go before **a + adjective + noun** in this word order.

19. I felt _____ ill yesterday to get out of bed, but I'm feeling _____ better today.
✔ **E) too / a lot**
Too + adjective + to-infinitive means 'so much that something was impossible': **too ill to get out of bed**. **A lot** (like **much**) strengthens a comparative: **a lot better**. Not **so / that**: **so ill to get out** is ungrammatical.

20. This material is _____ to be stitched together on a sewing machine.
✔ **A) too delicate**
Too + adjective + to-infinitive shows that something is impossible: the material is **too delicate to be stitched** on a machine. **So delicate that** would need a full clause after it.

21. Certain household items, _____ bleach and insecticides, are very dangerous and should be kept away from children.
✔ **D) such as**
Such as introduces examples: household items **such as bleach and insecticides**. **Just as** compares actions or situations, not lists of examples.

22. _____ students enrolled on the Serbo-Croat language course that they are discontinuing this class.
✔ **E) So few**
So few + plural countable noun + that shows a result: **So few students** enrolled **that** the class is being discontinued. **So little** is used with uncountable nouns, and **Fewer** would need **than**.

23. I knew my grandmother was seriously ill as she couldn't speak _____.
✔ **E) coherently**
Coherently means clearly and logically, so that others can understand: being unable to speak **coherently** is a sign of serious illness. **Tactfully** (politely, without upsetting people) does not fit the meaning.

24. The council are looking for a qualified management accountant, but it is a / an _____ position to cover the present post holder's maternity leave.
✔ **A) temporary**
Temporary means lasting only for a limited time; covering someone's maternity leave is a **temporary position**. **Momentary** means lasting only a moment, which is far too short for a job.

25. _____ petroleum and natural gas, coal is a carbon-based fossil fuel.
✔ **E) Like**
Like + noun means 'similar to': **Like petroleum and natural gas, coal is a fossil fuel**. **Such as** gives examples after a general noun and cannot begin this sentence; **As** would mean 'in the role of'.

26. I thought we were being _____ we could be, but the neighbours still complained that we were _____.
✔ **B) as quiet as / too noisy**
As quiet as we could be means 'as quiet as possible'. **Too noisy** means 'more noisy than acceptable', which is the neighbours' complaint. Not **such noisy**: **such** needs a noun (**such a noise**).

27. I didn't really want the children to eat all the ice cream, but I was _____ to argue with them.
✔ **C) too tired**
Too + adjective + to-infinitive shows that the speaker could not do something: **too tired to argue**. **Tired enough to argue** would mean the tiredness made the speaker argue, which is the opposite of the meaning.

28. We were expecting it to be a little cool, but admittedly, none of us expected _____ weather _____ this for our club picnic.
✔ **D) such awful / as**
Such + adjective + uncountable noun + as + this means 'weather of this kind': **such awful weather as this**. **So awful** cannot go directly before a noun.

29. The oak tree in our garden is almost _____ the house itself.
✔ **E) as tall as**
Almost as + adjective + as means nearly equal: the tree is **almost as tall as** the house. **Almost** cannot go with **much taller**, and **tall enough** would need **to + infinitive**.

30. Today almost every home in the village has a computer. Yet _____ twenty years ago, not a single family in the village had internet access.
✔ **A) as recently as**
As recently as + time expression emphasises that something was true not long ago, which is surprising: **as recently as twenty years ago**. **More recently** would need a comparison and cannot go before **twenty years ago**.

31. The shops on the main street have been restored and now they serve _____ boutiques and gift shops for tourists.
✔ **C) as**
Serve as means 'be used as / have the function of': the shops now **serve as boutiques**. **Like** would mean 'similar to', not 'in the role of'.

32. 'The Commercial Dispatch' is _____ of all the newspapers published in Mississippi.
✔ **B) the most progressive**
Of all the newspapers is a clue for a superlative: **the most progressive of all**. **More progressive** would need **than**.

33. Toads, which belong to _____ family _____ frogs, have shorter legs than frogs.
✔ **A) the same / as**
The fixed pattern is **the same + noun + as**: **the same family as frogs**. Not **such / as**: **such family as frogs** is ungrammatical here.

34. It was _____ injury that he struggled to carry on playing for the rest of the game.
✔ **B) such a painful**
Such a + adjective + countable noun + that shows a result: **such a painful injury that** he struggled to carry on. **So painfully** is an adverb and cannot go before a noun.

35. I felt quite out of place in my evening dress as most of the guests were _____ dressed.
✔ **D) casually**
Casually dressed means wearing informal, everyday clothes. The speaker in an evening dress felt out of place, so the others were dressed informally. Not **formally**, because then she would have fitted in.

36. Most of the population of Canada live in the cities in the South, leaving the Arctic North _____ populated.
✔ **C) sparsely**
Sparsely populated means having very few people living in a large area. Since most people live in the South, the North has few people. **Densely** means the opposite (crowded).

37. For once she knew the answer to the question, and so, afraid to miss the chance, she raised her hand _____.
✔ **E) enthusiastically**
Enthusiastically means with great eagerness and excitement, which fits someone afraid to miss the chance to answer. Not **reluctantly** (unwillingly), which is the opposite.

38. The comedian Jasper Carrott doesn't tell jokes, but he describes daily life _____ audiences roar with laughter.
✔ **E) so humorously that**
Describes is a verb, so it needs an adverb, and **so + adverb + that** shows a result: **so humorously that** audiences roar with laughter. **Humorously enough** would need **to + infinitive**, and **such a humorous** needs a noun.

39. _____ birds _____ parrots, parakeets and mynahs learn to imitate sounds, but they do not have the capacity to think or to understand what they are saying.
✔ **D) Such / as**
Such + noun + as + examples introduces examples of a group: **Such birds as parrots, parakeets and mynahs**. It means the same as **birds such as parrots…**. **Rather / than** expresses preference, not examples.

40. Canadian wolves are _____ wolves in the world and twice _____ a large dog.
✔ **B) the largest / as big as**
In the world is a clue for a superlative: **the largest wolves in the world**. **Twice as + adjective + as** expresses a multiple: **twice as big as a large dog**. Not **bigger than** after **twice** in this option, because it is combined with **large enough**, which does not fit the first gap.

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