ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Adjectives and Adverbs MCQ Exercise 1

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Explanations

1. I'll be at home all day, so you can come and see me _____ you want.
✓ **A) whenever**
Whenever means 'at any time'. The speaker is at home all day, so the visitor can come at any time they like. Not **wherever**, which is about place, not time.

2. There is nothing _____ being interrupted all the time.
✓ **D) more annoying than**
There is nothing + comparative + than means 'this is the worst/best thing'. **Nothing is more annoying than being interrupted** means being interrupted is the most annoying thing. Not **the most annoying**, because the sentence needs **than** after the gap.

3. Why don't you stay in bed and rest until you feel _____?
✓ **A) better**
When you are ill, you rest until you **feel better**. **Better** is the comparative of **good/well**, used here for health. Not **good**, because **until you feel** points to a change from how you feel now.

4. The new secretary hasn't used this type of computer before, so they are showing her _____ to use it.
✓ **A) how**
How to + verb means 'the way to do something'. They are showing her **how to use** the computer, because she has not used one like it before.

5. You will be introduced to the president _____ interests include fishing and travelling.
✓ **E) whose**
Whose shows possession in a relative clause: the president's interests = the president **whose interests**. Not **who** or **that**, because a noun (**interests**) follows directly and we need a possessive.

6. It was a dreadful journey but _____ we got back just after midnight.
✓ **C) finally**
Finally means 'in the end, after a long time or difficulty'. The journey was dreadful, and **in the end** they got back after midnight. Not **soon**, because a dreadful journey that ends after midnight was not quick.

7. This book gives details about various tribes _____ customs are very strange to us.
✓ **E) whose**
Whose shows possession: the tribes' customs = tribes **whose customs**. Not **which** or **that**, because the noun **customs** follows directly and belongs to the tribes.

8. The doctor has been to see him _____ every day.
✓ **E) nearly**
Nearly every day means 'almost every day'. **Nearly** can go before **every** to show that something is almost complete. Not **lately**, because it cannot be followed by **every day**.

9. The second bus leaves at _____ 7:45 each morning.
✓ **E) exactly**
Bus timetables give exact times, so we say the bus leaves **at exactly 7:45**. **Exactly** means 'not earlier or later'. Not **nearly**, because a timetable does not give an almost-time.

10. _____ only two people have said they want to go.
✓ **A) so far**
So far means 'until now'. It goes naturally with the present perfect: **So far, only two people have said they want to go.** Not **until**, which needs a time or event after it (**until now**).

11. "Would you _____ study architecture than industrial engineering?"
✓ **C) rather**
Would rather + base verb + than shows preference: **Would you rather study architecture than engineering?** Not **better**, because **would better** is not correct; we say **had better**, and it does not take **than**.

12. "I have _____ enjoyed a holiday so much."
✓ **E) rarely**
I have rarely enjoyed a holiday so much means this holiday was unusually good. **Rarely** (= not often) fits with **so much**. Not **greatly**, because **greatly** and **so much** both describe the amount of enjoyment, so together they say the same thing twice.

13. The village was _____ buried under the heavy snow.
✓ **A) completely**
Completely means 'totally, 100%'. Heavy snow **completely buried** the village, so you could not see it. The other words do not describe how much of the village was covered.

14. "Next time I'll _____ be more careful."
✓ **C) certainly**
Certainly means 'surely, without doubt'. **I'll certainly be more careful** is a strong promise. The other adverbs do not fit with **be more careful**.

15. "The film was _____ sad _____ the woman sitting next to me burst into tears."
✓ **E) so / that**
So + adjective + that shows a result: the film was **so sad that** a woman started crying. Not **such … as**, because **such** goes with a noun (**such a sad film that**).

16. This is the _____ film I have ever seen.
✓ **A) worst**
After **the** and with **I have ever seen**, we need the superlative: **bad – worse – the worst**. Not **worse**, which is the comparative and needs **than**.

17. "Your last composition is _____ than your first."
✓ **A) much worse**
Than needs a comparative: **bad – worse**. **Much** can come before a comparative to make it stronger: **much worse**. Not **more worse**, because **worse** is already comparative and cannot take **more**.

18. "Are these _____ athletes as the ones who came last year?"
✓ **C) the same**
We say **the same + noun + as**: **the same athletes as the ones last year**. Here the gap comes before the noun, and **as** is already in the sentence, so only **the same** fits.

19. I do not know how to drive, and _____.
✓ **E) my friend doesn't either**
To agree with a negative sentence, use **not … either** (or **neither/nor + auxiliary**): **I don't know how to drive, and my friend doesn't either.** Not **nor is my friend**, because the verb is **do**, so it would be **nor does my friend**.

20. He had his shoes _____ mended _____ polished.
✓ **B) both / and**
Both … and joins two things that are both true: his shoes were **both mended and polished**. Not **both … or**, because **both** always goes with **and**.

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