ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Advanced Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 16

Advanced English Grammar Tests · 25 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/advanced-grammar-test-16/

1	**A**	2	**B**	3	**D**	4	**C**	5	**D**	6	**A**	7	**C**	8	**A**	9	**C**	10	**B**
11	**C**	12	**D**	13	**D**	14	**B**	15	**A**	16	**A**	17	**C**	18	**A**	19	**B**	20	**C**
21	**D**	22	**C**	23	**B**	24	**A**	25	**D**										

Explanations

1. **(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

The news did not come directly to Ella herself. _____ her indirectly through hints that she had won the prize.
✓ **A) It reached**
The subject refers back to **the news**, which is an uncountable singular noun, so the pronoun is **it**, not **they**. **Reach someone** means 'get to someone' and takes a direct object: **It reached her indirectly**. Not **It arrived at**: we **arrive at** a place, not at a person.

2. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **B) went on working**
Go on + -ing means 'continue doing the same thing': she simply **went on working** as usual, calm and quiet. Not **went on to work**: **go on to do** means 'do something new next', which doesn't fit someone carrying on calmly. **Go back** would need **to** + noun (**went back to work**).

3. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **D) saying anything**
Without is already negative, so it is followed by a non-assertive word: **without saying anything**. Not **without saying nothing**, which is a double negative. We **say** something but **tell** a person something, so **telling anything** doesn't fit here.

4. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **C) although**
A conjunction is needed to join the clause **the whole school was full of rumours** to the main clause and show contrast: **although**. **However** and **nevertheless** are adverbs that need a new sentence or a semicolon before them. **In spite** needs **of** + noun/-ing.

5. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **D) making announcements**
The collocation is **make an announcement** (tell people news officially), and the plural **making announcements** fits students spreading statements. Not **advertisements**: these promote products. **Do** does not collocate with **announcement**.

6. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **A) no one**
The students had no right to talk because nobody knew the result, so a negative subject is needed: **no one really knew**. **Anyone** cannot be the subject of an affirmative verb with negative meaning, and **not anyone** cannot start a clause as subject. **Some one** gives the wrong meaning.

7. But as she was a calm, quiet girl, she _____ without _____, _____ the whole school was full of rumours and statements from students who had no right to be _____ at all because _____ really knew _____ what the result of this year's art competition was.
✓ **C) yet**
Yet is used in negative contexts for something expected but not happened so far: no one knew the result **yet**. Not **still**: it shows continuation and sounds wrong here. **Any longer** would mean people knew before but no longer do, and **already** is used in positive contexts.

8. But Ella was _____ good artist, her lines so sure that _____ student in the art class was expected to win.
✓ **A) such a**
Before **adjective + singular countable noun** we use **such a**: **such a good artist**. **So** is used before an adjective alone (**so good**), and **a so** is wrong word order. **Such** without **a** is for plural or uncountable nouns.

9. But Ella was _____ good artist, her lines so sure that _____ student in the art class was expected to win.
✓ **C) no other**
No other + singular noun means 'not any different one': **no other student** was expected to win. **None other** is used in **none other than** (= that very person), and **no one other** is not used before a noun. **Not another** doesn't work as a determiner on the subject here.

10. But you never _____.
✔ **B) could be sure**
The fixed idea 'it is impossible to be certain' is expressed as **you never could be sure** (= **you could never be sure**), with **could** as the past of **can** in the narrative. **Might know** and **can learn** give the wrong meaning, and **secure** means 'safe', not 'certain'.

11. Last year nobody had expected Frank Peters to win with the funny modern painting he had _____ the city bridge.
✔ **C) done of**
A painting or drawing **of** something shows that thing: **a painting he had done of the city bridge**. **Do** is common with paintings and drawings. Not **made about**: **about** is used for topics of books or films, not the subject shown in a picture.

12. _____, it was hard to _____ the bridge until you looked at the picture for a long time.
✔ **D) In fact**
In fact introduces a statement that adds to or emphasises what came before: the painting was 'funny' and modern, and **in fact** the bridge was hard to see. **In the reality** should be **in reality**, and the idiom is **to tell the truth**, not **to say truth**.

13. _____, it was hard to _____ the bridge until you looked at the picture for a long time.
✔ **D) make out**
Make out means 'see or recognise something with difficulty': it was hard to **make out** the bridge. Not **see through**: that means 'not be deceived by' someone or something. **Pick up** and **take hold of** are about physically lifting or holding.

14. Still, Frank had got the prize and the President of the Board of Governors had presented _____ at a big dinner in the Ritz Hotel.
✔ **B) it to him**
The structure is **present something to somebody**: **presented it to him**. With **present**, the person needs **to** (or **present somebody with something**). **Presented him it** and **presented it him** are not correct, and **him for it** changes the meaning.

15. Ella was a rather shy girl but her classmates seldom thought of her _____ shy.
✔ **A) as**
The pattern is **think of somebody as** + adjective/noun: they seldom **thought of her as shy**. **Think of her to be** is not used, and **like** and **for** don't follow **think of** in this meaning.

16. She was pretty and intelligent and _____ very well with everyone.
✔ **A) got on**
Get on (well) with someone means 'have a friendly relationship': she **got on very well with everyone**. Not **got by**: it means 'manage to survive with little money or help'.

17. She played games well, had taken part in the school play, and never seemed to _____, except in pleasant ways.
✔ **C) stand out**
Stand out means 'be very noticeable or different from others': she never seemed to **stand out**, except in pleasant ways. **Distinguish** would need an object (**distinguish herself**), **stand up** means rise or defend, and **stand off** is not used in this sense.

18. She liked her school. She was very fond of her art teacher, Miss Drake, _____ was natural.
✔ **A) which**
After a comma, **which** can refer to the whole previous clause: being fond of her art teacher **was natural**. **What** cannot be used as a relative pronoun after a clause, and **where** and **whose** don't fit the meaning.

19. _____ wonderful about Miss Drake was that she brought out the best in her students - not _____ but theirs.
✔ **B) What was**
This is a **what**-cleft sentence: **What was wonderful about Miss Drake was that …** = 'the thing that was wonderful'. **The thing what** and **the which** are incorrect, and **The** alone leaves no subject for **was**.

20. _____ wonderful about Miss Drake was that she brought out the best in her students - not _____ but theirs.
✔ **C) her own best**
Her own best contrasts with **theirs**: she brought out the students' best, not **her own** best. **Own** after a possessive adds emphasis. **Proper** does not mean 'own', and **her best herself** / **her best self** do not fit the contrast with **theirs**.

21. _____ best, _____, was not good enough to please Miss Drake.
✔ **D) Anybody else's**
With **anybody else**, the possessive **'s** goes at the end of the whole phrase: **anybody else's best**. **Anybody's else** is wrong word order. **Other person's** needs an article (**another person's**), and the plural possessive is **other people's**, not **peoples'**.

22. _____ best, _____, was not good enough to please Miss Drake.
✔ **C) however good it was**
However + adjective + subject + verb means 'no matter how': **however good it was**. The word order is normal statement order, so **however good was it** is wrong. **For how good it might be** is not an English structure.

23. So Ella was _____ the prize, not just for herself and her parents but because she had heard Miss Drake _____ that it was the _____ seen from one of her students.
✔ **B) looking forward to winning**
In **look forward to**, **to** is a preposition, so it is followed by **-ing**: **looking forward to winning**. Not **looking forward to win**. **Wishing to win** is formal and unnatural in the continuous, and **wait for** is not followed by **-ing** in this way.

24. So Ella was _____ the prize, not just for herself and her parents but because she had heard Miss Drake _____ that it was the _____ seen from one of her students.
✔ **A) say**
After verbs of perception like **hear**, we use the bare infinitive (or **-ing**): **she had heard Miss Drake say**. **To say** is wrong after **hear** in the active. **Tell** needs a person as object (**tell someone that**).

25. So Ella was _____ the prize, not just for herself and her parents but because she had heard Miss Drake _____ that it was the _____ seen from one of her students.
✓ D) best painting she had ever
With **the** and **ever** we use the superlative: **the best painting**. Since the speaking was in the past and refers to all her experience up to then, we need the past perfect: **she had ever seen**. Not **she ever had seen**, which has the wrong word order for **ever**.

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com