ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Advanced Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 08

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1	B	2	D	3	A	4	B	5	A	6	A	7	C	8	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.)**

"Excuse me, Mrs Jones. Would you mind _____ me a favour?
✓ B) doing
Would you mind is always followed by the -ing form: **Would you mind doing…?** The fixed phrase is **do someone a favour**, not **make** a favour. So **doing** is right on both counts. Not **to do**: **mind** never takes the infinitive.

2. I _____ shopping.
✓ D) was just going
The past continuous **was just going** describes an action that was about to happen in the past, when something interrupted it. The speaker was leaving the house to shop when she shut the door and realized her key was inside. Not **have just been**: that would mean she had already gone shopping and come back, which does not fit the story.

3. But as soon as I shut my front door, I realized I had left my key in the house. So when I _____ back, I _____ get in.
✓ A) get
After time conjunctions such as **when**, **as soon as** and **before**, English uses the present simple for future meaning: **when I get back**. The future form goes only in the main clause. Not **will get**: **will** is not used inside a time clause like this.

4. So when I _____ back, I _____ get in.
✓ B) won't be able to
The main clause refers to the future (the moment she returns), so it needs a future form. **Can** has no future form, so we use **will be able to**: **I won't be able to get in.** Not **can't**: here it would sound like a present fact, not a prediction about later.

5. It was very silly of me. I _____ at all because all the groceries _____.
✓ A) needn't have come out
Needn't have + past participle means someone did something that turned out to be unnecessary. The speaker did come out, but it was pointless because the groceries had already arrived. Not **didn't need to come out**: this usually suggests the action was unnecessary and often was not done at all. **Mustn't have** is not used for past necessity, and **hadn't to** is not standard English.

6. I _____ at all because all the groceries _____.
✓ A) have already been delivered
The groceries do not deliver themselves, so a passive form is needed. The present perfect passive **have already been delivered** shows a completed action with a present result: the food is already here. **Already** goes after the first auxiliary. **Already have delivered** is active, and **are being delivered** means the delivery is still in progress.

7. I only wanted some mustard. _____ come in and climb over the fence into my back garden?
✓ C) May I
The speaker is politely asking for permission to enter Mrs Jones's house, and **May I…?** is the formal way to ask permission. Not **Shall I**: **Shall I…?** offers to do something for the listener, but here the speaker wants a favour for herself. **Will I** is not used for requests, and **Do you want me to** also makes an offer.

8. That is very kind of you. I wish I _____ give you so much trouble."
✓ D) didn't have to
To express regret about a present situation, **wish** is followed by a past form: **I wish I didn't have to give you so much trouble.** This means she does have to trouble Mrs Jones and is sorry about it. Not **don't have to**: **wish** does not take the present tense for unreal situations. **Hadn't to** and **haven't to** are not standard forms.

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