ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Advanced Level Grammar Exercise – MCQ Test 8

Advanced English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/advanced-level-grammar-exercise-mcq-test-8/

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

Explanations

1. France, which is one of the largest markets for mobile phones, plans to limit their use _____ growing concern about the effects of electromagnetic radiation on the brain.
✔ **B) as a result of**
The sentence gives a cause: France wants to limit mobile phone use because people are increasingly worried about radiation. **As a result of** + noun phrase introduces a cause (**growing concern**). Not **despite**, which would mean the concern was a reason against limiting use. Not **in order to**, which needs a verb and expresses purpose.

2. _____ two-thirds of the energy an average person spends every day supports the body's metabolic activities.
✔ **C) At least**
At least goes before a number or quantity and means 'not less than': **at least two-thirds**. Not **Much of**, because it cannot be followed directly by a fraction (**much of two-thirds** is wrong). **Provided**, **Such as** and **So** do not fit before a noun phrase subject like this.

3. In his book the psychiatrist Martin Grotjohn claims that _____ a baby begins to smile and laugh, _____ intelligent he or she is likely to prove.
✔ **A) the earlier / the more**
This is the double comparative **the + comparative …, the + comparative …**, which shows two things changing together: **the earlier** a baby smiles, **the more intelligent** he or she is likely to prove. Both parts need **the**. Not **earlier / more**, because the structure is incomplete without **the**. Not **the earliest / the most**, because superlatives are not used in this pattern.

4. If there _____ a delay in getting her to the hospital, the consequence of the event _____ fatal.
✔ **E) had been / could have been**
This is a third conditional about an imagined past situation: **If** + past perfect (**had been**), main clause with **could/would have** + past participle (**could have been**). The past situation is that she was taken to hospital in time. Not **is / would have been**, because the tenses do not match. The **if**-clause needs the past perfect for an unreal past.

5. The use of preservatives in food manufacturing _____ steadily over the past few decades and _____ no signs of abating.
✔ **C) has risen / shows**
Over the past few decades shows a period that continues up to now, so the present perfect **has risen** is needed. The second verb describes the present situation, so the present simple is used: **shows no signs of abating** means it is not getting weaker. Not **rose**, because the past simple does not connect the period to the present.

6. Provided that he _____ reasonable care of himself, the old man has every chance of _____ a complete recovery.
✔ **D) takes / making**
Provided (that) works like **if**, so it takes a present tense for a future condition: **provided that he takes care of himself**. Not **will take**, because **will** is not used after **provided**. After the preposition **of**, a gerund is needed. The collocation is **make a recovery**, so the answer is **making a complete recovery**. Passive forms like **being made** do not fit, because the man himself makes the recovery.

7. A new booklet _____ which _____ to give the interested layman an overall picture of contemporary medicine.
✔ **B) has been published / has been designed**
The present perfect passive **has been published** reports a recent event that matters now. The booklet does not do the designing itself, so the relative clause also needs a passive: **which has been designed to give…**. Not **had been published / had designed**, because nothing points to an earlier past moment, and **had designed** is active.

8. When their body size is considered, mammals and birds have much larger brains than _____.
✔ **C) other vertebrates do**
In a comparison, the auxiliary **do** replaces the main verb to avoid repeating it: mammals and birds **have** larger brains than other vertebrates **do** (= **have**). Not **are other vertebrates** or **other vertebrates are**, because the verb being replaced is **have**, not **be**. Not **that other vertebrates have**, because **than that** is ungrammatical here.

9. Workers who inhale large quantities _____ manganese dust _____ a long period of time may show symptoms of a brain disease.
✔ **D) of / over**
Quantities of + noun is a fixed pattern (**large quantities of dust**). **Over a period of time** means 'during the whole of that period': **over a long period of time**. Not **during**, which does not combine well with 'a long period of time' in this sense of gradual exposure, and **from** is wrong after **quantities**.

10. Some diseases are caused _____ a single-celled parasite that invades the red blood cells _____ its host.
✔ E) by / of
In the passive, **by** introduces the agent or cause: diseases **are caused by** a parasite. **Of** shows possession or belonging: **the red blood cells of its host** = the host's red blood cells. Not **from**, which does not follow **caused** in the passive.

11. The problem with antiseptics is that _____ killing germs, they _____ kill the surrounding tissues.
✔ E) as well as / also
As well as + -ing means 'in addition to', and it is followed naturally by **also** in the main clause: **as well as killing germs, they also kill the surrounding tissues**. Not **besides / as well**, because **as well** comes at the end of a clause, not before the verb (**they as well kill** is wrong).

12. Beethoven's seventeen string quartets hold _____ the same position in chamber music _____ his symphonies hold in the orchestral repertoire.
✔ B) much / as
The fixed comparison is **(much) the same … as**: **much the same position … as his symphonies hold**. Here **much** before **the same** means 'more or less, almost', and **the same** is completed by **as**. Not **as / that**, because **as** cannot go before **the same** in the first gap. Not **just / what**, because **the same … what** is wrong. Not **quite / whether**, because **whether** does not complete a comparison.

13. Post offices don't have enough space to cope _____ the tremendous increase _____ demand for PO boxes.
✔ A) with / in
Cope with means 'deal successfully with something difficult'. **An increase in** + noun is the usual collocation for the thing that grows: **an increase in demand**. Not **on / of**, because **cope on** is wrong. **An increase of** is used with an amount (**an increase of 10%**).

14. Even prior to the 1930s, Swedish banks played an important role _____ the financing _____ long-term industrial projects.
✔ C) in / of
The collocation is **play a role in** something. **The financing of** projects uses **of** after a noun made from a verb (**finance projects → the financing of projects**). Not **at / for**, because **play a role at** is wrong.

15. In Belgium, compensation _____ accidents at work and occupational illness is exclusively the concern _____ employers.
✔ D) for / of
We say **compensation for** the harm or loss suffered: **compensation for accidents at work**. **The concern of** someone means it is that person's responsibility: **the concern of employers**. Not **from / for**, because **compensation from** names the payer, not the reason for the payment.

16. More than _____ invention of the last eighty years or so, television has been the most harmful to family life.
✔ E) any other
Any other + singular noun is used in comparisons to mean 'every other one': **more than any other invention**. Not **another** or **some other**, because they refer to one unspecified item and do not compare with all of them. Not **the other**, which refers to one particular remaining item.

17. Our sales are down again this month, _____.
✔ B) and so are theirs
To add that a positive statement is also true of someone else, use **so** + auxiliary + subject: **Our sales are down, and so are theirs** (= their sales are down too). **Theirs** replaces **their sales**. Not **neither are theirs**, which is used after a negative statement. Not **but theirs aren't either**, because **but** shows contrast and **either** belongs with negatives.

18. Several important ports, _____ export timber, are situated on the shores of the White Sea.
✔ A) most of which
In a non-defining relative clause, a quantity word + **of which** refers back to the noun: **several ports, most of which export timber** (= most of these ports export timber). Not **that many of them**, because **that** cannot be used in a non-defining clause and **them** repeats the subject. Not **of which they**, which is ungrammatical.

19. Once the occupying forces _____, many seemingly innocent people were accused of _____ with the enemy.
✔ E) had left / having collaborated
Once + past perfect shows that one past action was finished before the next: **once the forces had left, people were accused**. **Accuse someone of** is followed by a gerund. The perfect gerund **having collaborated** shows the collaboration happened before the accusation. Not **were leaving / collaborated**, because **of** must be followed by an -ing form.

20. Although the metropolitan theatres _____ a monopoly there for a long time, recently several private theatres _____.
✔ D) held / have been opened
The first clause describes a finished past situation, so the past simple is used: the theatres **held** a monopoly for a long time. The ending of that situation is recent and relevant now, shown by **recently**, so the present perfect passive is used: **several private theatres have been opened**. Not **have held / were opened**, because **have held** would mean the monopoly still continues. That contradicts the opening of private theatres.