ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Advanced Level Vocabulary Exercise – MCQ Test 5

Advanced Vocabulary Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/advanced-level-vocabulary-exercise-mcq-test-5/

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

Explanations

1. When the rate of exchange began to rise again, he felt _____ to call a meeting of the financial staff.
✔ **A) obliged**
Feel obliged to do something means to feel that you must do it because of duty or circumstances. The rising exchange rate made him feel he had to call a meeting. **Blamed**, **consumed**, **omitted** and **rewarded** do not fit the pattern **feel ___ to do**.

2. The new ceramics, which have little in common with the chinaware we use in our kitchens every day, are being used _____ in engines and electronics.
✔ **C) increasingly**
Increasingly means 'more and more'. The new ceramics are used more and more often in engines and electronics. **Seemingly** ('apparently') is tempting, but nothing in the sentence suggests doubt about whether they are really used.

3. When they called Mr. Smith to head office, I am quite sure it was not their _____ to promote him to branch manager.
✔ **E) intention**
It was (not) their intention to do something means they did (not) plan or mean to do it.
Prediction and **impression** do not collocate with **it was their ___ to promote him**, and **disposition** means a person's character or mood.

4. Locke, Hobbes and Rousseau were concerned in their writings with the question of a proper _____ between the public good and the right of individuals to exercise free will.
✔ **A) balance**
A **balance between** two things is a fair relationship in which neither one is too strong. These philosophers asked how to weigh the public good against individual freedom. **Solidarity** means unity within a group, not a relationship between two competing ideas.

5. If we are serious about reducing air pollution, we shall have to _____ stronger measures than those currently in practice.
✔ **C) adopt**
Adopt measures is a fixed collocation meaning to start using new actions or policies, e.g. **The council adopted new safety measures.** Not **revise**: you revise existing measures, but these are new, stronger ones. **Require** does not collocate naturally with **measures** in this sense.

6. I am horrified at the turn things have taken and am convinced that he is _____ of much better treatment than that which he is receiving.
✔ **B) deserving**
Be deserving of something means to deserve it, i.e. to have earned it. The speaker believes he should be treated much better. The other verbs do not take **of** here; **indulging** would need **in**.

7. When an unknown but gifted artist is finally recognized, his paintings can become valuable _____ in the future.
✔ **E) assets**
An **asset** is something valuable that a person owns, e.g. property or works of art. Once the artist is recognized, his paintings become **valuable assets**. **Interests** and **accounts** are financial words, but they do not describe objects that someone owns.

8. The journalists asked the Prime Minister so many questions that finally he felt it necessary to _____ the statement.
✔ **C) clarify**
To **clarify** a statement is to make it clearer and easier to understand. The many questions showed that people did not understand it. **Refrain** is intransitive (**refrain from**), so it cannot take **the statement** as an object.

9. Geological activity in this region has produced a landscape that is at once _____ and forbidding.
✔ **E) rugged**
Rugged describes land that is rough, rocky and uneven, a typical result of geological activity. It pairs naturally with **forbidding** ('threatening, unwelcoming'). **Wasteful**, **cautious** and **discreet** describe people or their behaviour, not landscapes.

10. The medieval struggle between secular and religious power came to a _____ in the 14th century with the rise of nationalism and the increased prominence of lawyers, both royalist and canon.
✔ **C) climax**
Come to a climax means to reach the most intense or important point of a process. The long struggle reached its peak in the 14th century. Not **summit**: it means the top of a mountain or a high-level meeting and does not collocate with **come to a**.

11. It is _____ surprising that the art of ancient America remains the most mysterious and the least accessible.
✔ **E) hardly**
It is hardly surprising that… means 'it is not at all surprising that…'. It is a common fixed phrase.
Vaguely surprising ('slightly surprising') does not suit a statement presented as an obvious fact.

12. Bartok was influenced as much by the musical innovations of Debussy and Stravinsky as by East European, _____ Hungarian, folk music.
✔ **B) notably**
Notably here means 'especially, in particular'. It introduces the most important example: East European folk music, **notably** Hungarian. **Exceedingly** means 'extremely' and cannot introduce an example in this way.

13. The argument he has put forward is hardly _____ with the information we have so far received on the case.
✔ **E) compatible**
Compatible with means able to exist together without contradiction. His argument hardly agrees with the information received. **Representative** takes **of**, not **with**, and **resistant** takes **to**.

14. If the situation in the region improves, a significant part of the peacekeeping forces will be _____.
✔ **B) withdrawn**
To **withdraw** forces means to take them away from a place. If the situation improves, fewer troops are needed, so many will be **withdrawn**. **Recruited** ('taken on as new members') would mean adding troops, the opposite of what an improvement suggests.

15. More than 4,500 years ago, the _____ Egyptians prepared the first paper from the fibrous stems of papyrus, a grass-like plant.
✔ **A) ancient**
Ancient means belonging to a very distant past, as in **ancient Egyptians** or **ancient Greece**. Not **outdated**: it means old-fashioned or no longer useful, and it is not used for historical peoples.

16. Few, if any, of the statements made could be _____ substantiated by concrete experimental evidence.
✔ **E) conclusively**
Conclusively means in a way that proves something beyond doubt. **Conclusively substantiated** means 'proved with certainty'. **Impressively** is tempting, but the issue is how certain the proof is, not how impressive it is.

17. The British entry into the European Community has _____ a new line of policy.
✔ **D) constituted**
Constitute means 'to be, to form or amount to'. Britain's entry into the European Community was in itself a new line of policy. Not **negotiated**: an event (the entry) cannot negotiate; only people can.

18. Dependence by primitive humans on their environment would not have permitted them to be _____ the effects of the surrounding world on them.
✔ **B) protected from**
Early humans depended on their environment, so they could not be **protected from** (sheltered from) its effects. The clue is **dependence**: depending on the world around you means being exposed to it. **Indifferent about** is tempting, but it is about attitude, not exposure, and the usual preposition is **to**.

19. When the world population _____ the 5-billion milestone in 1987, the United Nations estimated that it would not stabilize until the record mark was doubled late in the 21st century.
✔ **A) surpassed**
To **surpass** a figure or milestone is to go beyond it. In 1987 the world population passed 5 billion. **Defeated** is used for opponents, not numbers, and **remarked** means 'commented'.

20. At the opening night of the new production of Aida the guest soprano gave a superb, a truly _____ performance.
✔ **A) dazzling**
Dazzling means extremely impressive and brilliant. It strengthens **superb**, which is signalled by **a truly**. **Disappointing**, **declining** and **degrading** are negative and contradict **superb**.

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