ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Conjunctions and Adverbial Clauses Advanced Level MCQs Test With Answers 3

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Explanations

1. Although the pension was very reasonably priced, it was certainly not comfortable. _____, it had a beautiful shady garden and a roof terrace with a splendid view of the area.
✔ **E) Nevertheless**
The second sentence gives good points that contrast with the bad point (**not comfortable**) in the first, so we need a contrast linker: **Nevertheless** means 'in spite of that'. Not **Moreover**, which adds a point in the same direction, and not **Even though**, which must introduce a clause inside the same sentence (**Even though it was uncomfortable, it had…**).

2. The coach was full and the weather very hot, but the air conditioning wasn't working. _____, the passengers were uncomfortable and many of them complained.
✔ **C) Consequently**
The discomfort and complaints are the result of the full coach, the heat and the broken air conditioning. **Consequently** (= as a result) links a cause to its effect. Not **Nevertheless**, which would wrongly suggest a contrast.

3. They could easily afford to stay at the best hotels, _____ they preferred to stay at small family-run guesthouses.
✔ **B) yet**
The two clauses contrast: they had the money for luxury hotels, but chose small guesthouses. The coordinating conjunction **yet** means 'but, surprisingly' and can join two clauses after a comma. Not **therefore**, which shows a result and is an adverb, not a conjunction, so it cannot join clauses with only a comma.

4. The famous singer waved happily to the crowds _____ taking part in a procession through the city.
✔ **E) while**
While can be followed by an **-ing** form when the subject is the same: **while (she was) taking part** = during the time she was taking part. Not **during**, which is a preposition and needs a noun (**during the procession**), not a verb phrase like **taking part**.

5. We are unable to send you a brochure at the moment, but we will send you one _____ new stock arrives.
✔ **C) as soon as**
As soon as means 'immediately when': the brochure will be sent at the moment the new stock arrives. Like other time conjunctions, it takes the present simple for the future (**arrives**). Not **until**, which would need a negative or continuous main verb (**we won't send it until…**).

6. _____ of how many different precautions you take, you cannot avoid being bitten by midges in Scotland at this time of year.
✔ **D) Regardless**
The gap is followed by **of**, so we need the fixed phrase **regardless of** (= without being affected by): **Regardless of how many precautions you take…**. Not **No matter**, which is used without **of** (**No matter how many precautions you take…**).

7. We are, from this date forward, cancelling your company's credit facility with us _____ your poor payment record.
✔ **A) on account of**
The poor payment record is the reason for cancelling the credit. **On account of** (= because of) is a preposition followed by a noun phrase. Not **in spite of**, which shows contrast, and not **even though**, which needs a full clause.

8. Dave caught malaria _____ he was working on a construction project in Africa.
✔ **B) while**
While introduces a clause describing a longer background action (**he was working**) during which something else happened (**caught malaria**). Not **during**, which is a preposition and must be followed by a noun (**during the project**), not a clause.

9. I still think it's a long way to go without taking a break _____ they are to take turns at the wheel.
✔ **A) even if**
Even if introduces a condition that does not change the main idea: the journey is too long without a break, and sharing the driving will not change that. Not **despite**, which is a preposition and cannot be followed by a clause, and not **whether**, which would need **or not**.

10. _____ performing all the functions of a standard vacuum cleaner, this model will also clean your carpets, Madam.
✔ **C) In addition to**
In addition to (= as well as) is a preposition, so it can be followed by an **-ing** form: **In addition to performing…, this model will also…**. The word **also** confirms that an extra feature is being added. Not **Furthermore**, which is a sentence adverb and cannot be followed directly by **performing**.

11. I'm glad that we phoned to check the date of their wedding; _____, we would have missed it.
✔ **E) otherwise**
Otherwise means 'if we had not done that'; here it introduces the past unreal result **we would have missed it**. Not **consequently**, which shows a real result, not an imagined one.

12. They didn't buy that house because it is a long way from any school; _____, it needs a fortune spending on it.
✔ **D) furthermore**
Both clauses give reasons for not buying the house, so we need an adding linker: **furthermore** (= in addition). Not **on the other hand** or **nevertheless**, which introduce a contrasting idea.

13. Because my car is very old and _____ a little unreliable, I usually take the train to travel long distances.
✔ **C) therefore**
Therefore can come between **and** and an adjective to show that the second quality is a result of the first: **very old and therefore a little unreliable**. Not **though**, which would show contrast and cannot follow **and** in this way.

14. _____ varied they may be in purpose, all spacecraft move through space in accordance with fundamental physics laws, and all are made up of similar basic components.
✔ **C) However**
However + adjective + subject + verb means 'no matter how': **However varied they may be** = it doesn't matter how different they are. The modal **may** is typical of this concessive structure. Not **While**, which needs normal word order (**While they may be varied…**).

15. We are holding a meeting tomorrow _____ we can develop a plan for next year's campaigns well in advance.
✔ **B) in order that**
In order that introduces a purpose clause, usually with a modal (**can**): the meeting is held so that a plan can be made. Not **in case**, which means 'because something might happen' and does not fit the purpose meaning.

16. This charity _____ provides emergency relief _____ teaches people practical skills to help avoid future catastrophes.
✔ **E) not only / but also**
The correlative pair **not only… but also** adds a second, often more impressive, point: the charity gives emergency help and also teaches skills. Not **whether… or**, which presents alternatives, not two things that are both true.

17. _____ how careful I try to be throughout the month, I always seem to run out of money before I get paid.
✔ **C) No matter**
No matter how + adjective means 'it doesn't matter how': **No matter how careful I try to be…**. The gap is followed by **how**, which only fits **No matter**. Not **Even though**, which cannot be followed by **how**.

18. _____ ordinary chestnuts, which are delicious when roasted, horse chestnuts, which are inedible, are most commonly used by children in a game called "conkers".
✔ **D) In contrast to**
In contrast to is a preposition followed by a noun phrase (**ordinary chestnuts**) and shows a difference: edible versus inedible chestnuts. Not **Whereas**, which must introduce a clause with its own verb, and not **On the other hand**, which links two separate statements.

19. Apart from the radiator, the cylinder head is _____ damaged, _____ the garage will need our car for a week to repair it.
✔ **E) also / so**
Apart from here means 'as well as', so **also** fits: the cylinder head is damaged too. The second gap introduces a result, so **so** is needed: **so the garage will need our car for a week**. Not **still / yet**, which give the wrong meaning in both gaps.

20. The summer will be over _____ they open the swimming pool.
✔ **A) by the time**
By the time means 'before or at the moment when': the summer will already be over when the pool finally opens. As with other time clauses, the present simple (**open**) refers to the future. Not **while**, which would mean the two things happen at the same time.

21. For reasons of safety, space-launch centres are usually located near _____ oceans _____ sparsely populated land.
✔ **A) either / or**
Either… or presents two possible alternatives: launch centres are built near oceans or near land where few people live. Not **neither… nor**, which would mean they are near neither place, and that makes no sense here.

22. _____ the 1970s, the United States developed the space shuttle, the first reusable manned space vehicle.
✔ **B) During**
During is a preposition and is followed by a noun phrase showing a period of time: **during the 1970s**. Not **When** or **While**, which are conjunctions and need a clause with a verb.

23. _____ the doctor told you that you had only six months to live, what would you do with that time?
✔ **D) Suppose that**
Suppose (that) introduces an imagined situation and can be followed by a past tense for an unreal present or future: **Suppose the doctor told you…, what would you do?** It works like **if**. Not **In order that**, which shows purpose.

24. Traffic to the airport has been much lighter _____ the metro system was built.
✔ **C) since**
Since gives the starting point of a period that continues to now, so it goes with the present perfect (**has been much lighter**). Not **once**, which means 'after/as soon as' and does not fit with a present perfect main clause like this.

25. He resigned from his position _____ he could find time to write his long-intended book.
✓ E) so that
So that introduces a purpose clause, often with **could** after a past main verb: he resigned in order to have time to write. Not **thanks to**, which is a preposition and needs a noun phrase, not a clause.

26. In their opinion, they presented the best proposals, _____ they didn't get the contract.
✓ B) yet
The second clause gives a surprising contrast: they believed their proposals were best, but they still lost. **Yet** (= but, nevertheless) joins two contrasting clauses. Not **so**, which would wrongly present losing as the result of having the best proposals.

27. There will be a shortage of water _____ we get some rainfall soon.
✓ D) unless
Unless means 'if... not': there will be a shortage if we don't get rain soon. Not **in case**, which means 'as a precaution because something might happen' and does not fit this meaning.

28. The lungs are never completely empty. _____ the most vigorous expiration, they still contain about 983 cubic centimetres of air.
✓ A) Even after
Even after is followed by a noun phrase (**the most vigorous expiration**) and stresses something surprising: air remains in the lungs even when you breathe out as hard as you can. Not **Even if**, which is a conjunction and needs a clause with a verb.

29. _____ writing techniques and vocabulary can be taught, no amount of instruction can make up for a lack of natural creative talent.
✓ C) While
While here is concessive and means 'although': it accepts one idea (technique can be taught) before stressing a contrasting one (talent cannot be replaced). Not **No matter**, which must be followed by a question word such as **how** or **what**, and not **Since**, which would wrongly express a reason.

30. _____ the council has provided places for us to take our empty bottles for recycling, many of us still throw glass bottles into the ordinary dustbins.
✓ E) Even though
Even though introduces a full clause and shows a strong contrast: recycling places exist, but people still don't use them. Not **Despite**, which is a preposition and cannot be followed directly by a clause (**despite the fact that** would be needed).

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