ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Determiners – Quantifiers – Articles Advanced Level MCQs Test With Answers 2

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1	**B**	2	**E**	3	**B**	4	**D**	5	**C**	6	**A**	7	**D**	8	**E**	9	**C**	10	**A**
11	**C**	12	**A**	13	**E**	14	**B**	15	**A**	16	**C**	17	**C**	18	**B**	19	**E**	20	**D**
21	**B**	22	**A**	23	**E**	24	**C**	25	**A**	26	**B**	27	**C**	28	**E**	29	**C**	30	**A**
31	**D**	32	**C**	33	**D**	34	**A**	35	**B**	36	**E**	37	**E**	38	**C**	39	**A**	40	**B**

Explanations

1. We had _____ other choice apart from deciding to cease trading, or we would have gone bankrupt.
✔ **B) no**
No other choice means 'no alternative'. **No** is used before **other** + noun to give a negative meaning in an affirmative sentence (**We had no choice**). Not **any**, because **any other choice** needs a negative verb: **We didn't have any other choice**.

2. _____ who enjoys jazz music will enjoy this festival, tickets for which can be bought at _____ good music shop.
✔ **E) Anybody / every**
Anybody who… means 'whoever', so it refers to any person at all who likes jazz. In the second gap we need a word that takes a singular noun: **every good music shop**. Not **several** or **all**, because they need a plural noun (**several shops**, **all shops**).

3. Slimming bars claim to provide _____ the vitamins and minerals the body needs, but eating them cannot be as healthy as a meal containing plenty of fruit and vegetables, which can also supply _____ nutrients required by the body.
✔ **B) all / other**
All the vitamins and minerals means the complete set the body needs. **Other nutrients** means additional, different nutrients, and **other** is used before plural nouns. Not **another**, which goes only with a singular noun (**another nutrient**).

4. _____ child will be given a role, however small, in the play.
✔ **D) Each**
Each goes with a singular countable noun and stresses every individual in the group: **each child will be given a role**. **Several**, **both** and **many** need plural nouns, and **the whole child** makes no sense.

5. Because there have been _____ accidents at that road junction, the council are going to install traffic lights there.
✔ **C) so many**
Accidents is a plural countable noun, so we use **many**. **So many** adds emphasis and shows the cause of the result (traffic lights). Not **too much** or **a great deal of**, which go with uncountable nouns, and **plenty** needs **of** before a noun.

6. I didn't believe him when he said that it was hailing in June, so I went out on the balcony to see it for _____.
✔ **A) myself**
To see something for yourself means to check it personally instead of trusting what someone said. The subject is **I**, so the reflexive pronoun is **myself**. Not **himself**, because the speaker, not the other man, went to look.

7. _____ bus we were travelling on stopped suddenly because _____ tree had fallen across the road.
✔ **D) The / a**
The bus is specific: it is the one we were travelling on. **A tree** is mentioned for the first time and is not identified, so it takes the indefinite article. Not **the tree**, because the listener does not know which tree is meant.

8. _____ that we accomplished was to find a suitable date for the next meeting.
✔ **E) All**
All (that) + clause means 'the only thing' and often suggests that little was done: **All that we accomplished was… Each** and **every** need a noun after them (**every thing**), and **the whole** needs a noun too (**the whole meeting**).

9. Although _____ in the group knew that _____ had ever tried to climb the mountain by this path before, they all seemed very confident.
✔ **C) everyone / no one**
Everyone in the group knew… matches **they all** later in the sentence. **No one had ever tried** gives the negative meaning that explains **Although…confident**: the route had never been tried before. Not **anyone / somebody**, because **anyone** in an affirmative clause would mean 'it doesn't matter who', which doesn't fit here.

10. As the number of students attending the universities _____, most employers _____ for higher and higher qualifications from new employees.
✔ **A) is increasing / are asking**
The number of + plural noun takes a singular verb: **the number of students is increasing**. **Most employers** is plural: **are asking**. The present continuous shows a trend happening now. Not **are increasing**, because the subject is **the number**, not **students**.

11. _____ of the soldiers was given two complete uniforms, _____ of which they were expected to keep spotlessly clean.
✔ C) Each / both
Each of + plural noun takes a singular verb (**was given**); **every** cannot be followed by **of**. **Both of which** refers to the two uniforms together, since each soldier had to keep the two of them clean. Not **either**, which means only one of the two.

12. There is a certain amount of wisdom in _____ old sayings, such as “Don't cry over spilt milk”.
✔ A) a number of
Sayings is a plural countable noun, so we use **a number of** (= several). Not **a great deal of** or **a little**, which go with uncountable nouns (**a great deal of time**), and **every** needs a singular noun (**every saying**).

13. When the winners arrived at the award ceremony, the mayor _____ was there to greet _____.
✔ E) himself / them
Himself after **the mayor** is an emphatic pronoun: the mayor personally greeted them. The winners are the object of **greet**, so we need the object pronoun **them**. Not **their**, which is a possessive and must go before a noun.

14. When I woke up this morning, there was _____ heavy dew covering _____ long green summer grass in our garden.
✔ B) _____ / the
Dew is uncountable, so it can be used without an article: **there was heavy dew**. **The long green summer grass** is specific, because it is the grass **in our garden**. Not **a long green summer grass**, because **grass** is uncountable and cannot take **a**.

15. It's getting late. I'll feel better when we have found _____ to stay for the night, and, at this hour, I'm not looking for a luxury place. _____ clean and tidy will do.
✔ A) somewhere / Anywhere
Somewhere to stay means a particular place that we have not found yet. **Anywhere clean and tidy** means 'it doesn't matter which place, as long as it is clean'. This is **any-** used for free choice in an affirmative sentence. Not **something**, because we need a place word.

16. I wish he would give _____ more consideration to those around him.
✔ C) a little
Consideration is uncountable here, and **a little more** + uncountable noun means 'a small extra amount'. Not **a few**, which goes with plural countable nouns, and **a lot of more** is not possible; we say **a lot more**.

17. This ship has _____ experienced crew, all of whom have been at _____ sea on and off for more than six years.
✔ C) an / _____
Crew is a countable singular noun here, and **experienced** starts with a vowel sound, so we use **an experienced crew**. **At sea** (= working on ships) is a fixed phrase with no article. Not **at the sea**, which means at the seaside.

18. Politicians from the Opposition are constantly criticizing the government, but they don't say what they would do _____ to improve things if they were in _____ position.
✔ B) themselves / our
Themselves is an emphatic pronoun after **what they would do**: it means the Opposition politicians personally. **In our position** shows the speaker is from the government, so the possessive **our** is needed before the noun. Not **them**, because **do them** would make **them** the object of **do**, which changes the meaning.

19. As _____ of the proposals seems to provide a complete solution on _____, I suggest we continue working on this.
✔ E) neither / its own
Neither of the (two) proposals means 'not one and not the other', and it takes a singular verb (**seems**). This explains why we must continue working. **On its own** (= alone) refers back to one proposal, which is singular and a thing, so the possessive is **its**. Not **either**, because the sentence needs a negative meaning.

20. When _____ manager disagrees with _____, our board meetings can go on for hours.
✔ D) one / another
One… another describes two members of a larger group: **one manager disagrees with another**. Not **the other**, which suggests only two managers. Not **each other**, which needs a plural subject (**the managers disagree with each other**).

21. Each of _____ will develop a revision method that will suit _____ individual strengths and weaknesses.
✔ B) us / our
After **each of** we need an object pronoun: **each of us**. Before the noun **strengths** we need the possessive determiner **our**. Not **you / yours**, because **yours** is a pronoun and cannot go before a noun.

22. I don't think that's the only dry cleaner's around here. I think there is _____ next to the bus station.
✔ A) another
Another means 'one more' and can stand alone as a pronoun in place of a singular noun: **there is another (dry cleaner's)**. Not **the other**, which means the last one of two or of a known group, and **others** is plural.

23. I think that buying _____ own photocopier would save _____ money.
✔ E) their / them
Before **own** we need a possessive determiner: **their own photocopier**. After **save** we need an object pronoun: **save them money**. Not **ours** or **theirs**, which are possessive pronouns and cannot be used before **own**.

24. Since _____ seems eager to give me a hand with these, I have no other choice but to do _____ by myself.
✔ C) no one / everything
No one seems eager to help explains why the speaker has **no other choice**. **Do everything by myself** means do all the work alone. Not **anybody seems eager**, because with a positive verb it would mean the opposite, that people want to help.

25. _____ has got a packed lunch, a torch and a waterproof coat, haven't _____?
✓ **A) Everybody / they**
Everybody takes a singular verb (**has got**), but the question tag uses **they**: **Everybody has got…, haven't they?** Not **you** or **we**, because the subject is the third person **everybody**.

26. Men, women and children in _____ part of the world wear some sort of jewellery, either as ornaments or because of superstitions.
✓ **B) every**
Every goes with a singular countable noun: **in every part of the world**. Not **all**, which needs a plural or **the** (**all parts**, **all the world**). **Whole** needs an article (**the whole world**).

27. There are _____ ways to get from my house to work, but _____ of them is very comfortable.
✓ **C) several / none**
Several ways means more than two, and **none of them** means 'not one of them'. Not **neither**, because it is only used for two things, and **several**, **a few** or **plenty of** ways means more than two.

28. There are _____ Indian restaurants available in England, whereas, in Istanbul, your options are _____.
✓ **E) a lot of / few**
A lot of goes with plural nouns (**a lot of restaurants**). After **be**, we use **few** without **a** to mean 'not many': **your options are few**. The contrast with **whereas** needs this negative meaning. Not **so much**, which goes with uncountable nouns.

29. Normally, airlines serve their passengers _____ cooked dinner during _____ flight.
✓ **C) a / the**
A cooked dinner is one meal of a general type, so it takes the indefinite article **a**. **During the flight** means the particular flight the passengers are on, which is clear from the context. Not **an**, because **cooked** starts with a consonant sound.

30. The lawyer for the people who _____ in the fire at the shopping centre _____ the judge for compensation.
✓ **A) were injured / is going to ask**
The people is plural and the fire is in the past, so we need **were injured** (past passive). The subject of the main verb is **the lawyer** (singular), so we need **is going to ask**. Not **are going to ask**, because **people** is not the subject of that verb.

31. We have 120 post-graduate students at our university and almost two-thirds of _____ _____ from abroad.
✓ **D) them / come**
After **of** we need an object pronoun: **two-thirds of them**. A fraction + **of** + plural noun or pronoun takes a plural verb, and **come from** is a present simple fact about origin. Not **comes**, because **two-thirds of them** is plural.

32. A good percentage of our time _____ at work, so we should choose an occupation that we enjoy.
✓ **C) is spent**
A percentage + **of** + uncountable noun (**time**) takes a singular verb. Time is spent by people, so the passive is needed: **is spent**. Not **is spending**, because time does not do the spending.

33. I love the company of _____ friends, but sometimes I just want to be by _____.
✓ **D) my / myself**
Before a noun we use the possessive determiner: **my friends**. **By myself** is a fixed phrase meaning 'alone'. Not **mine**, which cannot go before a noun, and **by me** means 'next to me' or shows who did something.

34. There have been _____ isolated incidents of violence, but _____ of World Cup supporters have been well-behaved.
✓ **A) a few / the majority**
A few isolated incidents means a small number, which contrasts with **but**. **The majority of** + plural noun means 'most of them' and takes a plural verb (**have been**). Not **a good deal** or **a great deal**, which go with uncountable nouns.

35. American plays produced during the 19th century were mostly sensational melodrama and therefore of _____ literary importance.
✓ **B) little**
Importance is uncountable, and **little** (without **a**) means 'hardly any', which matches the negative idea given by **therefore**. Not **a few** or **many**, which go with plural countable nouns, and **none** cannot go before a noun.

36. The different peoples in Africa _____ have _____ own myths about the creation of the world.
✓ **E) each / their**
Each can come after a plural subject and before the verb: **The peoples… each have**. The possessive for the plural subject **peoples** is **their own myths**. Not **all / its**, because **its** is singular and does not match **peoples**.

37. The doctor gave him _____ tablets and told him to drink _____ water.
✓ **E) some / plenty of**
Some works with plural countable nouns (**some tablets**). **Plenty of** (= a lot of) works with uncountable nouns (**plenty of water**). Not **many** or **several of**, because **water** is uncountable and **several of** needs **the** or a pronoun after it.

38. Pasta, which literally means dough in _____ Italian, is _____ Italian food now popular, in such forms as spaghetti, macaroni and ravioli, all over the world.
✓ **C) _____ / an**
Names of languages take no article: **in Italian**. **Food** is used here as a countable noun meaning 'a type of food', and **Italian** starts with a vowel sound, so we say **an Italian food**. Not **the Italian**, because we don't put **the** before a language name used alone.

39. I knew that his wife wasn't a good cook, so I doubted that she had cooked all the dishes she served _____ on _____.
✓ **A) us / her own**
Served us uses an object pronoun because the speaker and others were the guests. **On her own** means 'alone, without help' and refers to his wife. Not **him / herself**, because **on herself** is not a correct phrase; we say **by herself** or **on her own**.

40. Do you know that everything they _____ _____ guaranteed for two years?
✓ **B) sell / is**
Everything takes a singular verb: **everything… is guaranteed**. **They sell** is a present simple habit, which describes what the shop normally sells. Not **are**, because **everything** is singular.