ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

English Grammar Level Test MCQ With Answers – Intermediate Part 3

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Explanations

1. Gabriella has gone downtown _____ some supplies.
✔ **A) to get**
To give the purpose of an action (why someone does something), we use **to** + verb: **She went out to get some supplies.** Not **for getting** or **for to get**, because we don't use **for** with a verb to show purpose.

2. I'm sorry, but I don't really want to do it tonight. I _____ rather leave it till tomorrow.
✔ **D) 'd**
Would rather + base verb shows what we prefer: **I'd rather leave it till tomorrow. 'd** is short for **would** here. Not **had**, because **had better** means 'should', not 'prefer'.

3. There aren't very many people here, _____?
✔ **C) are there**
A question tag repeats the verb and subject of the sentence. The sentence uses **there aren't**, so the tag is positive with **there**: **are there?** Not **are they**, because the subject is **there**, not a pronoun.

4. Ali has a _____ vacation.
✔ **E) two-week**
When a number + noun comes before another noun as an adjective, we join them with a hyphen and the noun stays singular: **a two-week vacation**, **a five-year plan**. Not **two-weeks**, because there is no plural **-s** in this pattern (but you can say **two weeks' vacation** without **a**).

5. I _____ at seven o'clock, but _____ to be up by six.
✔ **E) normally get up / sometimes I have**
Habits use the present simple, and adverbs like **normally** go before the main verb: **I normally get up**. **Sometimes** can go at the start of a clause: **sometimes I have to**. **Have to** (obligation) is not normally used in the continuous form here, so **I am having** is wrong.

6. I don't know how to play the guitar and _____.
✔ **A) neither does my friend**
To agree with a negative sentence, we use **neither** + auxiliary + subject: **I don't play the guitar and neither does my friend.** Not **either does my friend**; **either** goes at the end of a negative sentence: **my friend doesn't either**.

7. _____, all is not lost yet.
✔ **E) According to the generals**
According to + someone reports what other people say: **According to the generals, all is not lost.** We don't say **according to me**; we say **in my opinion**. **In spite of / Despite the fact** must be followed by **that**, not **what**.

8. Look! That's _____ over there!
✔ **D) him**
After **be** in informal English we normally use an object pronoun: **That's him over there! That's he** sounds very formal and old-fashioned, so **him** is the natural choice.

9. It was _____ that they were talking about, wasn't it?
✔ **B) us**
In this cleft sentence the pronoun is the object of **talking about** (**they were talking about us**), so we use the object pronoun **us**. Not **we**, because **we** is a subject pronoun.

10. It was him that went out just now, _____?
✔ **B) wasn't it**
In a cleft sentence starting **It was …**, the tag uses **it** and the same tense: **It was him …, wasn't it?** Not **wasn't he**, because the main subject of the sentence is **it**.

11. The singing of the birds _____ me distant memories.
✔ **A) brings**
The subject is **the singing** (singular); **of the birds** only describes it. So the verb is singular: **brings**. Not **bring**, because the verb agrees with **singing**, not with **birds**.

12. This is a song about a man who _____ by his wife and children.
✔ **E) has been deserted**
A man is singular, and **by his wife and children** shows a passive meaning, so we need the present perfect passive: **has been deserted**. Not **have been deserted**, because **who** refers to **a man**, which is singular.

13. We go to _____ school to study. We go to _____ work in order to earn a living. We go to _____ bed to rest and sleep.
✔ **A) _____ / _____ / _____**
With **school**, **work** and **bed** we use no article when we talk about their main purpose: **go to school** (to study), **go to work**, **go to bed** (to sleep). We use **the** only for a particular building or object: **I went to the school to see the teacher.**

14. I'd rather have _____ of these two.
✔ **A) the less expensive**
When we compare two things, we use the comparative with **the**: **the less expensive of these two**. Not **the least expensive**, because the superlative is used for three or more things.

15. The price they charge for many types of colour TV sets _____ finally dropping.
✓ C) is
The subject is **the price** (singular); **they charge for many types of colour TV sets** only describes it. So we need the singular verb **is** (**is finally dropping**). Not **are**, because the verb agrees with **price**, not with **sets**.

16. He _____ rather unwell for several days before he died one night in his sleep.
✓ A) had been feeling
The past perfect continuous (**had been feeling**) describes a situation that continued up to a point in the past. The clues are **for several days** and **before he died**. Not **used to feel**, because that describes a past habit, not a period leading up to a past event.

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