ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

English Grammar MCQ Test With Answers Intermediate – 08

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Explanations

1. No, I don't mind waiting at all, _____ it doesn't take you more than an hour.
✔ **C) as long as**
As long as means 'on condition that'. The speaker will wait only if the wait is not longer than an hour. Not **even if**, which means 'whatever happens' and does not fit the condition here.

2. No, I _____ buy a new one. My old watch was working perfectly after all.
✔ **D) didn't have to**
Didn't have to means something was not necessary in the past. The old watch worked, so buying a new one was not necessary. Not **needn't**, which refers to the present; for the past we say **needn't have bought**.

3. I am no less surprised than anyone else to see that he's _____ obstinate _____ a mule.
✔ **C) as / as**
To say two things are equal, use **as** + adjective + **as**: **as obstinate as a mule** (very stubborn). Not **so … as**, which is used mainly in negative sentences (**not so big as**). **More** goes with **than**, not **as**.

4. I've got a headache and I _____ terrible.
✔ **B) feel**
Feel + adjective describes how your body or mind is: **I feel terrible**, **I feel tired**. The other verbs cannot be followed by the adjective **terrible** in this way.

5. The climber _____ send one final message before his phone battery died.
✔ **C) was able to**
For a single successful action in the past, use **was able to** (or **managed to**): he succeeded in sending the message. Not **could have**, which needs a past participle (**could have sent**) and means it was possible but did not happen.

6. All he is good at _____ cheating at dice.
✔ **C) is**
In the structure **All + clause + is …**, **all** means 'the only thing', so the verb is singular: **All he is good at is cheating at dice.** Not **are**, because the subject is one thing, not several.

7. All I want _____ to be free.
✔ **A) is**
All I want means 'the only thing I want', and it takes a singular verb: **All I want is to be free.**

8. What I want to do now _____ to get some rest.
✔ **A) is**
A **what**-clause as subject (**What I want to do now**) is treated as singular, so we use **is**: **What I want to do now is to get some rest.** Not **are**, because the subject is one idea.

9. Some people have never known _____ it is like to be free.
✔ **B) what**
We use **what … is like** to ask or talk about the nature of something: **what it is like to be free**. Not **that** or **which**, because the clause needs a word meaning 'the thing that'.

10. Why didn't you send him an invitation? I _____ send him one, but I think it must have got lost in the mail.
✔ **C) did**
Did + base verb is used for emphasis, to contradict what someone thinks: **I did send him one** means 'I really sent him one'. Not **should**, which would mean it was the right thing to do, not that it happened.

11. Leave it to your daughter, and she'll get _____ with either a davul-player or a zurna-player.
✔ **A) friendly**
Get friendly with someone means to become friends with them. The other options need a different preposition or verb: **get engaged/married to**, **get interested in**, **fall in love with**. (A davul and a zurna are traditional Turkish musical instruments.)

12. There are some very funny-looking objects in the box. But, _____ they are, I can spare no time to inspect them now.
✔ **C) whatever**
Whatever they are means 'it doesn't matter what they are'. The speaker doesn't know what the objects are and has no time to look. Not **whichever**, which is used when choosing from a known group.

13. The man _____ robbed the bank has been arrested.
✔ **D) whose sons had**
Whose shows possession: **the man whose sons had robbed the bank** = the man's sons robbed the bank. Not **who have**, because **the man** is singular and would need **who has**.

14. The news of the team's victory _____ received here early on Monday.
✔ **B) was**
News is uncountable and takes a singular verb, and **early on Monday** is a finished past time, so we need the past simple passive **was received**. Not **has been**, because the present perfect is not used with a finished past time.

15. Yes, you may borrow my pocket-knife _____ you don't cut yourself with it.
✔ **E) as long as**
As long as means 'on condition that': you can borrow the knife if you don't cut yourself. Not **although**, which shows contrast, not a condition.

16. _____ we found in the drawer was completely useless.
✔ **D) What**
What here means 'the thing that': **What we found in the drawer** = the thing that we found. Not **Which**, which needs a noun or a choice from a group.

17. Can you tell us _____ your purpose is in visiting the country at this time of the year?
✔ **D) what**
In an indirect question, **what** asks about a thing: **what your purpose is**. Note the word order: subject before verb (**your purpose is**), not **is your purpose**.

18. If you _____ stop this nonsense at once, _____ tell your pa when he comes home, and he'll know what to do with you.
✔ **E) don't / I'll**
This is a first conditional: **If** + present simple, **will** + base verb for a real future result: **If you don't stop…, I'll tell your pa.** Not **won't** in the if-clause, because we don't normally use **will** after **if**.

19. In many countries, measles _____ considered a common childhood illness _____ longer.
✔ **B) is not / any**
Measles ends in -s, but it is the name of one disease, so it takes a singular verb (**is**). **Not … any longer** means something has stopped being true: **It is not considered common any longer.** Not **are not**, because measles is not plural.

20. What was the weather _____ when you were over there?
✔ **B) like**
What is/was … like? asks for a description: **What was the weather like?** = How was the weather? Not **alike**, which means 'similar' and is not used in this question.

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