ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

English Level Test Advanced C1

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Explanations

1. People were amazed that the burglary took place in _____ daylight.
✔ **B) broad**
In broad daylight is a fixed phrase meaning 'during the day, when everyone can see'. It stresses how bold or shocking an act was: **He was robbed in broad daylight. Wide**, **large** and **open** do not collocate with **daylight** in this idiom.

2. She invested a lot of time _____ researching the most appropriate university course.
✔ **D) in**
The verb is **invest (time/money/effort) in** something, and **in** is followed by a noun or an **-ing** form: **She invested a lot of time in researching…**. Not **for** or **to**, which are not used with **invest** in this sense.

3. The police claimed that they acted in self-_____.
✔ **C) defence**
Act in self-defence means using force to protect yourself from attack, which is the usual claim after using force. **Self-interest**, **self-confidence** and **self-discipline** are real words, but they do not fit the fixed phrase **act in self-…** or the meaning here. (**Defence** is the British spelling; American English uses **defense**.)

4. I _____ remember putting my briefcase down on that shelf.
✔ **C) clearly**
Clearly remember (or **distinctly remember**) is the natural collocation for being sure about a memory. **Strongly** collocates with verbs of opinion or feeling (**strongly believe**, **strongly feel**), not with **remember**. **Deeply** and **entirely** do not go with **remember** either.

5. He turned _____ to be considerably older than I had imagined.
✔ **C) out**
Turn out (to be) means 'prove to be, be discovered to be', often when something is surprising: **He turned out to be older than I had imagined.** Not **turn up**, which means 'arrive' or 'be found' and is not followed by **to be** in this sense.

6. The windows in this house are in urgent _____ of replacement.
✔ **A) need**
Be in (urgent) need of something means to need it badly: **The roof is in urgent need of repair. In want of** is old-fashioned and does not collocate with **urgent**. **Help** and **demand** don't fit the pattern **in … of replacement**.

7. Speed cameras _____ shown to reduce accidents.
✔ **C) have been**
This is the passive pattern **be shown to do** something (= research has proved that something does it). The present perfect passive **have been shown** links past studies to a present truth. Not **have**: **have shown** is active and would need an object (**Studies have shown that…**).

8. Life is a _____ deal easier for immigrants who can speak the local language.
✔ **D) great**
A great deal (or **a good deal**) + comparative means 'much': **a great deal easier**. Not **far**: **far** can intensify a comparative on its own (**far easier**), but you cannot say **a far deal**. **Huge** and **big** are not used in this fixed phrase.

9. The experiment _____ testing people's responses before and after drinking coffee.
✔ **C) involved**
Involve + -ing means to include something as a necessary part of an activity: **The job involves travelling abroad.** Not **consisted**, which needs **of** (**consisted of testing**). **Contained** and **incorporated** are used for physical contents or parts, and they don't fit naturally before an **-ing** activity here.

10. We may be a bit late. We're _____ in a traffic jam.
✔ **B) stuck**
Be stuck in a traffic jam means to be unable to move because of heavy traffic. This is the standard collocation. Not **blocked**: we say a road is **blocked**, not the people in it.

11. Having _____ his driving test several times, Paul finally passed at the fourth attempt.
✔ **A) taken**
The collocation is **take a test/exam** (British English also uses **sit** an exam). The perfect participle **Having taken** shows these attempts came before he finally passed. Not **made** or **attended**, which don't collocate with **test**.

12. Gospel music has been a major influence _____ other musical styles, especially soul.
✔ **D) on**
The noun **influence** takes the preposition **on**: **a major influence on other musical styles**. Not **to** or **with**, which are common learner errors with this noun.

13. Maintaining an accurate balance sheet is essential, _____ business you're in.
✓ **C) whatever**
Whatever + noun means 'no matter what (kind of)': **whatever business you're in** = it doesn't matter which business. Not **however**, which goes with adjectives or adverbs (**however big your business is**), and not **wherever**, which refers to place.

14. It's _____ likely that this novel will win a literary prize.
✓ **D) highly**
Highly is the standard intensifier with **likely**, **unlikely** and **probable**: **It's highly unlikely to rain.** **Strongly**, **deeply** and **totally** do not collocate with **likely**.

15. It's no _____ for me to get Brad's phone number - I'll be seeing him tonight.
✓ **D) problem**
It's no problem (for me) to do something means it is easy and causes no difficulty. The reason is given after the dash: he'll see Brad tonight. Not **point**: **There's no point (in) doing** has a different structure and means 'it's useless'.

16. I'd lived in Australia, so I was used to _____ on the left side of the road.
✓ **A) driving**
In **be used to** (= be accustomed to), **to** is a preposition, so it is followed by a noun or an **-ing** form: **I was used to driving on the left.** Not **drive**: that would be **used to + infinitive**, which describes a past habit, a different structure.

17. I don't think the colours in Julia's outfit _____ together.
✓ **D) go**
Go together means that things look good or suit each other in combination: **Do these colours go together?** (You can also say colours **match**, without **together**.) Not **suit**: **suit** takes an object (**That colour suits you**), and **fit** refers to size or shape.

18. Very rarely _____ here in July.
✓ **B) does it rain**
When a negative or restrictive adverb such as **rarely**, **seldom** or **never** starts the sentence, we use question-style inversion: **Very rarely does it rain here.** The present simple is used because this is a general fact about July. Not **is it raining**, as the continuous is not used for regular patterns like this.

19. I prefer to buy CDs _____ download music from my computer.
✓ **C) rather than**
After **prefer to do**, the contrast is expressed with **rather than** + bare infinitive: **I prefer to buy CDs rather than download music. As opposed to**, **in contrast to** and **in comparison to** are prepositions, so they would need an **-ing** form or a noun (**as opposed to downloading**).

20. The number of turtles on the island _____ by 70% over the last decade.
✓ **A) has declined**
The present perfect simple **has declined** describes a change over a period up to now (**over the last decade**) and its measured result (**by 70%**). **Decline** is intransitive, so the passive **has been declined** is impossible. Not **had been declining**: the past perfect needs a past reference point, and there is none here.

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