ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

English Level Test PRE-INTERMEDIATE 2B

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Explanations

1. Sally _____ some money when she was cleaning her car.
✓ **D) found**
Find is an irregular verb. Its past simple is **found**. Not **founded**, which is the past of **found** (to start a company).

2. I can sing, but not as _____ as my brother.
✓ **A) well**
We describe a verb (**sing**) with an adverb, so we need **well**, not **good**. The pattern is **as + adverb + as**: **not as well as my brother**.

3. If we had the money, we _____ get a taxi to the theatre.
✓ **D) could**
This is the second conditional (**If + past, would/could + verb**) for an imagined situation. **Could** means **would be able to**. **Will can** and **would can** are never correct.

4. You _____ the new restaurant. The food's terrible.
✓ **B) won't like**
This is a prediction about the future, so we use **will** + verb: **won't like**. **Like** is not used with **be** (**aren't like** is wrong).

5. Susan _____ drive, but she does now.
✓ **C) didn't use to**
Used to describes a past habit or state. In negatives we use **didn't use to** (no **-d**) after **didn't**. Not **didn't used to**, because after **did/didn't** the verb has no past ending.

6. When I got home I remembered that _____ my mobile at work.
✓ **D) I'd left**
Leaving the phone happened before remembering, so we use the past perfect: **I'd left** (**I had left**). Not **I've left**, because the story is in the past (**got**, **remembered**).

7. I haven't tidied my flat _____.
✓ **C) yet**
Yet is used at the end of negative sentences and questions in the present perfect: **I haven't tidied it yet**. **Already** is used in positive sentences.

8. Michelangelo _____ some of his best works in Rome.
✓ **A) painted**
Michelangelo lived in the past and is dead, so we use the past simple: **painted**. Not **has painted**, because the present perfect connects to now.

9. How _____ your name?
✓ **C) do you pronounce**
A question in the present simple needs **do**: **How do you pronounce your name?** Not **you pronounce**, because the question has no auxiliary verb.

10. _____ I worked hard, I didn't pass the test.
✓ **A) Although**
Although joins two ideas that contrast: I worked hard, but the result was bad. Not **Because**, which gives a reason.

11. I'm really tired – I only got _____ hours' sleep.
✓ **B) a few**
Hours is a countable plural noun, so we use **a few** (a small number). **A little** is for uncountable nouns. **Few** alone sounds negative and unnatural after **only**.

12. We _____ late and the film had already started.
✓ **A) arrived**
Our arrival is the main past action, so we use the past simple **arrived**. The film started earlier, so that part uses the past perfect **had already started**.

13. She told me _____ number, but I can't remember it.
✓ **C) her**
The number belongs to **she**, so we use the possessive adjective **her** before the noun: **her number**. Not **hers**, which is used without a noun (**It's hers**).

14. Peter always _____ golf on Wednesdays.
✓ **A) plays**
For habits we use the present simple. With **he/she/it** (Peter) the verb takes **-s**: **plays**.

15. Did you _____ TV last night?
✓ **A) watch**
We say **watch TV**. We use **see** for a film or programme (**see a film**), not for **TV** in general.

16. This building was built _____ the Romans.
✓ **C) by**
In passive sentences, we use **by** to say who did the action: **built by the Romans**.

17. Your clothes are on the floor. Why don't you _____?
✓ **A) pick them up**
With phrasal verbs like **pick up**, a pronoun (**them**) goes between the verb and the particle: **pick them up**. Not **pick up them**.

18. That's the café _____ we had breakfast.
✓ **B) where**
We use **where** for places: **the café where we had breakfast**. Not **which** or **that**, because they would need **in** at the end (**the café which we had breakfast in**).

19. I _____ the house because I hadn't brought a map.
✓ **A) couldn't find**
The past of **can't** is **couldn't**, and it is followed by the verb without **to**: **couldn't find**. The story is in the past (**hadn't brought**), so **can't** is wrong.

20. Julie _____ some wine when she went to Spain.
✓ **D) bought**
Buy is an irregular verb; its past simple is **bought**. Not **has bought**, because **when she went to Spain** is a finished past time.

21. There's always a lot of traffic going _____ the bridge.
✓ **A) over**
Cars cross a bridge from one side to the other, so we say **over the bridge**.

22. I don't get _____ very well with my cousin.
✓ **C) on**
Get on (well) with someone means to have a friendly relationship: **I get on well with my sister.**

23. Your diet is terrible. You don't eat _____.
✓ **A) many vegetables**
Vegetables is countable plural, so we use **many vegetables** in a negative sentence. Not **enough vegetable**, because the noun must be plural.

24. Jeremy isn't very good _____.
✓ **B) at dancing**
We say **good at** + noun or **-ing** form: **good at dancing**. Not **good to dance**.

25. You eat _____ chocolate – you really should give up.
✓ **A) too much**
Chocolate is uncountable, and **too much** means more than is good. The advice **you should give up** shows it is a problem.

26. We _____ take a map.
✓ **C) should**
Should gives advice and is followed by the verb without **to**: **We should take a map.** Not **ought**, because it needs **to** (**ought to take**).

27. Who _____ the answer to this question?
✓ **A) knows**
When **who** is the subject of the question, we don't use **do/does**, and the verb takes **-s**: **Who knows…?**

28. My grandparents _____ to stay with us next week.
✓ **D) are coming**
We use the present continuous for future plans: **are coming next week**. **Grandparents** is plural, so we use **are**.

29. It _____ when they went out.
✓ **B) was raining**
The past continuous (**was raining**) describes the background situation when another past action (**they went out**) happened.

30. I _____ come to the party tonight.
✓ **A) might not**
Might not + verb means it is possible that I won't come. Modal verbs don't use **don't**.

31. Can you look _____ my cat this weekend?
✓ **D) after**
Look after means to take care of: **Can you look after my cat?**

32. I'm sure Australia isn't as big _____ America.
✓ **A) as**
We compare with the pattern **as + adjective + as**: **not as big as**. **Than** is used with comparatives (**smaller than**).

33. That's my money! Give _____!
✓ **B) it back**
With the phrasal verb **give back**, a pronoun (**it**) goes in the middle: **Give it back!** Not **Give back it**.

34. It's important _____ too much alcohol.
✓ **B) not to drink**
After **It's important** we use **to** + verb; the negative is **not to** + verb: **not to drink**.

35. _____ my best friend since 1985.
✓ **A) I've known**
With **since** + a past time, we use the present perfect for a situation that is still true: **I've known**. Not **I know**, because **since** needs the present perfect.

36. Come on, it's time _____.
✓ **D) to go**
We say **it's time** + **to** + verb: **it's time to go**.

37. _____ lunch in a restaurant today.
✓ **C) I'm having**
We use the present continuous for plans for today or the near future: **I'm having lunch**. Not **I have**, which is for habits.

38. Cameras aren't allowed here – you _____ take photos.
✓ **A) mustn't**
Mustn't means it is not allowed. Not **don't have to**, which means it is not necessary but you can if you want.

39. My uncle _____ be a doctor.
✓ **A) used to**
Used to + verb describes a past situation that is not true now: **My uncle used to be a doctor.** Not **was used to**, which means **accustomed to** and is followed by a noun or **-ing**.

40. If you take your time, _____ the right decision.
✓ **C) you'll make**
This is the first conditional: **If** + present simple, **will** + verb, for a likely future result: **you'll make**. Not **you'd make**, which needs a past verb after **if**.