ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

ESL A2 Level MCQ Test With Answers PRE-INTERMEDIATE TEST 3

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Explanations

1. A2 – MOCK EXAMINATION SECTION 1

Choose the correct alternatives to complete the sentences.

I _____ my sister in Australia this year but the plane ticket is too expensive.
✓ **C) 'd like to visit**
We use **would like to** + verb for something we want to do: **I'd like to visit**. Not **like visiting**, because that means you enjoy it in general.

2. They say they _____ another railway bridge across the river.
✓ **A) 're going to build**
We use **be going to** + verb for plans: **They're going to build** a bridge.

3. He _____ on the phone for an hour! Who is he talking to?
✓ **B) 's been**
For an hour shows something that started in the past and is still happening, so we say **He's been** (has been) on the phone. Not **is**, because we don't use the present with **for an hour** like this.

4. He _____ a shower when she _____ off the bathroom light.
✓ **A) was having / switched**
The longer action uses the past continuous (**was having**), and the short action that happened in the middle uses the past simple (**switched**).

5. He _____ when he can take his next holiday.
✓ **C) doesn't know**
Know is not used in the -ing form, so we say **doesn't know**, not **isn't knowing**.

6. SECTION 2

Choose the correct alternative to complete the sentence.

If you make a mistake, _____ and write the correct solution clearly.
✓ **B) cross it out**
Cross it out means draw a line through a mistake. Example: **Cross out the wrong word.**

7. He's the man _____ pushed me!
✓ **C) who**
We use **who** for people: **the man who pushed me**. **Which** is for things.

8. What a _____ film! Let's change the channel.
✓ **B) boring**
Words ending in **-ing** describe the thing: a **boring** film. Words ending in **-ed** describe how people feel: **I'm bored**.

9. You _____ which colour you want for the living room walls now. You can tell me tomorrow.
✓ **A) needn't decide**
Needn't means it is not necessary: you can decide tomorrow. Not **mustn't**, because that means it is not allowed.

10. We've got _____ DVDs which we haven't seen if there's nothing on TV tonight.
✓ **B) a few**
We use **a few** with plural nouns in positive sentences: **a few DVDs**. **A lot** needs **of**, and **any** is for questions and negatives.

11. SECTION 3

Choose the most suitable response.

What was the hotel like?
✓ **A) Expensive, but clean and quiet.**
What was it like? asks you to describe something, so we answer with describing words: **Expensive, but clean and quiet.** We don't start with **Yes**, because it is not a yes/no question.

12. Can I make an appointment with the dentist?
✓ **A) Would next Thursday at six be OK?**
When someone asks for an appointment, the receptionist offers a day and time: **Would next Thursday at six be OK?**

13. What's the meaning of this word?
✓ **B) Why don't you look it up in a dictionary?**
Look it up means find a word in a dictionary. This is good advice when someone doesn't know a word.

14. My train arrives at the station at 9.00 pm.
✓ **B) Don't worry. I'll pick you up.**
Pick you up means come and get you in a car. It is a kind answer to someone arriving late.

15. What would you like to drink?
✓ **A) Nothing, thank you.**
The question is about a drink, so **Nothing, thank you.** is a polite answer. **I'm not hungry** is about food.

16. When is he going to be back in the office?
✓ **A) Not until next Monday, I'm afraid.**
When asks about time, so the answer gives a time: **Not until next Monday**.

17. I can take you to the airport tomorrow.
✓ **B) Thank you. That's very kind of you.**
When someone offers help, we thank them: **Thank you. That's very kind of you.**

18. Have a good holiday!
✓ **C) The same to you!**
We answer a good wish with **The same to you!** when the other person is also going on holiday.

19. SECTION 4

Complete the questions with the correct alternatives.

Man: _____ people in the doctor's waiting room yesterday?

Woman: No, I was the only one.
✓ **B) Were there many**
People is plural, and it is in the past, so we ask **Were there many people…?**

20. Man: _____ next weekend?

Woman: I haven't decided yet. It depends on the weather.
✓ **A) What are you going to do**
For future plans we use **be going to**: **What are you going to do next weekend?** Not **What do you do**, because that is for habits.

21. Man: _____ dinner when I called?

Woman: No, I was only watching TV.
✓ **B) Were you having**
When I called is in the past, so we ask about an action in progress with the past continuous: **Were you having dinner?**

22. Man: _____ you carry those bags?

Woman: No, it's all right. They're not heavy.
✓ **A) Shall I help**
We use **Shall I…?** to offer help: **Shall I help you carry those bags?**

23. Man: _____ to work?

Woman: By train. It takes twenty minutes and it's more relaxing than driving.
✓ **B) How do you get**
The answer is **By train**, so the question asks about the way of travelling: **How do you get to work?** Not **How long**, because that asks about time.

24. Man: _____ you knew at the concert last Friday?

Woman: Yes. I saw John and Laura but I don't think they saw me.
✓ **C) Did you see anyone**
Last Friday is finished past time, so we use the past simple: **Did you see…?** In questions we use **anyone**.

25. Man: I'm sorry I'm late. _____ here?

Woman: Since 10.00!
✓ **A) How long have you been**
The answer **Since 10.00** shows the present perfect: **How long have you been here?**

26. SECTION 5

(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)

Complete the dialogue with the correct alternatives.

Will: I'm _____ staying in this town.
✓ **A) fed up with**
Fed up with means bored and unhappy with something: **I'm fed up with staying here. Tired** would need **of**.

27. Will: There's _____ to do!
✓ **B) nothing**
In a positive sentence we use **nothing**: **There's nothing to do. Anything** is for questions and negatives.

28. Will: _____ going away for the weekend?
✓ **B) How about**
How about + -ing makes a suggestion: **How about going away? Let's** and **Shall we** need the base verb (**go**).

29. Jack: No! I haven't got money to _____! I've got to pay for my new car.
✓ **A) throw away**
Money to throw away means money to spend on things that are not important. Jack needs his money for his car.

30. Will: What a _____ you don't want to come with me! I've got two tickets for the rugby match on Saturday.

✓ **B) pity**
What a pity! means that's sad or disappointing. Example: **What a pity you can't come.**

31. Jack: What?! The one in Edinburgh?

Will: That's right.

Jack: That's _____! How did you get them? I couldn't find any.
✓ **C) surprising**
Jack couldn't find tickets, so Will's news is **surprising**. **Excited** and **thrilled** describe how people feel, not things.

32. Will: One of my father's friends knows a man working at the stadium in Edinburgh.

Jack: How are we getting there?

Will: Ah! So you've changed your _____ about coming! Don't you have to pay for your car?
✓ **B) mind**
Change your mind means decide something different. Jack first said no, but now he wants to go.

33. Jack: Yes, I do, but I'll work _____ to make some extra money.
✓ **C) overtime**
Work overtime means work more hours than usual to earn extra money.

34. Will: OK. We can leave on Saturday morning. My father is going to _____ me his car.
✓ **C) lend**
Lend means give something for a short time: **My father will lend me his car. Borrow** means take it: **I'll borrow his car.**

35. Will: We can find a bed and breakfast or a hotel for Saturday night. Then, on Sunday morning we can go _____ around Edinburgh. I've never been there before. We can come home in the afternoon. What do you think?

Jack: Fantastic!
✓ **A) sightseeing**
Go sightseeing means visit the famous places in a town.

36. **All British people go to live in Australia.**
✓ **C) False**
Paragraph 1 says British people go to Australia for many reasons, but not that all of them go. So it is false.

37. **Some people move to Australia because it's sunnier and warmer.**
✓ **A) True**
Paragraph 1 says some people think the UK is dark, cold and rainy and want to live where it's sunny.

38. **Terry was born in Australia.**
✓ **C) Doesn't say**
The text doesn't tell us where Terry was born, only that his father was living in Tasmania.

39. **Terry and Sarah first went to Australia for family reasons.**
✓ **B) True**
Paragraph 2 says they went to look after Terry's old father. That is a family reason.

40. **They were in Australia for six months before they sold their house in the UK.**
✓ **C) True**
Paragraph 2 says Terry's father died six months later, and then they sold their house in the UK.

41. **The reasons for their move to Australia include better _____.**
✓ **B) weather**
Paragraph 2 says they moved because of the sunny weather. Houses, cars and petrol were cheaper, not better.

42. **At first, they _____ there.**
✓ **C) liked the exciting new things**
Paragraph 3 says: At first, they enjoyed living there. Everything was exciting and new.

43. **Then, they realised _____.**
✓ **B) there were a lot of things they didn't like**
Paragraph 3 lists many problems: strong sun, boring winter evenings, bad TV, no library and little water.

44. **They _____.**
✓ **B) thought winter evenings there were worse than in the UK**
Paragraph 3 says winter evenings were darker, longer and more boring than in Britain. They did have some water: rain.

45. **Now they are home and enjoy _____.**
✓ **A) life in general**
The last paragraph lists many good things: a garden, friends, books, TV and grandchildren. They see their son's family every week but don't live with them.

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