ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

ESL B1+ Level MCQ Test With Answers UPPER INTERMEDIATE TEST 2

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Explanations

1. B1+ MOCK EXAMINATION SECTION 1

Choose the correct alternatives to complete the sentences.

I haven't seen her since she _____ to New Zealand.
✓ **A) emigrated**
After **since**, we use the past simple for a finished action that marks the start of the period: **since she emigrated**. The main clause uses the present perfect (**haven't seen**). Not **had emigrated**: the past perfect isn't used after **since** with a present perfect main clause.

2. There are eight known planets in the solar system but perhaps others _____ in the future.
✓ **A) will be discovered**
The planets don't discover anything; people discover them. So we need the future passive: **will be** + past participle, **will be discovered**. Not **will discover**, because that is active and would mean the planets do the discovering.

3. You really should stop _____ all the time; it's annoying.
✓ **B) complaining**
Stop + **-ing** means to end an action you are doing: **stop complaining**. Not **to complain**: **stop to do** means to stop one activity in order to do another.

4. When you get to know him, you'll understand how he _____ to stay on top all these years.
✓ **B) has managed**
All these years describes a period that started in the past and continues until now, so we use the present perfect: **has managed**. Not **had managed**: the past perfect refers to a time before another past moment, but here the period reaches the present.

5. When he realised what he _____, he quickly apologised.
✓ **B) had said**
The saying happened before the realising, and both are in the past, so we use the past perfect: **had said**. Not **has said**: the present perfect doesn't fit a past-tense story (**realised**, **apologised**).

6. We _____ dinner from 7.30 to about 8.30 tonight, so you'd better ring at about 9.00.
✓ **A) will be having**
The future continuous (**will be** + **-ing**) describes an action in progress at a future time: **from 7.30 to 8.30 tonight** we **will be having** dinner. That's why it's better to ring at 9.00.

7. What exactly _____ at the time the robbery took place?
✓ **C) were you doing**
The past continuous asks about an activity in progress at a specific past moment: **at the time the robbery took place**. So **were you doing** is correct. Not **have you been doing**: that connects to the present, but the robbery is in the past.

8. If they had invited Walter, the party last night _____ better.
✓ **D) would have been**
This is the **third conditional** for an imagined past: **If** + past perfect (**had invited**), **would have** + past participle. The party was **last night**, so the answer is **would have been**. Not **would be**: that talks about the present, but the party is already over.

9. We are planning _____ the software model in March.
✓ **D) to launch**
The verb **plan** is followed by **to** + infinitive: **We are planning to launch**. Not **launching**: **plan** doesn't normally take the **-ing** form.

10. It's been years since I last saw you! What _____?
✓ **A) have you been doing**
It's been years since I last saw you shows a long period up to now, so we ask with the present perfect continuous: **What have you been doing?** Not **did you do**: the past simple needs a finished time, but here the period continues to the present.

11. SECTION 2

Choose the correct alternative to complete the sentences.

She lives on a farm in the country, so I imagine she _____ up early.
✓ **D) is used to getting**
Be used to + **-ing** means to be accustomed to something: she lives on a farm now, so she **is used to getting up** early. Not **used to get**: that describes a past habit that has stopped, but she still lives there.

12. John and Jill are definitely coming and Mike said he _____ come.
✓ **B) might**
Might shows possibility: Mike isn't sure, so he **might come**. This contrasts with John and Jill, who are **definitely** coming. Not **mustn't**: it means 'is not allowed to', which doesn't fit.

13. Do you like the new kitchen? We _____ over the summer.
✓ **D) had it remodelled**
The causative **have** + object + past participle means someone else did the work for us: **We had it remodelled** (a builder did it). Not **had remodelled it**: the past perfect means we did it ourselves and doesn't fit **over the summer**.

14. The young girl was caught trying to steal a shirt from the store and was _____ with shoplifting.
✓ **C) charged**
The collocation is **charged with** a crime: the police officially accuse someone, e.g. **charged with shoplifting**. Not **arrested**: we say **arrested for**, not **arrested with**.

15. I'm afraid I've made the problem worse, _____?
✓ **A) haven't I**
A question tag repeats the auxiliary of the main verb. The sentence **I've made** is positive, so the tag is negative: **haven't I**. Not **aren't I**: that tag is only used after **I am**.

16. You can stay up and watch the film _____ you go straight to bed afterwards.
✓ **C) providing**
Providing (or **provided**) means 'on condition that', like **if**: you can watch the film **providing** you go straight to bed. Not **as far as**: it is used for distance or extent (**as far as I know**), not conditions.

17. Susan is unemployed at the moment because she got _____ from her job.
✓ **A) the sack**
Get the sack is an informal expression meaning to lose your job because your employer dismissed you. This explains why Susan is **unemployed**. Not **promoted**: that means getting a better job, not losing one.

18. Mike travels a lot for his job; he's always _____.
✓ **B) on the go**
On the go means very busy and always moving or travelling, e.g. **She's always on the go**. This matches someone who **travels a lot**. Not **going on**: it means 'happening' and needs something after it.

19. He _____ some help with his homework; the answers are all absolutely perfect.
✓ **A) must have had**
Must have + past participle is used for a confident guess about the past. The perfect answers are the clue, so he **must have had** some help. Not **can't have**: that means it's impossible, the opposite of what the evidence shows.

20. I couldn't believe how little he paid for that second-hand car. He got it _____!
✓ **C) dirt cheap**
Dirt cheap is an informal expression meaning extremely cheap. It matches **how little he paid**. Not **brand new**: the car is **second-hand**, so it can't be new.

21. **Which of these statements is NOT true according to the first two paragraphs of the article?**
✓ **A) Second generation immigrants always speak their parents' native language at home.**
Paragraph 2 says immigrant parents **may want their children to speak English not only at school but also at home**. So it is not true that children **always** speak their parents' language at home. The other statements match the text: communication problems (paragraph 1), losing ethnic identity and looking down on parents (paragraph 2).

22. **According to the text, many immigrants move to English-speaking countries because _____.**
✓ **C) they are trying to have a better life**
Paragraph 2 says many immigrants **are looking for a better standard of living than they had at home**, which means they are trying to have a better life. Not **they can't find work**: the text mentions job problems in their new country, not at home.

23. **According to the text, the 18-year-old daughter _____.**
✓ **D) doesn't understand Korean humour**
Paragraph 3 says the eighteen-year-old **doesn't understand Korean jokes**, so she doesn't understand Korean humour. Not **speaks English but not Korean**: the text says she **also speaks Korean very well**.

24. **The younger sister has problems with her mother because _____.**
✓ **B) she is very Americanised**
Paragraph 3 says the aunt **gets angry with her because she is extremely Americanised**. Her age (14) is mentioned in the text, but it is not the reason for the problems.

25. **Which sums up the 12-year-old brother's opinion of speaking Korean?**
✓ **D) He thinks it's useless in America.**
Paragraph 3 says he **doesn't see the point of learning Korean** because he will speak English **for the rest of his life**. So he thinks Korean is useless in America. The text doesn't say it will limit his future or hurt his English.

26. **According to the text, the mother tried to teach her children Korean _____.**
✓ **A) to establish an ethnic identity**
The last paragraph says she taught them Korean **to instil in them the same pride that she felt in her ethnic background**, which means to give them an ethnic identity. Not **to find a good job**: the text says **It wasn't to help them succeed in the USA**.

27. **Which statement is correct?**
✓ **B) Young second generation immigrants don't like feeling different from others of their age.**
Paragraph 4 says **being different** can be upsetting, especially when young people are **anxious to be accepted by others of their age group**. Not the first option: the text says it **can** be upsetting, not that they **always** feel upset.

28. **When the writer's cousins visited Korea, _____.**
✓ **C) they didn't feel at home**
Paragraph 4 says the cousins **felt 'foreign'** in Korea, so they didn't feel at home there. The text says nothing about buying clothes or refusing to speak Korean.

29. Which of the following best describes the writer's aunt?

✓ B) Proud of her Korean heritage.

The last paragraph says she wanted her children to have **the same pride that she felt in her ethnic background**, so she is proud of her Korean heritage. Not **fiercely nationalistic**: this is too strong, and the text gives no evidence for it.

30. Which of the following is CLOSEST to the main idea of the text?

✓ B) Many immigrant families have problems with communication.

The text starts by saying immigrant parents and children often have problems because they **may not have the same native language**. The aunt's family is an example of this. The other options are only details, or they are not true according to the text.

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