ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

General ESL Vocabulary MCQ Test With Answers – Intermediate Level Exercise 04

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Explanations

1. I'm now going to give you 10 _____ tips for running a really successful website.
✔ **A) invaluable**
Invaluable means extremely useful or valuable, so it fits 'tips for running a really successful website'. Not **valueless** or **worthless**: these mean the opposite, 'having no value', even though **invaluable** looks like a negative word.

2. Well, they were both in perfect running order only this morning, but this one is now definitely out of _____. You'll have to use the other one.
✔ **A) order**
A machine that is **out of order** is broken and not working. The clue is 'in perfect running order this morning'. Not **out of work**: that is used for people who have no job.

3. The doctors tried everything they could to _____ the patient's blood pressure.
✔ **B) reduce**
To **reduce** something means to make it lower or smaller. Doctors try to **reduce** high blood pressure. Not **produce**, which means 'make or create'.

4. His new appointment takes _____ from the beginning of next month.
✔ **B) effect**
Take effect means 'start to be valid or to work'. It is often used with a date: **The new rules take effect from Monday.** Not **take place**: that means 'happen' and is used for events such as meetings.

5. It needed the collective genius of mankind to _____ the wheel.
✔ **E) invent**
We **invent** something that did not exist before, such as a machine or a tool, and the wheel is one of these. Not **discover**: we discover things that already exist, e.g. **discover a new planet**.

6. Further research is needed to find out what side _____ this pill has on a person's digestive system.
✔ **D) effects**
Side effects are the extra, usually unwanted, results of a medicine. **Effect** is a noun. Not **affects**: **affect** is normally a verb, as in **The pill affects digestion.**

7. I noticed that there were two buttons _____ from his coat.
✔ **E) missing**
If something is **missing**, it is not in its usual place. Here the buttons are no longer on the coat: **two buttons missing from his coat**. **Falling** or **dropping** would describe the moment they come off, not the result that he noticed.

8. The main road through Turgutlu and Salihli was blocked all day yesterday due to an accident _____ two lorries (trucks).
✔ **C) involving**
Involving means 'in which someone or something takes part'. We say **an accident involving two cars**. Not **including**, which means 'containing as one part of a group'. It is not used for the vehicles in an accident.

9. As he hated every minute of his life in the army, it is no wonder that he decided one day to _____ his unit.
✔ **D) desert**
To **desert** (verb) means to leave the army without permission. The clue is 'hated every minute of his life in the army'. Not **dessert**: with double **s**, it is the sweet food eaten after a meal.

10. He was dismissed from the service for his persistent _____.
✔ **C) disobedience**
Disobedience means refusing to obey rules or orders, which is a reason to be **dismissed** (sent away from a job). The other options, such as **alertness** and **caution**, are good qualities, so they would not get someone dismissed.

11. It is no injustice to say that the sense of _____ a person has is closely bound up with his cultural background.
✔ **E) humour**
A sense of humour is the ability to find things funny and to make others laugh. The other options only look similar: **rumour** (a story that may not be true), **tumour** (a growth in the body), **harbour** (a place for ships) and **labour** (work).

12. I love you. I can't _____ the thought of ever losing you.
✔ **B) bear**
Can't bear means 'can't accept something because it is too painful'. A common phrase is **I can't bear the thought of ...**. Not **support**: here it is not used with this meaning.

13. You seem to have developed a number of extra-curricular interests which _____ you from your studies.
✔ **A) distract**
To **distract** someone **from** something means to take their attention away from it: **The noise distracted me from my work.** Not **obstruct**, which means 'block physically', as in **obstruct the road**.

14. It was a good piece of land. They got quite _____ by using it to cultivate the much-needed industrial crops.
✔ E) prosperous
Prosperous means rich and successful. The clue is 'a good piece of land' used to grow much-needed crops, which brings money. Not **peaceful** or **tranquil**: these describe calm, not wealth.

15. I don't think that was a very _____ decision. Customers are bound to complain about it.
✔ E) wise
A **wise** decision is a sensible, good one. The clue is that people are sure to complain, so the decision was not sensible. **Intellectual** means 'connected with thinking', and it does not mean 'sensible'.

16. These figures should give you a rough idea as to the cost of _____ a sports car.
✔ E) running
The cost of running a car means all the money needed to use it: fuel, insurance, tax and servicing. After **of** with an object (**a sports car**) we need an **-ing** verb. Not **maintenance** or **repair**: they are nouns, so they cannot be followed directly by **a sports car**.

17. Grandma has no authority over the children and lets them do anything they like. They're completely _____, as a result.
✔ A) spoilt
Spoilt (American English **spoiled**) children behave badly because they are always given what they want. The clue is that grandma 'lets them do anything they like'. Not **damaged**, which is used for things that are physically harmed.

18. I tried to _____ the car, but I couldn't see very well what was behind me.
✔ C) reverse
To **reverse** a car means to drive it backwards. The clue is 'I couldn't see very well what was behind me'. Not **restore**, which means 'bring something back to its old condition'.

19. Later models were slightly _____, but the original design remained the same on the whole.
✔ C) modified
Modified means 'changed a little in order to improve'. The clue is 'slightly' and that 'the original design remained the same on the whole'. Not **discarded**, which means 'thrown away'.

20. Like all empires, the Ottoman Empire went through its periods of rise, decline and fall, finally leaving the stage to the young Turkish _____, founded under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on Oct. 29, 1923.
✔ E) Republic
The Republic of Turkey was founded under Atatürk's leadership on 29 October 1923. A **republic** is a country whose head of state is not a king, queen or emperor. The young republic replaced the Ottoman Empire, which was ruled by a sultan. Not **Independence**: you cannot 'found' an independence, and the sentence needs the name of a new state.

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