ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Grammar Revision Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 2

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Explanations

1. Walter refused to put medical records and other evidence in electronic form, which _____ among the lawyers, because it _____ personal information.
✔ **C) could be e-mailed / contained**
The records cannot send themselves, so the first gap needs a **passive** form. The modal **could be e-mailed** expresses possibility: the records could be sent electronically if they were in electronic form. The second gap describes a state, so it takes the past simple **contained**. Stative verbs like **contain** are not normally used in the continuous. Not **was e-mailed**: the records were never put in electronic form, so they were not actually e-mailed.

2. _____ researchers find the vaccine effective in preliminary trials, it will be tough to vaccinate enough gorillas to make a difference for the treatment.
✔ **B) Even if**
Even if introduces a condition that does not change the result: a good trial result will not make vaccination any easier. Not **Since**, which gives a reason and does not fit the contrast. **Nonetheless** is an adverb, not a conjunction, so it cannot introduce a clause.

3. Following an election last month, _____ the conservative parties trounced the left, the result snarled up a coalition building effort, under way since.
✔ **C) in which**
In which introduces a non-defining relative clause about the election: the conservatives trounced the left **in** the election. **That** cannot be used in a non-defining clause between commas. **For which** has the wrong preposition, and **what** cannot refer back to a noun.

4. The pair, _____ won fame as film stars with sweet faces, have found a winning formula in social conservatism to assert the interests.
✔ **C) who**
The pair refers to people, so the non-defining relative clause between commas needs **who**. **Which** is used for things, and **that** is not used in non-defining clauses.

5. Chirac was among the first European leaders _____ Lech, and immediately invited him to Paris.
✔ **E) to congratulate**
After **the first**, **the last** or **the only**, English uses the to-infinitive: **She was the first to arrive.** Chirac did the congratulating, so the infinitive must be active: **to congratulate**. Not **to be congratulated**, which is passive and would mean that the leaders received the congratulations.

6. The country's eastern farmland — _____ used to be forest — is now poor and dry.
✔ **C) much of which**
Farmland is an uncountable noun, so the quantifier is **much**. A non-defining relative clause about a thing uses **of which**: **much of which**. Not **many of which** or **one of which**, because both need a countable plural noun. **Whose** shows possession, and **what** cannot follow a noun.

7. Some citizens had hoped they might finally get a government dominated _____ by cynical ex-communists, _____ by moralising anti-communists fixated on the past.
✔ **C) neither / nor**
The citizens wanted a government run by **neither** group, so the correlative pair **neither … nor** is needed. Each word goes before one of the two parallel phrases: **neither by X nor by Y**. Not **either … or**, which would mean that one of the two groups is acceptable.

8. _____ out by an obscure regulation, the driver told a Moscow traffic policeman that he wanted to settle things quickly, but without _____ the law.
✔ **E) Caught / breaking**
The driver was caught out by the rule, so the opening needs a passive participle clause. **Caught out** is the short form of **Having been caught out**. After the preposition **without** we use the -ing form: **without breaking the law**. Not **having broken**, because breaking the law would come after the settlement, not before it.

9. _____ corruption was a key motive behind the revolutions that have ousted three post-Soviet regimes in the last two years, the Kremlin should worry.
✔ **D) Since**
Since here means 'because' and introduces the reason: corruption caused those revolutions, so the Kremlin has reason to worry. **For** meaning 'because' cannot begin a sentence. **Much as** means 'although', which gives the wrong logic.

10. Barclays has taken a further £1bn writedown on assets and confirmed profits for the first quarter of 2008 will be _____ last year.
✔ **E) lower than**
A comparison between two things needs a comparative + **than**: profits will be **lower than** last year's. **Much lower** would need **than** after it. **So low as** and **such low as** are not correct comparative structures.

11. Now - fearing for his business - he's trying to move back, after a wave of new taxes _____ small shopkeepers in towns around Johannesburg.
✔ B) targeting
The gap starts a reduced relative clause with an active meaning: **a wave of new taxes targeting small shopkeepers** = taxes **which targeted** them. The present participle **targeting** is used for this. Not **being targeted**, which is passive. Not **having targeted**, because perfect participles do not form reduced relative clauses.

12. There are two brothers running this family business - _____ manages the shop and _____ looks after the accounts.
✔ D) one / the other
When we talk about two people or things one by one, we use **one … the other**: **one** manages the shop and **the other** looks after the accounts. **Either** and **neither** do not fit an affirmative description of each person. **Both** cannot be paired with **none**.

13. Heat-shield technology would therefore also need _____ for the capsule, to help it survive the immense temperatures experienced when _____ to Earth.
✔ B) to be developed / falling
The technology must be developed by someone, so **need** takes a passive infinitive: **need to be developed**. After **when**, a reduced time clause uses the -ing form for an action in progress: **when falling to Earth** = when it is falling. **Need developing** is possible in British English, but **when fallen** is wrong, so that option fails.

14. The rescue operations continue and survivors were treated _____ injuries _____ bone fractures, crushed internal organs and kidney failure.
✔ C) for / such as
The collocation is **treat someone for an injury or illness**. **Such as** introduces examples: **injuries such as bone fractures**. The other prepositions do not combine with **treat** in this meaning.

15. It doesn't necessarily mean we _____ food shortages overnight, but in due course and in certain years we _____ up in the situation where the harvest for one particular type of crop in one particular year could be very severely compromised.
✔ E) are going to have / could well end
The speaker is predicting the future: it does not mean food shortages **are going to** happen immediately, **but** in time we **could well end up** in a crisis. **Be going to** gives the prediction, and **could well** means 'it is quite likely that'. The phrasal verb is **end up in a situation**. **May be ended** is wrong because **end up** is not used in the passive here.

16. The Commission proposals could remove up to 15 percent of the substances assessed, some of _____ are particularly important in the UK for the protection of minor crops _____ carrots and parsnips.
✔ B) which / such as
Substances are things, so the relative clause needs **some of which**. **Whom** is for people, and **what** cannot follow a noun. **Such as** introduces examples of minor crops: **carrots and parsnips**.

17. He escaped in January, _____ the border for the sanctuary of a neighbouring country.
✔ C) crossing
A present participle clause can describe how an action happened at the same time as the main verb: he escaped **by crossing** the border. Here **crossing** is active because he did the crossing. **Being crossed** and **to have been crossed** are passive. **Was crossing** would need a subject and a conjunction.

18. People in the quake zone are being told to wear face masks and disinfectant teams are out in force, _____ the WHO says there is _____ significant risk of disease from unburied bodies.
✔ D) even though / little
Even though introduces a contrast: people are told to take precautions, **although** the WHO says the risk is small. **Risk** is uncountable here, so 'not much' is expressed with **little**. Not **few**, which is used with plural countable nouns.

19. Several people were dug out of the rubble on Saturday, _____ a 31-year-old woman in Deyang city, and a 33-year-old miner in Shifang, both about 124 hours after _____.
✔ C) including / being buried
Including works like a preposition that introduces examples from a group: **several people, including a woman and a miner**. After the preposition **after** we need an -ing form. The people were buried by the rubble, so the passive gerund is needed: **after being buried**.

20. There have been hundreds of aftershocks since Monday's quake, some _____ landslides which _____ conditions even more difficult.
✔ A) causing / have made
Some causing landslides is an absolute participle clause meaning 'and some of them caused landslides'. The landslides affect the situation now, so the present perfect **have made** is used. The time phrase **since Monday** in the main clause supports this.

21. Experts say the chances of finding people alive _____, and increasingly it is dead bodies which _____.
✔ E) are diminishing / are being retrieved
Both gaps describe a situation that is changing right now, as **increasingly** shows, so we use the present continuous: the chances **are diminishing**. Rescuers find the bodies, so the second verb must be passive: **are being retrieved**. Not **are retrieving**, which is active and would mean that the bodies do the retrieving. **Diminishing** alone is not a finite verb, so it cannot complete the clause.

22. At the anniversary dinner, the club remembered all the members who _____ or _____ in its first fifty years.
✔ D) left / were expelled
Both actions are finished events in a past period, so the past simple is used. Some members chose to go (**left**, active). Others were forced out by the club (**were expelled**, passive). Not **expelled** alone, because it would need an object.

23. The coach is shouting at every player, _____ them of _____ lazy.
✓ B) accusing / being
The present participle **accusing** describes an action happening at the same time as the main verb: the coach is shouting at the players and **accusing** them at the same time. The pattern is **accuse someone of + -ing**, so it becomes **of being lazy**. **Accused** is either a past-tense verb, which would need its own subject and a conjunction, or a passive participle, which cannot take the object **them**. **Accuse** would also need a subject and a conjunction. **Being accused** is passive too. Finally, **of** must be followed by an -ing form, so **to be** and **be** are wrong.

24. Retailers hand out an estimated 13 billion free plastic bags every year, which take about 1,000 years _____.
✓ B) to decay
The pattern is **it takes (time) + to-infinitive**, so the bags **take 1,000 years to decay**. **Decay** is intransitive and has no passive, so **to be decayed** is wrong.

25. About 10,000 medical personnel are already on the ground, _____ almost 50,000 soldiers and police.
✓ D) as well as
As well as means 'in addition to': there are medical personnel and also soldiers and police. Not **rather than**, which means 'instead of'. Not **such as**, which introduces examples of the first group.

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