ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Mixed Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 012

English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF: https://englishtestsonline.com/grammar-test-12/

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Explanations

1. A: Who cooks dinner at your house?

B: It _____ by my elder sister.
✔ **A) is cooked**
The dinner does not cook itself; someone cooks it, so we need the passive: **is** + past participle → **is cooked**. The clue is **by my elder sister**, which shows who does the action. Not **is cooking**, because that would mean the dinner is doing the cooking.

2. Mary to Tom: I have something to show you. Mary told Tom that _____ had something to show _____.
✔ **B) she / him**
In reported speech, pronouns change to fit the new speaker. Mary's **I** becomes **she**, and **you** (Tom) becomes **him**: **Mary told Tom that she had something to show him.** Not **she / you**, because Tom is now spoken about, not spoken to.

3. A: What are you boiling that water for?

B: _____.
✔ **A) To make tea**
To give a purpose (answering **What … for?**), we use **to** + base verb: **To make tea.** Not **For make tea**, because **for** is not followed by the base form of a verb.

4. The students _____. Don't interrupt them.
✔ **B) seem to be busy**
Seem is a state verb, so it is not normally used in the continuous form (**are seeming** is wrong). After **seem** we use an adjective or **to be** + adjective: **seem to be busy**. Not **seem busily**, because **seem** takes an adjective, not an adverb.

5. **Father to son:** Please, don't argue with me.

The father _____ argue with him.
✔ **C) asked his son not to**
A request or order in reported speech uses **ask/tell** + person + **(not) to** + verb: **The father asked his son not to argue with him.** Not **asked his son if he didn't**, because **if** is used for reporting yes/no questions, not requests.

6. He is _____ that he has no time for regular meals.
✔ **A) such a busy man**
Before an adjective + singular noun we use **such a** + adjective + noun: **such a busy man … that …**. **So** is used with an adjective alone (**He is so busy that …**). Not **such busy man**, because a singular countable noun needs **a**.

7. He drove so fast _____.
✔ **C) that the passengers became frightened**
So + adverb is followed by a **that**-clause showing the result: **He drove so fast that the passengers became frightened.** The other options do not complete the **so … that** pattern.

8. **Tourist to the policeman:** How far is it to the station?

The tourist _____ to the station.
✔ **A) inquired how far it was**
A reported **wh**-question uses normal word order (subject + verb) and the tense moves back: **How far is it?** → **how far it was**. **Inquired** means 'asked'. Not **said how far it was**, because **said** is not used to report a question.

9. Dear Mary, this is the first time _____ you a letter.
✔ **D) I have written**
After **This is the first time …** we use the present perfect: **This is the first time I have written you a letter.** Not **that I had written**, because the past perfect goes with **It was the first time …**.

10. Who's that girl? I can't remember _____ her before.
✔ **C) seeing**
Remember + **-ing** is used for a memory of something that happened before: **I can't remember seeing her before.** Not **to see**, because **remember to do** means not forgetting to do something in the future.

11. I wish you _____ so much. It is bad for your health.
✔ **D) didn't smoke**
To talk about a present situation we want to be different, we use **wish** + past simple: **I wish you didn't smoke so much.** Not **don't smoke**, because the present simple is not used after **wish**.

12. A: Oh, your coat's wet!

B: That's because _____.
✔ **C) it's been raining**
The present perfect continuous explains a present result of a recent activity: the coat is wet now because **it's been raining**. Not **the rainy weather**, because **because** needs a full clause with a subject and verb (or **because of** + noun).

13. **A:** Is the math problem very difficult?

B: The problem _____ is not difficult, but it takes a long time to do.
✔ **D) itself**
Itself after a noun adds emphasis: **the problem itself** means 'the problem as such'. It contrasts with the next part: it isn't difficult, but it takes a long time. Not **which** or **that**, because they would start a relative clause with no verb.

14. The lab assistant made the students _____ the experiment all over again.
✔ **C) do**
Make + person + base verb (without **to**): **made the students do the experiment again**. Not **did** or **doing**, because after **make someone** we use the bare infinitive.

15. He has been very lonely since _____.
✔ **D) his wife died**
Since is followed by a point in time or a past event: **since his wife died**. Not **since many years** or **since a long time**, because a period of time needs **for**: **for many years**.

16. I want to go to the station. Can you tell me which bus _____?
✔ **A) to take**
After question words like **which, what, how** we can use **to** + verb to ask what we should do: **Can you tell me which bus to take?** Not **takes**, because the sentence would then need an object or place (**which bus goes there**).

17. Don't touch that hot stove. _____.
✔ **D) You'll get burned**
Get burned is a passive-like form for something bad happening to you: **You'll get burned** if you touch the hot stove. Not **You'll burn it**, because the danger is to you, not to the stove.

18. The reason _____ I'm writing is to tell you about a party on Saturday.
✔ **C) why**
The usual pattern is **the reason why** + clause: **The reason why I'm writing is …**. Not **because**, since **the reason because** is incorrect (we say **the reason is that …** or **the reason why …**).

19. Let's stay at home tonight, _____ you want to watch TV.
✔ **B) since**
Since here means 'because' and is followed by a clause: **since you want to watch TV**. Not **because of**, because it must be followed by a noun, not a clause.

20. I wish I could find _____.
✔ **D) somewhere quiet to live**
Adjectives come after words like **somewhere, something, someone**: **somewhere quiet**. Then **to** + verb shows purpose: **somewhere quiet to live**. Not **a quiet somewhere**, because **somewhere** does not take **a** or an adjective before it.

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