ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Mixed Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 014

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Explanations

1. A: Do you have snowball fights in Florida in the winter?

B: No, it _____ for that.
✔ **C) isn't cold enough**
We use **adjective + enough** to say there is the right amount of something for a purpose: **It isn't cold enough for that.** Not **isn't too cold**, because **too** means 'more than we want', which doesn't fit here.

2. If I _____ your father, I would certainly punish you for this.
✔ **B) were**
This is the second conditional, an imaginary present situation: **If + past simple, would + verb**. With **I** in this pattern, **were** is the standard form: **If I were your father, …** Not **would be**, because **would** is not used in the **if** clause.

3. The journalist watched the young player _____ the world champion in the final.
✔ **A) beat**
After verbs of perception like **see** and **watch** + object, we use the bare infinitive for a complete action: **watched him beat the champion**. Not **beaten**, because the past participle is used for passive meaning, which doesn't fit here.

4. Thousands of traffic accidents _____ by careless drivers every day.
✔ **A) are caused**
Accidents don't cause anything; they are caused by drivers, so we need the passive. **Every day** shows a regular fact, so we use the present simple passive: **are caused**. Not **cause**, because that is active.

5. I've just finished _____ my shopping.
✔ **B) doing**
Finish is followed by the **-ing** form, and the fixed phrase is **do the shopping**, so **finished doing my shopping** is right. Not **making**, because we don't say 'make the shopping'.

6. She has no intention of _____ a poor man like you.
✔ **C) marrying**
After a preposition such as **of**, we use the **-ing** form of the verb: **no intention of marrying**. Not **to marry**, because **to + verb** cannot follow a preposition.

7. I wish _____ what to do in an emergency like this.
✔ **A) I knew**
To talk about an unreal present situation after **wish**, we use the past simple: **I wish I knew** (= I don't know now, and I'm sorry about it). Not **I know**, because the present simple is not used after **wish** for this meaning.

8. You _____ watch what you are saying. The boss is very upset today.
✔ **B) had better**
We use **had better + bare infinitive** to give strong advice or a warning: **You'd better watch what you say.** The clue is **The boss is very upset today**. Not **would rather**, which expresses a preference (**I would rather stay home**), not advice to someone else.

9. The old woman knew about everything _____ was going on in the neighbourhood.
✔ **C) that**
After **everything**, **anything**, **nothing** we use the relative pronoun **that** (or no pronoun), not **what**: **everything that was going on**. Not **what**, because **what** already means 'the thing that' and cannot follow **everything**.

10. Very _____ people can learn how to read efficiently.
✔ **B) few**
People is a countable plural noun, so we use **few** (= not many): **Very few people**. Not **little**, which is used with uncountable nouns (**very little time**).

11. He sometimes wishes he _____ a computer.
✔ **C) had never touched**
To express regret about the past after **wish**, we use the past perfect: **he wishes he had never touched a computer** (but he did). Not **has never touched**, because the present perfect is not used after **wish**.

12. Roy didn't go to school yesterday and _____.
✔ **C) James didn't either**
To agree with a negative statement, we use **either** at the end of a negative clause: **James didn't either**, or **neither/nor did James** (without **not**). Not **nor didn't James**, because **nor** and **neither** are already negative, so we can't add **didn't**.

13. If you _____ your money carelessly, you wouldn't have been penniless in the middle of your holiday.
✔ **A) hadn't spent**
This is the third conditional about an imaginary past: **If + past perfect, would have + past participle**. The main clause has **wouldn't have been**, so the **if** clause needs **hadn't spent**. Not **didn't spend**, which is used in the second conditional about the present.

14. The boss made him _____ the report again from the beginning.
✔ **A) write**
In the active, **make + object + bare infinitive** means 'force someone to do something': **made him write**. Not **wrote** or **written**, because after **make someone** we use the base form.

15. I was disappointed with my birthday present. It wasn't exactly _____ I expected.
✓ **C) what**
What means 'the thing that' and can stand alone without a noun before it: **It wasn't exactly what I expected.** Not **that** or **which**, because they need a noun before them (**the present that I expected**).

16. We had a test yesterday. I wish _____.
✓ **B) we hadn't had one**
The test was yesterday, so this is a regret about the past. After **wish** we use the past perfect: **I wish we hadn't had one.** Not **we didn't have one**, which refers to the present.

17. The baby is crying. I think she has been _____ by the noise.
✓ **B) frightened**
This is the present perfect passive (**has been + past participle**), so we need **frightened**: the noise frightened the baby. Not **frightening**, because that describes the thing that causes fear (**a frightening noise**).

18. Your sister never saw me, _____?
✓ **A) did she**
The sentence is in the past simple and is negative (**never**), so the question tag is positive with **did**: **did she?** Not **didn't you**, because the subject of the tag must match the subject **your sister** (**she**).

19. Whether one will fail or succeed depends _____ oneself.
✓ **B) on**
The verb **depend** is always followed by **on**: **It depends on you.** Not **from**; in some languages the equivalent verb takes 'from', but in English it is **depend on**.

20. The moment she _____ her wounded husband, she burst into tears.
✓ **D) saw**
The moment means 'as soon as'. Both actions happened in the past (**burst into tears**), so we use the past simple: **The moment she saw …**. Not **sees**, because the main clause is in the past.

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