ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Mixed Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 015

English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF: https://englishtestsonline.com/grammar-test-15/

1	**C**	2	**D**	3	**C**	4	**A**	5	**B**	6	**A**	7	**C**	8	**B**	9	**B**	10	**C**
11	**C**	12	**A**	13	**C**	14	**A**	15	**D**	16	**C**	17	**B**	18	**D**	19	**B**	20	**C**

Explanations

1. It’s been rainy all afternoon, _____ it?
✔ **C) hasn’t**
A question tag repeats the auxiliary verb of the sentence. **It's been** means **It has been**, so the tag is **hasn't it?** Not **isn't**, because 's here is short for **has**, not **is**.

2. I am interested _____ English.
✔ **D) in**
The adjective **interested** is always followed by **in**: **I'm interested in music.**

3. After I _____ my dinner, I typed my report.
✔ **C) had had**
The past perfect **had had** shows that one past action (dinner) was finished before another past action (typing the report). **Has had** is wrong because the story is in the past.

4. If you’re not feeling well, take a hot bath. It’ll _____ you good.
✔ **A) do**
The fixed expression is **do someone good**, meaning 'be good for someone': **A walk will do you good.** After **will** ('ll) we use the base form **do**. Not **help**, because we can't say **help you good**.

5. The twins look almost alike. None of us can _____ the difference between them.
✔ **B) tell**
We say **tell the difference** when we can see how two things or people are not the same. Not **make**, because **make a difference** means 'have an effect'.

6. Now that I’ve bought a car, I _____ take the bus to work.
✔ **A) needn’t**
Needn't means 'it is not necessary'. Now I have a car, so taking the bus isn't necessary. Not **mustn't**, because that means it is not allowed.

7. It’s time we _____ working.
✔ **C) started**
After **It's time + subject**, we use the past simple to talk about the present or future: **It's time we left.** So: **It's time we started.**

8. _____ strange car we saw near the post office belongs to the mayor.
✔ **B) The**
We use **the** because we mean one particular car: the one we saw near the post office. **An** is wrong because **strange** starts with a consonant sound, and the car is already specific.

9. The river that runs _____ our town has now become a health hazard.
✔ **B) through**
A river **runs through** a town: it goes from one side to the other, in the middle of it.

10. I wonder if you could give me _____ advice about finding a job.
✔ **C) any**
Advice is uncountable, so we can't use **a**, **an** or **many** with it. In polite requests and questions we can use **any** (or **some**): **any advice**.

11. How long ago did you _____?
✔ **C) have your house painted**
The causative form is **have + object + past participle**: someone else did the work for you. After **did you** we need the base form **have**, so: **did you have your house painted?**

12. I really think there is too _____ furniture in your office.
✔ **A) much**
Furniture is uncountable, so we use **too much**, not **too many**: **too much furniture**.

13. My coffee is _____ hot that I can’t drink it.
✔ **C) so**
The structure is **so + adjective + that** to show a result: **so hot that I can't drink it**. Not **too**, because **too** is followed by **to**, not **that**: **too hot to drink**.

14. I _____ him at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.
✔ **A) am supposed to see**
The structure is **be supposed to + base verb**, meaning something is planned or expected: **I am supposed to see him.** We need **am** and the past participle **supposed** with a d.

15. Paul studies his lessons the most carefully _____ all the students in class.
✔ **D) of**
After a superlative we use **of** + a group: **the most carefully of all the students**. Not **than**, because **than** is used with comparatives (**more carefully than**).

16. Because it was raining, the children _____ out.
✔ **C) didn’t go**
This is a simple finished action in the past, so we use the past simple: **didn't go out**. Not **wasn't going**, because **children** is plural and needs **weren't**.

17. While they were mending the wall, the roof _____ in.
✔ **B) fell**
The past continuous (**were mending**) describes a longer action, and the past simple (**fell**) describes a shorter action that happened in the middle of it. Not **had fallen**, because the roof fell during the work, not before it.

18. He found that the petrol tank _____ since he left the town.
✓ D) had been leaking
We use the past perfect continuous (**had been leaking**) for an action that continued up to a moment in the past. The clue is **since**: the leak started when he left and was still happening when he found it.

19. It _____ me a long time to realize she had deceived me.
✓ B) took
We use **It takes/took someone time to do something**. The realising happened in the past (**had deceived**), so we need the past simple **took**.

20. The bus was crowded yesterday, so we _____ stand all the way.
✓ C) had to
Had to is the past of **have to** and shows something was necessary. The clue is **yesterday**. Not **will have to**, because that is for the future.

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