ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Mixed Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 021

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Explanations

1. A: Did you read this book?

B: No, I didn't. I wish I _____ it.
✔ **C) had read**
To talk about a regret about the past, use **wish** + past perfect: **I wish I had read it**. B didn't read the book in the past and is sorry now. Not **read**, because **wish** + past simple is used for wishes about the present.

2. He will study _____.
✔ **D) until I come back**
After time words like **until**, **when** and **as soon as**, use the present simple with a future meaning, not **will**: **He will study until I come back**. Not **until I will come back**, because **will** is not used after time conjunctions.

3. He has a headache so he _____ take an aspirin.
✔ **A) must**
Must + base verb shows that something is necessary now: **he must take an aspirin**. Not **ought**, because it needs **to** (**ought to take**). Not **had to**, because the sentence is about the present (**he has a headache**).

4. By the end of the year, I _____ this journey ten times.
✔ **B) will have done**
The future perfect (**will have** + past participle) shows an action completed before a point in the future. The clue is **By the end of the year**: **I will have done this journey ten times**. Not **will have been doing**, because we are counting finished journeys, not describing an ongoing activity.

5. He would have told me if he _____ it.
✔ **D) had known**
This is the third conditional for an imaginary past: **would have** + past participle in the main clause, and **if** + past perfect in the other: **if he had known it**. Not **knew**, because that belongs to the second conditional (present or future situations).

6. You will have a long holiday if you _____ your class.
✔ **C) pass**
This is the first conditional: **if** + present simple, then **will** + verb. **You will have a long holiday if you pass your class.** Not **will pass**, because we don't use **will** in the **if** clause.

7. I didn't know that your book _____ into English until Charles told me.
✔ **D) had been translated**
The book was translated by someone, so we need the passive. The translation happened before the past moment **I didn't know**, so we use the past perfect passive: **had been translated**. Not **have been translated**, because the main sentence is in the past.

8. The Browns will go on a picnic unless it _____.
✔ **C) rains**
Unless means **if not**, and like **if** it takes the present simple for the future: **unless it rains** = **if it doesn't rain**. Not **doesn't rain**, because **unless** already contains the negative meaning.

9. The teacher has Ali _____ the blackboard every day.
✔ **B) clean**
With **have** + person, we use the base verb without **to**: **have someone do something** means ask or make someone do it. **The teacher has Ali clean the blackboard.** Not **cleaned**, because **have + object + past participle** (**have the blackboard cleaned**) is used for the thing, not the person.

10. Don't mention it. It's the _____ I can do.
✔ **B) least**
It's the least I can do is a fixed polite expression, meaning 'I am happy to help; it was only a small thing'. **Least** is the superlative of **little**, so it follows **the**. Not **less**, because **the** + comparative doesn't work here.

11. Don't you always feel very _____ when you are home?
✔ **A) happy**
After **feel** (a linking verb), we use an adjective, not an adverb: **feel happy**. Not **happily**, because it is an adverb and describes how you do an action.

12. Helen has finished school and _____.
✔ **B) so has her brother**
To say 'also' after a positive sentence, use **so** + auxiliary + subject. The auxiliary must match the first verb: **has finished → so has her brother**. Not **so did her brother**, because the first verb is in the present perfect, not the past simple.

13. Rose doesn't like horror films and _____.
✔ **B) James doesn't either**
To agree with a negative sentence, use **either** at the end: **James doesn't either**. **Too** is used only after positive sentences. Not **nor doesn't James**, because **nor** is followed by a positive auxiliary: **nor does James**.

14. He must be the director. I remember _____ in school.
✔ **C) seeing him**
Remember + -ing is used for remembering something that happened in the past: **I remember seeing him in school**. **Remember to do** means not forgetting a future task. Not **saw him**, because **remember** cannot be followed directly by a past simple verb.

15. Both boxers trained very _____ for several weeks before the fight.
✔ **D) hard**
Hard is both an adjective and an adverb: **train hard** means train with a lot of effort. Not **hardly**, because it means 'almost not' (**He hardly trained** = he trained very little).

16. A: Helen is leaving home to get a job in New York.

B: I think _____ will make her father sad.
✔ **A) her leaving**
The subject of the sentence is a gerund (**leaving**), and before a gerund we use a possessive: **her leaving will make her father sad**. Not **she leaves**, because a full clause can't be the subject here without **that** (**that she is leaving**).

17. He _____ mistake in the examination.
✔ **C) made a**
The correct collocation is **make a mistake**, not **do a mistake**. **Mistake** is a countable noun, so it needs **a**: **He made a mistake**. Not **made**, because the article is missing.

18. Do you know where _____?
✔ **B) they will meet**
In an indirect question (after **Do you know…**), we use normal statement word order: subject + verb. **Where will they meet?** becomes **Do you know where they will meet?** Not **will they meet**, because that is direct question word order.

19. These grapes _____ in the sun.
✔ **C) have been dried**
Someone dried the grapes, so we need the present perfect passive: **have been** + past participle. **Grapes** is plural, so we use **have**: **have been dried**. Not **has been dried**, because **has** is for singular subjects.

20. He _____ for half an hour when he realized he was painting the wrong wall.
✔ **B) had worked**
The past perfect shows an action that happened before another past action. He worked for half an hour before he **realized** his mistake, so **had worked**. Not **has worked**, because the present perfect doesn't fit a story in the past.

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