ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Grammar, Word Order, Punctuation Diagnostic Test With Answers 10

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1	C	2	B	3	B	4	A	5	A

Explanations

1. **A** -- He is much less cooperative than we had expected he would be.

B -- He is much more cooperative than we had expected he would be.

Which one is correct?
✔ **C)**
Both sentences are grammatically correct. They use the same comparative pattern, **much less / much more + adjective + than**, followed by a past perfect clause (**than we had expected he would be**). They differ only in meaning: in A he was less helpful than expected, in B more helpful. **Much** is a normal intensifier before **more** and **less**.

2. The previous question was a lot easier that I had expected it would be.
✔ **B) Incorrect**
A comparative adjective is followed by **than**, not **that**. The correct sentence is **The previous question was a lot easier than I had expected it would be.** **That** and **than** look and sound alike, which makes this a common written mistake.

3. I had my car repaired for me yesterday.
✔ **B) Incorrect**
The causative **have + object + past participle** (**I had my car repaired**) already means that someone else did the job for you. Adding **for me** repeats that meaning, so it is redundant and counts as an error here. Better: **I had my car repaired yesterday.**

4. I'll see if I can get a friend of mine to do the job for me.
✔ **A) Correct**
With causative **get**, the second verb takes **to**: **get somebody to do something**. The sentence is therefore correct. Compare the other causative patterns, which use the bare infinitive: **have somebody do**, **make somebody do**, **let somebody do**. **For me** is fine here because **get a friend to do the job** does not already say who benefits.

5. Have it brought to you on a silver plate.
✔ **A) Correct**
This is an imperative using the causative **have + object + past participle**: **Have it brought to you** means 'arrange for someone to bring it to you'. The past participle **brought** is correct because the object (**it**) receives the action. The sentence is grammatically correct.

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