ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Grammar, Word Order, Punctuation Diagnostic Test With Answers 6

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1	**B**	2	**A**	3	**A**	4	**B**	5	**A**

Explanations

1. Which one is incorrect?
✓ B) The situation here is so bad as I thought it would be.
The pattern **so + adjective + as** is used only in negative sentences: **not so bad as**. In positive sentences we must use **as + adjective + as**: **The situation here is as bad as I thought it would be.** So **is so bad as** is wrong. The other three sentences are correct, because **not so … as** and **not as … as** both work in the negative.

2. He proved himself to be -- when we consider all the pros and cons of the situation -- not so stupid as people generally think him to be.
✓ A) Correct
The sentence is correct. **Not so stupid as** follows the rule that **so … as** is used after a negative. The part between the dashes is an inserted comment and does not break the main structure **He proved himself to be … not so stupid as people think him to be**. **Think someone to be** is a formal but correct pattern.

3. He is so successful as a teacher that no student of his has ever failed in the TOEFL exams.
✓ A) Correct
The sentence is correct. It uses **so + adjective + that** to show a result: he is **so successful** that no student has failed. Here **as a teacher** means 'in his role as a teacher'. It is not the comparison **so … as**, so it does not have to be negative.

4. You have to salute him once when you come in in the morning, but you haven't to salute him every time you see him all day long.
✓ B) Incorrect
Have to forms its negative with **do**: **you don't have to** salute him every time. This means it is not necessary. **Haven't to** is not used in modern English, so the sentence is incorrect. Don't confuse it with **mustn't**, which means it is not allowed.

5. You've got to give it back to me before you leave.
✓ A) Correct
The sentence is correct. **Have got to** (**'ve got to**) means the same as **have to** and expresses obligation: **You've got to give it back** = you must give it back. It is common in informal British English.

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