ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Inappropriate Sentences MCQ Exercise 2

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Explanations

1. (I) After Mr Collins retired, he couldn't decide what to do. (II) He had always dreamed of becoming a doctor. (III) At last, he decided to buy a small cottage in the country. (IV) He found one situated among pine trees and near a lake. (V) It was just what he wanted after having lived in a city.
✔ **B) II**
The paragraph is about what Mr Collins did after he **retired**: he bought a cottage in the country. Sentence II, about his old dream of becoming a **doctor**, has nothing to do with this.

2. (I) Then, Mrs Benson went to the grocer's shop. (II) As she was leaving, she looked at her shopping list again. (III) There was only the bread still to buy. (IV) She bought it and then went home. (V) Sometimes she goes by bus.
✔ **E) V**
Sentences I–IV tell the story of one shopping trip in the past. Sentence V changes to a general habit (**Sometimes she goes by bus**), so it does not fit the story.

3. (I) We sat there, close to the sea, and drank our coffee. (II) They had been here before. (III) Above us, the birds flew joyfully here and there. (IV) Fifty metres further along, there were some fishing boats. (V) The fishermen were talking to each other and mending their nets.
✔ **B) II**
The paragraph describes what **we** saw by the sea: birds, boats and fishermen. Sentence II talks about **they** and an earlier visit, so it breaks the description.

4. (I) It was 2 o'clock in the morning and I had been driving for 8 hours. (II) As I was very tired, I decided to stop and spend the rest of the night in a hotel. (III) I took a room with a private bathroom. (IV) My brother worked as a hotel receptionist for two years in London. (V) After having a bath, I went straight to bed.
✔ **D) IV**
The writer tells how he stopped at a hotel and went to bed. Sentence IV, about his **brother's job** in London, has no link to this night.

5. (I) The Martins lived in Pembroke Street. (II) The room was a very pleasant one. (III) It had a good view of the park. (IV) The furniture was all in good condition. (V) There was a thick carpet on the floor.
✔ **A) I**
Sentences II–V all describe **the room**: its view, furniture and carpet. Sentence I, about where **the Martins lived**, is not part of this description.

6. (I) The meeting was supposed to start at 9:30. (II) The chairman had already taken his seat at the table. (III) There would be a lunch for everybody afterwards. (IV) The other members of the committee had also arrived. (V) In fact, it was only the speaker who was absent.
✔ **C) III**
The paragraph describes who had arrived before the meeting started, ending with the **absent** speaker. Sentence III, about **lunch afterwards**, breaks this description.

7. (I) H.G. Wells wrote a lot of science fiction novels. (II) One of his best is called "The War of the Worlds." (III) This tells the story of an attack on the world from Mars. (IV) Another spaceship will be sent out next week. (V) Surprisingly enough, the book was written before man had ever learned to fly.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph is about H.G. Wells and his novel **The War of the Worlds**. Sentence IV is about a real **spaceship next week**, so it does not belong to the topic of the book.

8. (I) Mr Mason left at 7:40, his usual time. (II) Even so, he got to the office late. (III) This was partly because he had to stop and talk to his neighbour, Mr James. (IV) One of his daughters works as a secretary. (V) But it was the traffic jam that really made him late.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph explains why Mr Mason **got to the office late**: a talk with his neighbour and the traffic. Sentence IV, about a **daughter's job**, gives no reason for being late.

9. (I) A lot of people think Clare and Jane are very alike. (II) Their mother is a very charming person. (III) In appearance they are. (IV) They are both tall and fair-haired. (V) But Clare is shy and quiet while Jane likes to meet new people.
✔ **B) II**
The paragraph compares **Clare and Jane**: alike in appearance but different in character. Sentence II, about **their mother**, is not part of this comparison.

10. (I) It was only 3 o'clock in the afternoon. (II) But already it was very dark. (III) Suddenly there was a flash of lightning. (IV) The weather has been very cold recently. (V) Then almost at once, it began to rain.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph tells what happened one afternoon: darkness, lightning, then rain. Sentence IV is about the weather **recently**, in the present perfect, so it breaks the story.

11. (I) Geography is the subject my sister is most interested in. (II) She always talks about mountains, rivers, deserts, and lakes. (III) She has a rich collection of books and magazines dealing with the subject. (IV) I am sure in the future she will make an excellent geographer. (V) Already, she has been to London twice.
✔ **E) V**
The paragraph is about the sister's interest in **geography**. Sentence V, about her **trips to London**, does not show this interest and is off the topic.

12. (I) The room was just as he wanted it. (II) Jim felt so pleased. (III) He had painted the walls and shelves himself. (IV) They were taking him to the match too. (V) His mother had helped by making the cushions and curtains.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph is about Jim's **room** and how it was decorated. Sentence IV, about going **to the match**, has nothing to do with the room.

13. (I) Since I've been sitting here, only three people have come into the hotel. (II) The hotel was built more than a hundred years ago. (III) The first was an old man with white hair. (IV) He left again after a couple of minutes. (V) Then a pretty, young girl came in followed by her mother.
✔ **B) II**
The speaker describes the **three people** who came into the hotel: an old man, then a girl and her mother. Sentence II, about **when the hotel was built**, is not about these people.

14. (I) The Bradleys now live in the centre of the town. (II) Their new house is very close to Mr Bradley's office. (III) But that seems to be the only advantage it has. (IV) Mr Bradley is the director of a bank. (V) In fact, Mrs Bradley wishes they had not left the old house.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph is about the Bradleys' **new house**: its one advantage and Mrs Bradley's regret. Sentence IV, about Mr Bradley's **job**, does not tell us anything about the house.

15. (I) 1981 is the centenary of Ataturk's birth. (II) In other words, Ataturk was born just one hundred years ago. (III) When he died, he was only fifty-seven years old. (IV) However, his memory lives eternally in the Turkish people. (V) He lost his father when he was a little boy.
✔ **E) V**
The paragraph is about the **centenary** of Atatürk's birth, his death and how his **memory lives on**. Sentence V goes back to a detail of his childhood, so it breaks the flow after the idea of his lasting memory.

16. (I) Michael had spent the whole holiday inside. (II) The weather had been beautiful. (III) However, his need to rest outweighed his desire to go out into the open air. (IV) His family went on a picnic during the holiday. (V) At the end of the three-day break, he felt much better than he had before.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph is about **Michael** staying inside to rest and feeling better. Sentence IV is about his **family's picnic**, not about Michael.

17. (I) Although the law forbids driving a car if you are under the age of 18, many young people ignore this regulation. (II) The need to show off puts many young people behind the wheel of a car at a very early age. (III) Unfortunately, these youths tend to be careless and often cause many accidents. (IV) They tend to drive recklessly in the streets to show their courage to their friends. (V) Parents often cannot object to their friendships.
✔ **E) V**
The paragraph is about **under-age drivers** and why they drive dangerously. Sentence V, about parents and their children's **friendships**, is off the topic.

18. (I) My mother had told me to become a doctor. (II) Today many women are entering the workforce. (III) They have the desire to work outside their homes and the income is also appealing. (IV) This has led to their interest in obtaining a higher education which in turn gives them a better chance of finding a good job. (V) Interestingly enough, the role of the working mothers in their homes has not changed; although they are better educated and adding to the household income, they maintain the role of mother and wife along with their outside jobs.
✔ **A) I**
The paragraph is about **women entering the workforce** and their role at home. Sentence I is a personal remark about the writer's mother wanting her to be a **doctor**, so it does not fit.

19. (I) Pets are a good hobby for young children. (II) Care of animals teaches children responsibility and at the same time gives them joy. (III) There are many types of animals that I like to care for in my home. (IV) Children often spend their days playing with animals but caring for the needs of these dependent friends also becomes a part of their routine. (V) The relationship with pets also provides children with a playmate that they can get along with easily as they seldom object to which games the child will play.
✔ **C) III**
The paragraph explains why pets are good for **young children**. Sentence III changes to the writer's own animals (**I like to care for**), so it leaves the topic.

20. (I) The James Bond reruns on the television these days really bring back my youth. (II) I remember the days when we stood in line at the cinema to see these exciting movies. (III) When watching them, we would eat popcorn and drink cola. (IV) The modern cars and technology that were used by the famous agent 007 impressed us in those days, but today they seem almost silly. (V) My brother prefers watching football to going to the cinema.
✔ **E) V**
The paragraph is about the writer's **memories** of watching James Bond films and how they look today. Sentence V, about the **brother's** preference for football, has nothing to do with these memories.