ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Infinitive – Gerund MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 2

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

Explanations

1. They have got enough money _____ to the cinema.
✔ **D) to go**
After **enough + noun** we use the **to-infinitive** to show purpose: **enough money to go**. Not **go**, because the bare infinitive is not used after **enough money**.

2. I saw him _____ a newspaper.
✔ **C) reading**
After verbs of perception like **see** we use object + **-ing** (or the bare infinitive), never **to**: **I saw him reading**. The **-ing** form shows the action was in progress. Not **to read**, because **see** is not followed by **to**.

3. Watch me _____ the fence.
✔ **A) jumping**
Watch is a verb of perception, so it takes object + **-ing** or the bare infinitive (**watch me jump**), not **to**. Of these options, only **jumping** is correct. Not **to jump**, because **watch** is never followed by **to**.

4. She decided _____ to Spain for her holidays.
✔ **A) to go**
The verb **decide** is followed by the **to-infinitive**: **She decided to go**. Not **to have gone**, because the perfect infinitive would refer to an earlier action, which makes no sense here.

5. In winter he spends much time in the mountains; he is fond of _____.
✔ **C) skating**
After a preposition, such as **of** in **be fond of**, we use the **-ing** form: **fond of skating**. Not **to skate**, because the to-infinitive cannot follow a preposition.

6. The street was full of people _____ and _____ home.
✔ **B) laughing / going**
The **-ing** forms here work like short relative clauses: **people laughing and going home** = people who were laughing and going home. Both verbs are active and in progress, so both take **-ing**.

7. _____ a foreign language, you can _____ great opportunities in your life.
✔ **C) knowing / have**
The first gap opens the sentence with an **-ing** participle meaning "if you know": **Knowing a foreign language, …**. After the modal **can** we use the bare infinitive: **can have**. Not **to have** or **having**, because modals are never followed by these forms.

8. On _____ the classroom, the teacher asked the pupil on duty, “Who is absent?”
✔ **A) entering**
After the preposition **on** we use the **-ing** form. **On entering** means "as soon as he/she entered". Not **to enter**, because a to-infinitive cannot follow a preposition.

9. When working in the garden, it is pleasant _____ to music.
✔ **C) to listen**
After **it is + adjective** we normally use the **to-infinitive**: **it is pleasant to listen**. Here **it** stands for the action that follows. Not **listen**, because the bare infinitive cannot follow an adjective.

10. You are lucky you have not got a child _____.
✔ **A) to look after**
A **to-infinitive** after a noun can show what we need to do with it: **a child to look after** = a child that you must look after. Not **looking after**, because that would mean the child is looking after someone.

11. She saw the girl _____ in the yard.
✔ **A) playing**
After **see** + object we use **-ing** (or the bare infinitive) for an action we notice: **saw the girl playing**. Not **to play**, because **see** is not followed by **to**.

12. He usually left us without _____ a word.
✔ **B) saying**
After the preposition **without** we use the **-ing** form: **without saying a word**. Not **to say**, because a to-infinitive cannot follow a preposition.

13. I’m fond of _____ in the river.
✔ **D) swimming**
Be fond of ends with the preposition **of**, so it is followed by the **-ing** form: **I'm fond of swimming**. Not **having swum**, because we are talking about a general liking, not an earlier action.

14. The aim of the exhibition is _____ experience.
✔ **D) to exchange**
After **The aim/purpose of … is** we use the **to-infinitive** to say what the goal is: **The aim is to exchange experience**. The exhibition is active here, so the passive **to be exchanged** is wrong.

15. The horse _____ the race _____ the winner of the same event two years ago.
✔ **C) leading / was**
Leading the race is an **-ing** participle describing the horse (= the horse which is leading the race). The main verb must be past, **was**, because of **two years ago**. Not **is**, because the time phrase refers to the past.

16. His mother was against his _____ football.
✔ **E) playing**
After the preposition **against** we use the **-ing** form (the gerund). A possessive like **his** can come before it: **against his playing football**. Not **to play**, because the to-infinitive cannot follow a preposition.

17. Miss Benson was looking forward to _____ the title role in the new play.
✔ **B) playing**
In **look forward to**, the word **to** is a preposition, so it is followed by the **-ing** form: **looking forward to playing**. Not **play**, a common mistake, because this **to** is not part of an infinitive.

18. Pete likes _____. His dream is to visit Japan.
✔ **D) traveling**
The clue is **His dream is to visit Japan**: Pete likes going to other countries, which is **travelling** (American spelling **traveling**). After **like**, the **-ing** form is common for hobbies.

19. My friends need _____ English.
✔ **B) to learn**
The verb **need** (with a person as the subject) is followed by the **to-infinitive**: **need to learn**. Not **to be learned**, because the friends are doing the learning, so the active form is needed.

20. Which of the boys _____ in the yard is Ted?
✔ **E) playing**
Playing in the yard is an **-ing** participle describing the boys (= the boys who are playing in the yard). The sentence already has a main verb, **is**, so another finite verb such as **plays** or **is playing** is not possible.

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