ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Intermediate Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 02

Intermediate English Grammar Tests · 16 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. Can this camera _____ good photos?
✓ **C) take**
In English we say **take photos**, not **make photos**. After the modal verb **can** we use the base form with no **to**: **Can this camera take good photos?**

2. Who was the first person _____ today?
✓ **B) you spoke to**
This is a relative clause with the relative pronoun left out: **the first person (who) you spoke to**. Here **you** is the subject, and the preposition **to** goes at the end. Not **you spoke** or **whom you spoke**, because **speak to someone** needs the preposition **to**.

3. I can't find the book _____.
✓ **C) anywhere**
In negative sentences we use **anywhere**: **I can't find it anywhere.** Not **nowhere**, because **can't** is already negative, and English doesn't use a double negative.

4. There was a house at _____.
✓ **B) the foot of the mountain**
The bottom of a mountain is **the foot of the mountain**. We use the **of** structure for parts of things, not **'s**. **Foot** stays singular here, even though it is talking about a whole mountain.

5. A person who talks to _____ is not necessarily mad.
✓ **A) himself**
The reflexive pronoun must match the subject **a person**, so we use **himself** (or **themselves** in modern English). Not **oneself**, because it only goes with the pronoun **one** (**One should look after oneself**).

6. I'll be 13 tomorrow, _____?
✓ **C) won't I**
A question tag repeats the auxiliary verb of the sentence. **I'll** means **I will**, and the sentence is positive, so the tag is negative: **won't I?** Not **aren't I**, because the verb in the sentence is **will**, not **am**.

7. Did you hear _____ Julie said?
✓ **A) what**
What here means **the thing that**: **Did you hear what Julie said?** Not **that** or **which**, because the sentence has no noun before the gap for them to refer to.

8. Spanish people usually speak _____ than English people.
✓ **C) more quickly**
Quickly is an adverb ending in **-ly**, so its comparative is **more quickly**. Forms like **quicklier** and **more quicker** don't exist.

9. That old lady can't stop me _____ the tennis match on my radio.
✓ **D) listening to**
The pattern is **stop someone (from) doing something**, so we need the **-ing** form. We also need **to**, because we **listen to** something: **stop me listening to the match**. Not **listening** alone, because **listen** needs **to** before its object.

10. I haven't got a chair _____.
✓ **C) to sit on**
We use a **to**-infinitive after a noun to say what the thing is for: **a chair to sit on**. The preposition **on** stays at the end because we **sit on** a chair. **For to sit** is never correct.

11. _____ at the moment, I'll go to the shops.
✓ **D) As it isn't raining**
At the moment shows an action happening now, so we need the present continuous: **it isn't raining**. To give a reason at the start of a sentence, we use **As**. Not **For**, because it can't begin a sentence to give a reason.

12. Bill drinks _____ whisky.
✓ **D) so much**
Whisky is uncountable, so we use **much**, not **many**: **so much whisky** means a very large amount. Not **any**, because in positive sentences it doesn't fit here.

13. _____ are very intelligent.
✓ **A) Both of them**
Before a pronoun we say **both of** + object pronoun: **Both of them**. **Both them**, **Both they** and **The both** are not correct English. (**They both are** or **They are both** are also correct, but they are not among the options.)

14. In a shop _____ customers.
✓ **B) it is important to please**
The pattern is **it is** + adjective + **to**-infinitive: **it is important to please customers**. We use **it**, not **there**, as the empty subject before an adjective like **important**.

15. Don't leave your shoes on the table.
✓ **B) Take them off!**
Take something off means remove it from a place. With a pronoun, the pronoun goes between the verb and the particle: **Take them off!** Not **Pick up them**, because a pronoun can't go after the particle.

16. _____ in my class likes the teacher.
✓ **C) Everyone**
The verb **likes** is singular, so we need a singular subject: **Everyone**. **All pupils** would need a plural verb (**All the pupils like**), so it doesn't fit here.