ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Intermediate Grammar MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 25

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Explanations

1. **(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

My wife and I went to the airport to meet some friends. Their plane landed but they weren't on it. "_____ if there is a message for us," my wife said.
✓ **A) Let's see**
We use **Let's** + base verb (no **to**) to make a suggestion that includes the speaker: **Let's see if there is a message.** Not **Let's to see**, because **let's** is never followed by **to**.

2. "They _____ the plane.
✓ **B) may have missed**
To talk about a possible past event we use **may/might/could have** + past participle: **They may have missed the plane.** The verb that goes with a plane, bus or train you didn't catch is **miss**, not **lose**. Not **can have missed**, because **can have** isn't used for possibility in positive sentences.

3. Or perhaps they _____ from coming for some reason."
✓ **C) have been prevented**
Prevent somebody from doing something means to stop them doing it. Here it is passive and refers to something that has happened up to now, so we use the present perfect passive **have been prevented**. Not **avoided**, because **avoid** is not used with **from** + -ing in this meaning.

4. After _____ information at the information desk without success, I had an idea.
✓ **A) asking for**
After a preposition such as **after**, we use the -ing form: **After asking...**. The verb **ask** needs **for** before the thing you want: **ask for information**. Not **asking information**, because **for** is missing.

5. "_____ their letter?" I asked my wife.
✓ **D) Have you still got**
Still shows that something continues from the past until now: they had the letter before, so he asks if they **still** have it. In British English **Have you got** is common for possession. Not **yet** or **already**, because they don't fit this meaning in this position.

6. She found it in her handbag. "Here you are," she said. "We _____ at 10 o'clock on the 7th and _____ us."
✓ **A) are arriving**
The present continuous is used for fixed future arrangements: **We are arriving at 10 o'clock on the 7th.** Not **will be arrive** or **will be arrived**, because these forms are not correct English.

7. "We _____ at 10 o'clock on the 7th and _____ us."
✓ **C) would like you to meet**
We say **would like / want + somebody + to + verb**: **We would like you to meet us.** We don't use a **that**-clause after **want** or **would like**. Not **want you to wait us**, because we need **wait for** somebody.

8. "But today's the 6th," I said. "We should have looked at the date before. If we had, we wouldn't have had this journey for nothing." "How silly!" my wife said. "I _____ this letter around for days without looking at it."
✓ **B) have been carrying**
The present perfect continuous (**have been** + -ing) describes an action that started in the past and has continued until now. The clue is **for days**: **I have been carrying this letter around for days.** Not **am carrying**, because the present continuous isn't used with **for** + a period of time up to now.

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