ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

INTERMEDIATE Test 9

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Explanations

1. Is there a public call box near here? I have to _____ a phone call.
✓ **B) make**
We say **make a phone call**. It is a fixed phrase with **make**. Not **do**: we never say **do a phone call**.

2. First she said “Yes”, then she said “No”, but in the end she _____ up her mind to marry him.
✓ **B) made**
Make up your mind means to decide. Here it is in the past: **she made up her mind**.

3. When you’re not sure what to do, the best thing is to _____ nothing.
✓ **A) do**
We use **do** with **nothing**, **something** and **anything**: **do nothing**. Not **make**, because **make nothing** means not producing anything.

4. Ssh! You mustn’t _____ a noise. The baby’s asleep.
✓ **B) make**
Make a noise is a fixed phrase. **You mustn’t make a noise** means you must be quiet.

5. My teacher says I must work harder, but I can’t work any harder. I’m _____ my best.
✓ **A) doing**
Do your best means to try as hard as you can: **I’m doing my best**. Not **making**, because **best** goes with **do**, not **make**.

6. We asked to see the manager and we _____ a complaint about the terrible service in the restaurant.
✓ **B) made**
We say **make a complaint**, meaning to say formally that you are unhappy about something. Not **did**: **do a complaint** is wrong.

7. At first I found learning English very easy, but now I don’t think I’m _____ any progress at all.
✓ **B) making**
The collocation is **make progress**, meaning to get better at something. Not **getting**: we don’t say **get progress**.

8. Could you _____ me a favour, please? Could you give me a lift to the airport?
✓ **B) do**
We say **do someone a favour**, meaning to help them. Not **make**: **make me a favour** is a common mistake.

9. My uncle died without _____ a will, and it was very difficult for our family to sort out his money and possessions.
✓ **D) making**
We say **make a will**. After the preposition **without** we need the **-ing** form, so **without making a will**. Not **make**, because it is not the -ing form.

10. We have some lovely new neighbours; we’ve already _____ friends with them.
✓ **B) made**
The phrase is **make friends (with someone)**. After **we’ve** we need the past participle: **we’ve made friends**. Not **done**, because the verb here is **make**, not **do**.

11. I like to keep fit, so I _____ exercises every day.
✓ **A) do**
We use **do** with exercise and sport: **do exercises**, **do yoga**. Not **make**: **make exercises** is a common mistake.

12. Before you go on holiday, you should _____ sure that the doors and windows are shut and locked.
✓ **B) make**
Make sure means to check that something is true or done: **make sure the doors are locked**.

13. _____ money, not war!
✓ **B) Make**
We say **make money**, meaning to earn money. We also say **make war**. Not **do**: we don’t say **do money**.

14. I was _____ a queue waiting to buy some bread.
✓ **A) in**
We say **in a queue** because you are inside a line of people. Example: **We stood in a queue for an hour.**

15. I looked _____ all the shelves and _____ all the cupboards.
✓ **B) on / in**
Things lie **on** a shelf, a flat surface. Things are kept **in** a cupboard, which is a closed space. So: **on all the shelves and in all the cupboards**.

16. They certainly weren’t _____ the table or _____ the floor.
✓ **D) on / on**
A table and a floor are flat surfaces, so we use **on**: **on the table**, **on the floor**.

17. Had I left them _____ work?
✓ **C) at**
We say **at work**, like **at home** and **at school**, for the place where you do an activity.

18. Were they _____ the car?
✔ **A) in**
We use **in** for cars and taxis: **in the car**. We use **on** for buses, trains and planes.

19. Then I realized where they were. They were _____ my favourite armchair.
✔ **A) on**
The things were lying on the seat of the armchair, a surface, so we say **on my favourite armchair**. Not **into**, because **into** shows movement.

20. "Where were you at 2:00?"

"_____ the beach."
✔ **B) On**
We say **on the beach** because the beach is a surface you are on. Not **in**: you are not inside the beach.

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