ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

INTERMEDIATE Test 11

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Explanations

1. I'm really looking forward to _____ my new course.
✓ **B) starting**
In **look forward to**, the word **to** is a preposition, not part of an infinitive, so it is followed by the **-ing** form: **looking forward to starting**. Not **to start**, because **to** here cannot be followed by the base verb.

2. They can't help us _____ the house.
✓ **A) move**
After **help + object**, we use the base form of the verb (or **to** + verb): **help us move**. Not **move to**, because **move the house** needs no extra preposition.

3. She refused _____ the phone.
✓ **B) to answer**
Refuse is followed by the **to**-infinitive: **She refused to answer**. Not **answering**, because **refuse** does not take the **-ing** form.

4. I don't mind _____ to the restaurant.
✓ **A) driving**
Mind (meaning 'object to') is followed by the **-ing** form: **I don't mind driving**. Not **to drive**, because **mind** never takes the infinitive.

5. We encouraged them _____ a new business.
✓ **B) to set up**
The pattern is **encourage + object + to-infinitive**: **We encouraged them to set up a new business**. Not **setting up**, because **encourage somebody** is not followed by the **-ing** form.

6. His parents don't allow him _____ after ten o'clock.
✓ **B) to stay up**
The pattern is **allow + object + to-infinitive**: **They don't allow him to stay up**. Not **stay up**, because only **let** takes the base form (**let him stay up**).

7. I'll be back in touch _____ soon _____ possible.
✓ **D) as / as**
The fixed expression is **as soon as possible**, using the comparison **as ... as**. **Like** is never used in this pattern.

8. This wine tastes _____ vinegar!
✓ **C) like**
After sense verbs such as **taste**, **look**, **sound** and **smell**, we use **like** before a noun: **It tastes like vinegar**. Not **as**, because **as** would mean the wine has the role of vinegar.

9. I've known Andy for years. He went to the same school _____ I did.
✓ **D) as**
The fixed pattern is **the same ... as**: **the same school as I did**. Not **like**, because **the same** always goes with **as**.

10. My sister's a teacher _____ me.
✓ **C) like**
Like + noun/pronoun means 'similar to': **a teacher like me** = she is a teacher, and so am I. Not **as**, because **as** + noun describes a role or job, and **as me** does not work here.

11. 'We had a new teacher today called Mary.'

'What was she _____?'
✓ **C) like**
What is/was somebody like? asks about a person's character or personality. Not **look like**, because **What was she look like?** is wrong; it would need **What did she look like?**

12. Who do I look _____, my mother or my father?
✓ **A) like**
Look like + person means 'be similar in appearance to': **Who do I look like?** Not **as**, because **look as** is not followed by a noun in this meaning.

13. She really annoys me. I can't stand people _____ her.
✓ **C) like**
Like + noun/pronoun means 'similar to': **people like her** = people who are similar to her. Not **as**, because **as** cannot be used this way before a pronoun.

14. I'll see you tomorrow at 11.00 _____ usual.
✓ **B) as**
As usual is a fixed expression meaning 'in the normal way, as always': **I'll see you at 11.00 as usual**. Not **like** or **similar to**, because they are not used with **usual**.

15. It's July and the weather's awful! It's _____ in winter!
✓ **C) like**
Like means 'similar to' here: **It's like in winter** = the weather is similar to winter weather. Not **as**, because **as** would need a full comparison (**as cold as in winter**).

16. I need to buy all sorts of things _____ socks, shirts and knickers.
✓ **C) like**
Like (or **such as**) is used to give examples: **things like socks, shirts and knickers**. Not **such** or **as** alone, because only the full phrase **such as** gives examples.

17. My wife has found a job _____ a personal assistant.
✓ **D) as**
As + noun describes a job or role: **a job as a personal assistant** = she is a personal assistant. Not **like**, because **like** means 'similar to', not 'in the role of'.

18. Dave drinks _____ a fish! I've never seen anyone drink as much.
✔ **C) like**
Drink like a fish is an idiom meaning 'drink a lot of alcohol'. We use **like** + noun to compare: he drinks in a way similar to a fish.

19. My brother has a car _____ yours.
✔ **C) like**
Like + noun/pronoun means 'similar to': **a car like yours** = a car similar to yours. Not **as**, because **as yours** needs **the same ... as** (**the same car as yours**).

20. Don't touch anything. Leave everything _____ it is.
✔ **D) as**
As is used before a clause (subject + verb) to mean 'in the way that': **Leave everything as it is**. **Like** before a clause is only informal, so the standard answer is **as**.

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