ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Pronouns – Adverbs – Adjectives – Determiners (Elementary / Pre-Intermediate) Test 14

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

Explanations

1. I guess I didn't buy her _____ gift.
✓ **B) an expensive enough**
Gift is a singular countable noun, so it needs **a/an**. **Enough** goes after the adjective: **an expensive enough gift**. Not **expensive enough**, because there is no article.

2. You don't need as fast _____ she bought.
✓ **A) a car as**
The pattern is **as + adjective + a + noun + as**: **as fast a car as she bought**. The article **a** comes after the adjective, not before it.

3. That isn't as busy _____ this one.
✓ **C) a corner as**
Use **as + adjective + a + noun + as**: **as busy a corner as this one**. Not **as a corner as**, because **as** is already before **busy**.

4. Rome isn't _____ as Milan is.
✓ **A) as near to us**
In comparisons with **as … as**, use the normal adjective: **as near to us as Milan is**. Not **as nearer**, because a comparative form (**nearer**) is not used with **as … as**.

5. It cost me _____ than I thought it would.
✓ **C) more**
The word **than** shows a comparison, so we need **more**: **It cost me more than I thought**. Not **fewer**, because **fewer** goes with countable nouns, not with cost or money.

6. It took us _____ time to get here than usual.
✓ **C) less**
Than shows a comparison. **Time** is uncountable, so we use **less**: **less time than usual**. **Little** is not a comparative, so it cannot go with **than**.

7. Do you walk _____, now that you live in a village?
✓ **D) more**
More can be used alone after a verb: **Do you walk more now?** (more than before). Not **very many** or **a lot of**, because they must have a noun after them.

8. I have two boys, but _____ of them likes pop music.
✓ **C) neither**
Neither of means 'not one and not the other' and is used for two people or things. Not **none**, because **none** is for three or more.

9. I think my answer on the test was _____.
✓ **A) the best possible choice**
We say **the best possible + noun**: **the best possible choice**. Not **the better of all**, because for more than two things we use the superlative **best**.

10. Not all English people _____ fish and chips.
✓ **D) like**
People is plural, so the verb is **like** (no -s). **Not all** already makes it negative, so we don't add **don't**.

11. It is very difficult to drive in _____.
✓ **D) slow-moving rush-hour traffic**
A describing adjective (**slow-moving**) comes before a noun used like an adjective (**rush-hour**): **slow-moving rush-hour traffic**. Not **rush-hour slow-moving traffic**, because the noun modifier must stand next to the main noun.

12. Nobody _____ objecting to the decision to close down the factory.
✓ **A) is**
Nobody is singular, so we use **is**. Not **isn't**, because **nobody** is already negative; two negatives are wrong here.

13. The audience _____ listening to a Beethoven symphony.
✓ **B) is**
The sentence needs a full present continuous verb: **is listening**. **Be**, **been** and **being** cannot be used alone after a subject.

14. Neither of these roads _____ to the airport.
✓ **B) goes**
Neither of takes a singular verb in careful English: **Neither of these roads goes to the airport**. Not **doesn't go**, because **neither** is already negative.

15. Neither of the footballers _____ well.
✓ **A) played**
Played is the past simple and works with any subject: **Neither of the footballers played well**. Not **didn't play**, because **neither** is already negative.

16. Neither of us _____ hungry.
✓ **A) is**
Neither of takes a singular verb: **Neither of us is hungry**. The other options are negative, but **neither** is already negative.

17. Neither of them _____ interested in history.
✓ **A) was**
Neither of takes a singular verb: **Neither of them was interested**. Not **weren't** or **aren't**, because **neither** is already negative.

18. All that glitters _____ not gold.
✓ **B) is**
All that glitters means 'everything that shines' and is singular, so we use **is**. This is a famous saying: **All that glitters is not gold**.

19. Measles _____ an infectious disease.
✓ C) is
Measles ends in -s but it is the name of one illness, so it takes a singular verb: **Measles is**.

20. Neither Colin nor Digby _____ there.
✓ D) was
With **neither … nor** and two singular names, use a singular verb: **Neither Colin nor Digby was there**. Not **wasn't**, because **neither … nor** is already negative.

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