ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Tenses – Passives (Elementary / Pre-Intermediate) Test 4

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Explanations

1. She is going _____ shopping tomorrow.
✓ **C) to go**
We use **be going to** + base verb for plans: **She is going to go shopping.** After **going** we need **to**.

2. I _____ home when it started to rain.
✓ **A) was walking**
Use the past continuous (**was walking**) for a longer action in the past that was interrupted by a short action (**it started to rain**).

3. He has _____ English for three years.
✓ **C) been learning**
Has been learning is the present perfect continuous. It is for an action that started in the past and is still going on. The clue is **for three years**.

4. They _____ working here for six months.
✓ **B) have been**
The present perfect continuous is **have been + -ing**: **They have been working here for six months.** The word **been** alone is not enough. It needs **have**.

5. How long _____ her?
✓ **D) have you known**
How long + a state that started in the past and continues now needs the present perfect: **How long have you known her?** Not **do you know**, because **how long** asks about time up to now.

6. Who _____ first this morning?
✓ **C) got up**
This morning is finished time, so we use the past simple: **got up**. When **who** is the subject, we don't use **did**.

7. _____ Peggy happy?
✓ **A) Is**
Happy is an adjective, so we use the verb **be**: **Is Peggy happy?** We don't use **do** or **does** with adjectives.

8. John was singing while he _____ a bath.
✓ **B) was taking**
Two long actions happening at the same time in the past both use the past continuous: **was singing** while he **was taking** a bath.

9. When Peter talks, everybody _____.
✓ **D) listens**
Everybody is singular, so the verb takes **-s** in the present simple: **everybody listens**. Not **listen**, because **everybody** works like **he** or **she**.

10. Policemen often _____ traffic.
✓ **D) direct**
Policemen is plural and **often** shows a habit, so we use the present simple with no **-s**: **they direct**.

11. Buses _____ every ten minutes.
✓ **C) run**
Buses is plural and **every ten minutes** shows a regular action, so we use the present simple with no **-s**: **run**.

12. Good children always _____ their parents.
✓ **A) obey**
Children is plural and **always** shows a general truth or habit, so we use the present simple with no **-s**: **obey**.

13. He usually _____ coffee but today he _____ tea.
✓ **C) drinks / is drinking**
Usually shows a habit, so we use the present simple: **drinks**. **Today** shows something different happening now, so we use the present continuous: **is drinking**.

14. I always buy lottery tickets but I never _____ anything.
✓ **D) win**
Never is already negative, so we use a positive verb: **I never win**. Not **don't win**, because two negatives are wrong in English.

15. The police _____ the thief yet.
✓ **A) haven't caught**
Yet goes with the present perfect in negatives. **Police** is a plural noun, so we say **the police haven't caught**. Not **hasn't caught**, because **police** takes a plural verb.

16. I _____ him for five years. I don't know where he is.
✓ **B) haven't seen**
For five years means from the past until now, so we use the present perfect: **I haven't seen him for five years.**

17. He _____ his leg in a skiing accident last winter.
✓ **B) broke**
Last winter is a finished time in the past, so we use the past simple: **broke**. Not **has broken**, because we don't use the present perfect with **last winter**.

18. Have you seen my ball-point pen anywhere? I _____ for it for ten minutes.
✓ **D) have been looking**
The action started ten minutes ago and is still going on, so we use the present perfect continuous: **have been looking**. The clue is **for ten minutes**.

19. I _____ to the dentist tomorrow.
✓ C) am going
We use the present continuous (**am going**) for a fixed plan or arrangement in the future. The clue is **tomorrow**.

20. She _____ an operation next Tuesday.
✓ C) is having
An arranged future event uses the present continuous: **She is having an operation next Tuesday.** The clue is **next Tuesday**.

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