ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Clauses (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 2

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

Explanations

1. Teachers have found the overhead projector to be invaluable as a teaching aid.

Teachers have found that the overhead projector _____.
✔ **B) is invaluable as a teaching aid**
After **found that** we need a full clause with a subject and a verb: **the overhead projector is invaluable**. The main verb **have found** is present perfect, so the present tense **is** fits. Not **to be**: the infinitive is used without **that** (**found it to be**).

2. The law requires that all cars _____ regularly tested for safety and efficiency.
✔ **A) should be**
After verbs like **require**, **demand** and **insist** + **that**, British English often uses **should** + infinitive: **requires that all cars should be tested**. American English uses the bare form **be**. Not **have to be**: **require** already expresses the obligation.

3. I warned him that he _____ pneumonia.
✔ **B) would get**
In reported speech after a past reporting verb (**warned**), **will** becomes **would**: "You will get pneumonia" → **I warned him that he would get pneumonia**. Not **should get**, which expresses advice or what is expected, not a warning about the future.

4. He began to realize that he _____ a mistake.
✔ **C) had made**
The mistake happened before he began to realize it, so we use the past perfect: **had made**. The main verb **began** is in the past, so **has made** or **is making** do not fit.

5. Last year the Prime Minister warned that higher wages _____ higher prices the following year.
✔ **A) would mean**
The warning was given **last year** about **the following year**, which is now also in the past. So **will** from the direct speech changes to **would**: "Higher wages will mean higher prices" → **warned that higher wages would mean higher prices**. Not **will mean**, because **the following year** is already past and **will** no longer fits.

6. Many people consider it to be cruel to send animals in rockets into outer space.

Many people consider that _____ cruel to send animals in rockets into outer space.
✔ **C) it is**
After **consider that** we need a full clause: **it is cruel**. The main verb **consider** is present, so the verb is present too. Not **it to be**: that pattern is used without **that** (**consider it to be cruel**).

7. The Prime Minister clearly suspects his party to have little chance of winning the next election.

The Prime Minister clearly suspects that his party _____ little chance of winning the next election.
✔ **B) has**
Suspects that needs a full clause with a finite verb. The main verb **suspects** is present, so we use present **has**: **his party has little chance**. Not **had**, because there is no past reporting verb.

8. The witness later disclosed the evidence to have been destroyed.

The witness later disclosed that the evidence _____.
✔ **B) had been destroyed**
To have been destroyed shows the destruction happened before the disclosure. After past **disclosed that**, this earlier action becomes the past perfect passive: **had been destroyed**. Not **has been destroyed**, because the main verb is past.

9. Researchers have now proved that earlier theories _____ incorrect.
✔ **A) were**
The main verb **have proved** is present perfect, so there is no backshift; the theories were wrong in the past, so we use past simple **were**. Not **had been**, which needs a past main verb (**proved**). The infinitives cannot follow **that**.

10. “May I have my letters addressed in care of your office?” asked Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor asked me if _____ letters addressed in care of _____ office.
✔ **D) he might have his / my**
In a reported question we use statement word order (**he might have**), and **may** usually becomes **might**. The pronouns change: **my letters** → **his letters**. Mr. Taylor asked **me**, so **your office** → **my office**. Not **might he have**, because reported questions do not use question word order.

11. The doctor says to me, “The moisture in the air might affect your breathing.”

He thinks that the moisture in the air _____.
✔ **A) might affect my breathing**
The reporting verb is present (**says**, **thinks**), so the verb does not change: **might affect**. The doctor was speaking to me, so **your** becomes **my**. Not **might affect your breathing**, because the pronoun must change.

12. “I’d love to come,” she said.

She said _____ to come.
✓ C) she’d like
In reported speech **I** becomes **she**, and **would** stays **would**: **She said she'd like to come**. Not **she'd liked**: **would** is followed by the base form, not a past participle.

13. “Which of these films have you seen?”

My friend asked me which of the films _____.
✓ B) I had seen
Reported questions use statement word order (**I had seen**, not **have I seen**). After past **asked**, present perfect becomes past perfect, and **you** becomes **I** because the friend asked me.

14. “Whom did you see at the concert last night?”

She asked us whom _____ the other night.
✓ B) we’d seen
In a reported question, past simple usually becomes past perfect (**we'd seen**), **you** becomes **we** because she asked us, and we use statement word order. Not **did we see**, because reported questions do not use question word order.

15. They asked, “Is the work going to be easy?”

They wondered if _____.
✓ D) the work was going to be easy
A yes/no question is reported with **if** + statement word order. After past **wondered**, **is going to** becomes **was going to**: **if the work was going to be easy**. Not **is the work going to be easy** or **was work going to be easy**, because reported questions do not use question word order. Not **the work was easy**, because that loses the future meaning of **going to**.

16. He asked, “Have you read The Old Man and the Sea, Ted?”

He wanted to know if _____ The Old Man and the Sea.
✓ B) he’d read
The question was to Ted, so **you** becomes **he**. After past **wanted to know**, present perfect **have read** becomes past perfect **had read**: **if he'd read**. Not **he has read**, because the tense should move back.

17. “Please give me a painkiller,” the patient said.

The patient begged the nurse _____ a painkiller.
✓ A) to give her
Requests are reported with **beg/ask** + person + **to**-infinitive: **begged the nurse to give her**. **Me** becomes **her** because we now talk about the patient. Not **to give me**, because the pronoun must change.

18. “Don’t eat those cherries, they are poisonous,” said David.

David _____ not to eat those cherries because they were poisonous.
✓ C) warned me
A warning not to do something is reported with **warn** + person + **not to** + verb: **David warned me not to eat those cherries**. The other verbs do not take this pattern (**said to me that not to eat** is wrong).

19. “Did she agree with me?”

He wondered if _____.
✓ C) she’d agreed with him
In reported speech after past **wondered**, past simple becomes past perfect (**she'd agreed**), **me** becomes **him**, and we use statement word order. Not **she'd agree**, which means **would agree** and changes the meaning.

20. I wanted to know why no one _____.
✓ A) had come
After past **wanted to know**, we use the past perfect for an earlier action: **why no one had come**. **No one** is already negative, so **hadn't come** would be a double negative.

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