ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Clauses (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 8

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

Explanations

1. Augustus, _____ was the first Emperor of Rome, ruled from 27 BC to AD 14.
✔ **C) who**
The gap is the subject of a non-defining clause (between commas) about a person, so we use **who**. Not **that**, because **that** cannot start a clause between commas. **Whom** is for objects.

2. Mr. Brandon, _____, is a friend of my father's.
✔ **A) whose son is a famous actor**
Whose shows possession (his son), and it can start a non-defining clause about a person. **Which** is not used for people. **That** cannot follow a comma, and **has just arrived** has no relative pronoun.

3. The problem was with the battery _____ a dead cell.
✔ **B) which had**
The battery is a thing, and the main verb is past (**was**), so **which had** fits. Not **that have**: 'battery' is singular, so it needs **has**/**had**. **Who** is only for people, and **in which has** has no subject.

4. There were fifty questions on the test, _____.
✔ **B) all of which were difficult**
After a comma, quantity words go before a relative pronoun: **all of which** (for things) and **all of whom** (for people). Not **all of them were very hard**, because two full sentences cannot be joined with just a comma.

5. I'm looking for something with _____ I can clean the board.
✔ **B) which**
After a preposition (**with**), use **which** for things: **something with which I can clean**. **That** can never follow a preposition, and **whom** is only for people.

6. Gentlemen, from _____ we expect politeness, ought not to lose their tempers.
✔ **C) whom**
After a preposition, use **whom** for people: **from whom we expect politeness**. Not **who**, because **who** cannot directly follow a preposition.

7. Your information, for _____ I'm grateful, is very helpful.
✔ **B) which**
'Information' is a thing, and the pronoun follows a preposition (**for**), so we use **which**. **That** cannot follow a preposition or a comma.

8. Men _____ work is good receive high wages.
✔ **D) whose**
Whose shows possession: **men whose work is good** = men and their work is good. **Who** or **that** would need a verb right after them, not a noun.

9. He did his medical training at a hospital _____.
✔ **C) which specializes in heart surgery**
A hospital is a thing, so we use **which** as the subject of the clause: **which specializes in heart surgery**. **Who** is only for people. **Whose** must be followed by a noun (**whose patients**).

10. That evening we went to the opera, _____.
✔ **A) where we met the newly appointed general director**
The opera is a place, so **where** starts the clause: **where we met the director** = at the opera we met him. Not **that**, because it cannot follow a comma. **Which were** is wrong because 'opera' is singular.

11. His father, _____, said he didn't like to work.
✔ **D) who was already over sixty-five**
The clause between commas adds extra information about a person, so it starts with **who**. Not **that had retired**, because **that** cannot be used in a non-defining clause.

12. Mr. Benson, _____, has moved to another city.
✔ **B) whose firm closed because of complaints**
Whose shows possession (his firm) and can start a non-defining clause about a person. Not **that**, because it cannot follow a comma. The other options are full sentences with no relative pronoun.

13. Crops can now be grown in deserts _____.
✔ **C) where farming would be impossible without irrigation**
Deserts are places, so **where** starts the relative clause: **deserts where farming would be impossible**. The other options are separate sentences that cannot simply be attached to the main sentence.

14. The boys _____ are having special lessons.
✔ **C) who have been offered a scholarship**
This defining clause tells us which boys, and it needs a pronoun for people: **who have been offered**. Not **which**, because it is used for things. **They** and **their** are not relative pronouns.

15. It was they _____.
✔ **A) who told us the news**
This is a cleft sentence for emphasis: **It was they who told us the news** (= They told us the news). For people, the clause after **It was …** starts with **who** or **that**.

16. They refused to be reasonable about the delay, _____.
✔ **C) which made me angry**
After a comma, **which** can refer to the whole previous clause: their refusal made me angry. Not **that caused a lot of trouble**, because **that** cannot be used after a comma.

17. George ordered an enormous steak, _____.
✓ B) which cost him a lot
The non-defining clause about the steak needs **which**: **which cost him a lot**. The other options have no relative pronoun, so they cannot be joined to the sentence with only a comma.

18. The students in the early class, _____, did very well on yesterday's maths test.
✓ C) most of whom had studied the night before
For people, quantity expressions in a non-defining clause use **of whom**: **most of whom had studied**. Not **very few of them had studied**: with **them**, it is a separate sentence and cannot go between commas.

19. He forgot to get the tickets, _____.
✓ D) which annoyed his wife very much
Which after a comma can refer to the whole previous idea: forgetting the tickets annoyed his wife. **Whose wife** would mean the tickets' wife, which makes no sense.

20. It is nuclear war, which could exterminate mankind, _____.
✓ C) that we must avoid
The structure **It is … that …** is a cleft sentence that emphasises one part: **It is nuclear war that we must avoid** (= We must avoid nuclear war). The clause between commas is only extra information. The cleft still needs its **that**-clause at the end.

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