ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Modals (Elementary / Pre-Intermediate) Test 5

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Explanations

1. A: _____?

B: I'm going to study in the library.
✔ **B) What are you going to do now**
B talks about a plan with **I'm going to study**, so A asks about plans: **What are you going to do now?** Not the cinema question: B would first say **Yes** or **No**.

2. A: I've got a cold.

B: Then you'd _____ stay in bed.
✔ **B) better**
You'd better (= you had better) + verb gives strong advice: **You'd better stay in bed.** Not **should**, **must** or **can**: we can't put **'d** (= had/would) before these words.

3. A: I've got a headache.

B: You _____ take an aspirin.
✔ **B) should**
We use **should** + verb to give advice: **You should take an aspirin.**

4. A: _____?

B: Yes, they do.
✔ **A) Do your friends write to you**
Yes, they do answers a question about **they**: **Do your friends write to you?** The question about **you and your brother** needs **Yes, we do.**

5. A: Were they playing tennis?

B: No, they _____.
✔ **B) weren't**
The question uses **were**, so the short answer uses **were** too: **No, they weren't.**

6. Mother is still in bed, and _____ my sister.
✔ **A) so is**
After a positive sentence we say **so** + verb + person: **and so is my sister. Neither** and **nor** follow negative sentences.

7. My brother was very hungry, and I _____ too.
✔ **D) was**
The first part uses **was**, so we repeat **was**: **and I was too.**

8. We live in a small flat, and they do, _____.
✔ **C) too**
At the end of a positive sentence we use **too**: **they do, too. Either** goes at the end of negative sentences.

9. A: Colin didn't like the film.

B: _____.
✔ **B) Neither did I**
A's sentence is negative and in the past (**didn't**), so we say **Neither did I.**

10. A: Nick isn't good at maths.

B: _____.
✔ **A) Nor is his sister**
A's sentence is negative with **isn't**, so we answer with **Nor is** + person: **Nor is his sister. So is** and **is, too** are only for positive sentences.

11. A: I haven't said anything.

B: _____.
✔ **C) Nor have I**
A uses **haven't**, so the reply uses **have**: **Nor have I.** Not **Nor did I**, because the verb must match **have**.

12. A: My father plays chess very well.

B: _____.
✔ **A) So does my father**
A's sentence is positive with **plays**, so we say **So does my father.**

13. He said, "It may rain later in the day."

He said that it _____ rain later in the day.
✔ **C) might**
In reported speech, **may** usually changes to **might**: **He said that it might rain.**

14. He _____ take his medicine three times a day. The doctor told him to.
✔ **A) has to**
The doctor told him, so it is an obligation: **He has to take** (he + **has to**). Not **must to**: after **must** we don't use **to**.

15. I feel tired. I _____ go to bed.
✔ **C) had better**
I had better + verb gives advice about now: **I had better go to bed.** Not **had to**: it talks about the past.

16. You _____ do your homework. If you don't, you'll fail the examination.
✔ **C) had better**
Had better gives a warning: something bad will happen if you don't do it. Here the bad result is **you'll fail the examination**.

17. We haven’t got much time. We _____ hurry.
✔ **B) must**
There isn't much time, so it is necessary: **We must hurry. Needn't** means it is not necessary.

18. We have got plenty of time. We _____ hurry.
✔ **A) needn’t**
We have lots of time, so it is not necessary: **We needn't hurry.** Not **mustn't**: that means it is not allowed.

19. You _____ do it now. You can do it this afternoon.
✔ **C) needn’t**
You can do it this afternoon means it is not necessary now: **You needn't do it now.** Not **mustn't**: that means it is not allowed.

20. I _____ like jazz when I was a teenager.
✔ **D) used to**
Used to + verb talks about something that was true in the past but not now: **I used to like jazz.**

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