ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Prepositions (Elementary / Pre-Intermediate) Test 3

English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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1	C	2	B	3	D	4	B	5	C	6	B	7	A	8	A	9	B	10	A
11	D	12	D	13	A	14	C	15	C	16	B	17	A	18	D	19	A	20	A

Explanations

1. Can't you come _____ your bicycle?
✔ **C) on**
We ride **on** a bicycle, so we say **come on your bicycle**. Without **your** we say **by bicycle**.

2. She arrived _____ Friday.
✔ **B) on**
Use **on** with days: **on Friday**, **on Monday**.

3. We'll go _____ Marmaris _____ June.
✔ **D) to / in**
We **go to** a place: **go to Marmaris**. Use **in** with months: **in June**.

4. I was born _____ September 9th.
✔ **B) on**
Use **on** with dates: **on September 9th**. Not **in**: we say **in September** only without the day.

5. John and Mary are talking _____ the telephone.
✔ **C) on**
We say **talk on the telephone** (or **on the phone**). Not **to**: we talk **to** a person, not to the telephone.

6. Classes began _____ last week.
✔ **B) _____**
No preposition before **last**, **next** or **this** with time: **last week**, **next year**.

7. They took my temperature _____ the operation.
✔ **A) before**
Before means earlier than: first they took my temperature, then the operation happened. So we say **before the operation**.

8. Do you take sugar _____ your tea?
✔ **A) in**
The sugar goes into the tea, so we say **sugar in your tea**.

9. I'm afraid _____ falling trees.
✔ **B) of**
We say **afraid of** something: **I'm afraid of dogs**.

10. She didn't get a passing grade _____ her test.
✔ **A) on**
In American English we say **a grade on a test**: **I got an A on my test**.

11. I sometimes listen _____ the radio or watch _____ TV.
✔ **D) to / _____**
We say **listen to the radio** but **watch TV** with no preposition.

12. I always lie down _____ a swim.
✔ **D) after**
After means later than: first I swim, then I lie down, so **after a swim**.

13. Are they going to stay _____ a tent?
✔ **A) in**
A tent is a closed space, so we use **in**: **stay in a tent**, **in a hotel**.

14. She put a bandage _____ the boy's cut finger.
✔ **C) on**
The bandage covers the finger, so we say **put a bandage on** it.

15. He has a pain _____ his leg.
✔ **C) in**
We say **a pain in** a part of the body: **a pain in my back**.

16. The Prime Minister arrived _____ Tokyo last night.
✔ **B) in**
Use **arrive in** with cities and countries: **arrive in Tokyo**. Not **to**: we never say **arrive to**.

17. I couldn't get _____ school in time.
✔ **A) to**
Get to means arrive at a place: **get to school**, **get to work**.

18. The student apologized _____ being late.
✔ **D) for**
We **apologize for** something we did: **apologize for being late**. We apologize **to** a person.

19. Ann stirred her coffee _____ a spoon.
✔ **A) with**
Use **with** for the thing we use to do something: **stir with a spoon**, **write with a pen**.

20. Petrol is sold _____ the litre.
✔ **A) by**
We use **by the** + a unit of measure: **sold by the litre**, **paid by the hour**.