ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Prepositions (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 8

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

Explanations

1. We walked along _____ silence.
✓ **A) in**
We use **in** with states and manners: **in silence**, **in a hurry**, **in pain**. **We walked along in silence** means nobody spoke. Not **without**, because **without silence** makes no sense.

2. They are taught to respect everyone _____ race.
✓ **A) regardless of**
Regardless of means 'without considering' or 'no matter what'. They respect everyone, whatever their race is. **Regarding** means 'about', so it does not fit here.

3. Mike's completely cured _____ smoking now.
✓ **B) of**
The verb **cure** is followed by **of**: **be cured of an illness or a habit**. **Mike's cured of smoking** means he has stopped completely. Not **from**: we say **recover from**, but **cured of**.

4. _____ the first sign of illness, see your doctor.
✓ **D) At**
The fixed phrase is **at the first sign of** (something), meaning 'as soon as you notice it'. Example: **At the first sign of trouble, call me.**

5. We are looking forward _____ your visit _____ pleasure.
✓ **D) to / with**
Look forward to always takes **to**: **look forward to your visit**. We do something **with pleasure**, meaning happily. Not **in pleasure**, because this phrase is not used in English.

6. Darwin said that people were related _____ monkeys.
✓ **A) to**
Related is followed by **to**: **be related to someone/something** means you are connected by family or origin. Example: **She is related to the king.** Not **with**, which is not used after **related** in this meaning.

7. Vitamin D is essential _____ the growth of bones and teeth and is found _____ fish, liver, oil and milk.
✓ **D) for / in**
We say **essential for** something (needed for it), and something **is found in** food or a place. Vitamin D is needed **for** growth and is found **in** fish and milk. Not **at**, because we don't say **found at fish**.

8. They stood _____ silence for a while.
✓ **D) in**
In silence means without speaking. **They stood in silence** means they stood quietly. We don't say **with silence** or **on silence**.

9. Exposure _____ radiation may result _____ sickness and even death.
✓ **A) to / in**
The noun **exposure** takes **to**: **exposure to radiation**. **Result in** introduces the effect: **may result in sickness**. Not **result from**, which introduces the cause, not the effect.

10. Robert was _____ a brother to me.
✓ **D) like**
Like means 'similar to', so **Robert was like a brother to me** means he was not my brother but felt like one. Not **as**, because **as a brother** would mean he really was my brother.

11. It is always difficult to stand up _____ the opinion of the majority.
✓ **B) to**
The phrasal verb **stand up to** means to resist or refuse to accept someone or something stronger, here the majority's opinion. Not **stand up for**, which means to defend or support. Supporting the majority's view is not difficult.

12. _____ a boy, he had been very fond _____ swimming.
✓ **B) As / of**
As a boy means 'when he was a boy'. **Fond** is followed by **of**: **be fond of swimming**. Not **Like a boy**, which means 'in the way a boy does', not 'when he was a boy'.

13. They were just _____ the range of the big guns.
✓ **B) beyond**
Beyond the range of means further away than something can reach. They were just far enough away that the big guns could not hit them. The opposite is **within range**.

14. We're on your side. We are all _____ you.
✓ **A) for**
Be for someone or something means to support them. **We are all for you** repeats **We're on your side**. The opposite is **against**.

15. We won _____ two goals _____ nil.
✓ **A) by / to**
We win **by** a number of goals (the difference), and give a score with **to**: **two goals to nil**. So **We won by two goals to nil**.

16. Mexico is situated _____ North America.
✓ **B) in**
We use **in** when a place is inside a larger area: **Mexico is situated in North America**. Compare **to the west of**, used when a place is outside another area.

17. Europe is situated _____ the west of Asia.
✔ **A) to**
To the west of is used when one place is outside another, in that direction. Europe is not part of Asia, so it is **to the west of Asia**. **In the west of** would mean inside Asia.

18. The earth's axis is not _____ right angles _____ its path round the sun.
✔ **C) at / to**
The fixed phrase is **at right angles to** something, meaning at 90 degrees to it. The earth's axis is tilted, so it is not at 90 degrees to its orbit. Not **on**, because **at right angles on** is not used.

19. Thermostats make use _____ the principle of expansion.
✔ **D) of**
The expression is **make use of** something, meaning to use it for a purpose. Thermostats use the principle that materials expand when heated. Example: **Make good use of your time.**

20. The pressure of a gas varies _____ temperature.
✔ **C) with**
Vary with something means to change when that thing changes. Gas pressure goes up or down as the temperature changes. Not **in**, because **vary in** names the quality that differs, e.g. **The boxes vary in size**.

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