ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Gerund – Infinitive (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 2

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Explanations

1. A: Why does your sister bite her nails?

B: She doesn't enjoy _____ them; she just can't help _____ it.
✔ **C) biting / doing**
Enjoy is followed by the **-ing** form, and so is **can't help** (= can't stop herself). So we say **enjoy biting** and **can't help doing**. Not **to do**, because **can't help** never takes the infinitive.

2. You seem to be _____ problems with your washing machine.
✔ **D) having**
Seem to be + **-ing** describes something happening now: **You seem to be having problems.** After **to be** we need the **-ing** form to make a continuous meaning. Not **to have**, because **to be to have** is not English.

3. Susan _____ the mechanic _____ her car yesterday.
✔ **A) had / repair**
The causative **have someone do something** uses the bare infinitive (no **to**): **had the mechanic repair her car**. **Yesterday** shows the past tense **had**. Not **had / to repair**, because **have** is not followed by **to** in this pattern.

4. Richard is _____ the doctor _____ his chest.
✔ **C) having / examine**
The causative **have someone do something** takes the bare infinitive: **have the doctor examine**. After **is** we use the present continuous **having**, so it is **is having the doctor examine his chest**. Not **to examine**, because **have** + person is followed by the verb without **to**.

5. The police are looking for a man with dark hair. A _____ man is being sought by the police.
✔ **B) dark-haired**
Before a noun we can use a compound adjective made of adjective + noun + **-ed**: **dark-haired**, **blue-eyed**. So **a man with dark hair** becomes **a dark-haired man**. Not **dark hair**, because a noun phrase cannot describe **man** in this position.

6. Living in London is expensive. It is expensive _____ in London.
✔ **A) to live**
In the pattern **It is + adjective + to-infinitive**, the infinitive is the real subject: **It is expensive to live in London**. This means the same as **Living in London is expensive**. Not **for living**, because we don't use **for** + -ing after the adjective in this pattern.

7. She left without _____ goodbye.
✔ **D) saying**
After a preposition such as **without**, we use the **-ing** form: **She left without saying goodbye.** Not **to say**, because a preposition is never followed by the **to**-infinitive.

8. I can't forgive Tim's _____ his promise.
✔ **B) breaking**
Forgive can be followed by a possessive + **-ing** form: **I can't forgive Tim's breaking his promise.** The gerund **breaking** acts like a noun after **Tim's**. Not **to break**, because a possessive cannot be followed by an infinitive.

9. Will you come _____ with me?
✔ **C) shopping**
We say **go shopping** and **come shopping**, with the **-ing** form and no preposition (also **go swimming**, **come fishing**). Not **to shopping**, because no **to** is used in this expression.

10. You must see their newly _____ supermarket.
✔ **C) decorated**
The past participle **decorated** is used as an adjective with a passive meaning: the supermarket **has been decorated**. An adverb like **newly** often comes before it: **newly decorated**, **newly built**. Not **decorating**, because the supermarket did not decorate anything.

11. The boy _____ a blue jacket is an excellent tennis player.
✔ **B) wearing**
A present participle can replace a relative clause with an active meaning: **The boy who is wearing a blue jacket** becomes **The boy wearing a blue jacket**. Not **worn**, because the boy wears the jacket (active), so we need **wearing**.

12. The freshly _____ store is clean.
✔ **B) painted**
The past participle **painted** works as an adjective with a passive meaning: someone painted the store. After **freshly** we use this form: **freshly painted**, **freshly baked**. Not **painting**, because the store did not paint anything.

13. She is the person whom you should see. She's the person _____.
✔ **D) to see**
A **to**-infinitive after a noun can replace a relative clause with **should** or **must**: **the person whom you should see** becomes **the person to see**. Not **ought to see**, because it needs a subject and a relative pronoun (**whom you ought to see**).

14. The person who was driving the blue truck almost had an accident. The person _____ the blue truck almost had an accident.
✓ **D) driving**
A present participle can shorten an active relative clause: **The person who was driving** becomes **The person driving**. Not **to drive**, because an infinitive after a noun usually suggests purpose or obligation, not an action in progress.

15. Mr. Hopkins plans on _____ his students _____ the English test tomorrow.
✓ **B) having / take**
Plan on ends with a preposition, so it is followed by the **-ing** form: **plans on having**. The causative **have someone do something** takes the bare infinitive: **having his students take the test**. Not **having / to take**, because **have** + person is not followed by **to**.

16. Galileo is supposed _____ the four largest moons of Jupiter.
✓ **C) to have discovered**
Be supposed to can mean 'people say / it is believed'. For an earlier, past action we use the perfect infinitive: **is supposed to have discovered**. Not **to discover**, because **is supposed to discover** would mean he has a duty to do it now or in the future.

17. She went into the kitchen _____ dinner ready.
✓ **B) to get**
The **to**-infinitive shows purpose (why she went): **She went into the kitchen to get dinner ready.** Not **to have got**, because the perfect infinitive shows an earlier action and cannot express purpose here.

18. Can you tell me how _____ to the library?
✓ **B) to get**
A question word such as **how**, **what** or **where** can be followed by a **to**-infinitive: **how to get**, **what to do**. Not **getting**, because the **-ing** form is not used after **how** in this pattern.

19. Do you want _____ something _____ now?
✓ **D) to have / to drink**
Want is followed by the **to**-infinitive: **want to have**. After **something** we also use a **to**-infinitive to show purpose: **something to drink**. Not **to have / drinking**, because **something drinking** is not English.

20. They were waiting _____ what the Premier had to say.
✓ **A) to hear**
The **to**-infinitive after **wait** shows purpose: **They were waiting to hear what the Premier had to say.** Not **to have heard**, because the hearing had not happened yet, so the perfect infinitive does not fit.

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