ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Gerund – Infinitive (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 3

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Explanations

1. A: Did someone really write those words on the wall?

B: Yes, I actually saw them _____ on the wall.
✓ **A) written**
After **see + object**, we use a past participle when the meaning is passive. The words did not write themselves; someone wrote them, so **saw them written** is correct. Not **writing**, because words cannot do the writing.

2. A: Did they play that song on the radio?

B: Well, I heard it _____ on the radio this morning.
✓ **C) played**
After **hear + object**, we use a past participle for a passive meaning. Someone played the song, so **heard it played** is correct. Not **to be played**, because verbs of perception like **hear** are not followed by a to-infinitive in the active.

3. I regret _____ you that you are to be dismissed next month.
✓ **B) to inform**
Regret + to-infinitive is used to give bad news politely, usually with verbs like **inform**, **tell** and **announce**: **We regret to inform you…**. Not **informing**, because **regret + -ing** means being sorry about something you did in the past.

4. I don't regret _____ her what I thought, even if it upsets her.
✓ **D) telling**
Regret + -ing means being sorry (or not sorry) about something you did in the past. I told her before, so **I don't regret telling her** is correct. Not **to tell**, because **regret to** is used for giving bad news now.

5. I tried _____ her flowers but it didn't have any effect.
✓ **B) sending**
Try + -ing means doing something as an experiment to see if it works. I sent the flowers, but they had no effect, so **tried sending** is correct. Not **to send**, because **try to** means making an effort to do something difficult, which may not succeed.

6. I once tried _____ Spanish.
✓ **A) to learn**
Try + to-infinitive means making an effort to do something: **I once tried to learn Spanish.** Not **to learning**, because **try** is followed by the base verb after **to**, not by **-ing**.

7. It was an honour that she was chosen for the team. To _____ was an honour.
✓ **B) have been chosen for the team**
The choosing happened before the honour and was done to her, so we need the perfect passive infinitive: **to have been chosen**. Not **to have chosen**, because that is active and would mean she chose someone.

8. They should have shown me more consideration. I ought _____.
✓ **C) to have been shown more consideration**
For a past obligation that did not happen, we use **ought to have + past participle**. Because I am the one who receives the consideration, the passive is needed: **I ought to have been shown more consideration**. Not **to have shown**, because that is active and would mean I should have shown it to others.

9. I remember _____ for the job, but I've forgotten the exact amount.
✓ **C) being paid**
Remember + -ing means having a memory of something that happened in the past. Someone paid me, so the passive gerund is needed: **I remember being paid**. Not **to be paid**, because **remember to** means not forgetting to do something in the future.

10. I have to do a lot of work today. There is a lot of work _____.
✓ **B) to be done today**
A passive to-infinitive after a noun shows something that must be done: **There is a lot of work to be done today**. Not **being done**, because that describes work that is happening right now, not work I have to do.

11. You should give your baby Vitamin C. Vitamin C ought _____ to all babies.
✓ **D) to be given**
Ought is followed by **to + infinitive**. Vitamin C receives the action, so the passive is needed: **ought to be given**. Not **to give**, because that is active and would mean Vitamin C gives something.

12. Dust the furniture thoroughly. The furniture is _____ thoroughly.
✓ **B) to be dusted**
Be + to-infinitive can express an instruction or order. The furniture receives the action, so the passive is used: **The furniture is to be dusted**. Not **is dusted**, because that only describes what usually happens, not an instruction.

13. I insist on _____ this small present as a token of my appreciation.
✓ **A) your accepting**
Insist on is a verb + preposition, so it is followed by a gerund. A possessive adjective can show who does the action: **I insist on your accepting it**. Not **you to accept** or **you accept**, because a preposition cannot be followed by an infinitive or a clause like this.

14. I wonder if Mary posted that letter.
✓ **B) Yes, I remember her posting it.**
Remember + object + -ing means having a memory of someone doing something: **I remember her posting it**. Not **I remember her to post it**, because **remember** is not followed by object + to-infinitive.

15. Did you notice the little boy _____ away?
✓ **A) take the candy and run**
After **notice + object**, we use the base form for a complete action that we saw from start to finish: **notice the boy take the candy and run away**. Both verbs must be in the same form. Not **taking the candy and run**, because the two verbs do not match.

16. I bought a camera last year but I never use it. I _____ a record player instead.
✓ **D) ought to have bought**
To talk about a better choice in the past that did not happen, we use **ought to have + past participle**: **I ought to have bought a record player**. The clue is **last year**. Not **ought to buy**, because that refers to the present or future.

17. _____ about his problem, Susan wrote Tom a letter.
✓ **A) Hearing**
A present participle clause can show an action that happened just before the main action: **Hearing about his problem, Susan wrote…** Susan heard, so the active form is needed. Not **Heard**, because that is passive and would mean Susan was heard.

18. _____, Mrs. Young returned to the house.
✓ **D) Tired of waiting**
A past participle clause can describe how the subject feels: **Tired of waiting, Mrs. Young returned.** The phrase is **tired of + -ing**. Not **Waiting tiredly**, because it does not explain why she returned and sounds unnatural.

19. It must have been an interesting performance. I would like _____.
✓ **C) to have gone**
Would like + perfect infinitive expresses a wish about the past that did not come true: **I would like to have gone**. The clue is **must have been**, which shows the performance is already over. Not **to go**, because that refers to the future.

20. Before taking a test, it is important _____.
✓ **A) to have studied**
It is important is followed by a to-infinitive. The perfect infinitive **to have studied** shows that the studying must be finished before the test. Not **studying**, because **it is important** is not followed by a gerund here.

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