ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Gerund – Infinitive (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 7

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

Explanations

1. They say she left home at the age of 15. She's supposed _____ home at the age of 15.
✔ **C) to have left**
Be supposed to means 'people say'. When the action happened earlier than the time of saying, use the perfect infinitive: **She's supposed to have left** home at 15. Not **to leave**, because that would refer to the present or future.

2. My friend specially asked that nothing should be said about what she told me. My friend specially asked me _____ anything about what she told me.
✔ **D) not to say**
The pattern is **ask someone (not) to do something**, so the negative form is **asked me not to say**. Not **not to be said**: after **me** we need an active verb, because I am the one who mustn't say anything.

3. He is very skillful at _____ animal noises.
✔ **D) making**
After a preposition like **at** we use the -ing form: **skilful at making** animal noises. Not **being made**, because that is passive, and he is the one making the noises.

4. I expect that I'll be able to pass my class this year. I expect _____ my class this year.
✔ **A) to be able to pass**
Expect is followed by the to-infinitive, and **I'll be able to** becomes **to be able to pass**. Not **to be passed**, because that is passive: I pass the class, the class doesn't pass me.

5. The child was punished _____ his tongue out at his uncle.
✔ **A) for putting**
We say **be punished for doing something**; after the preposition **for** we use the -ing form: **punished for putting** his tongue out. Not **to put**, because **punish** is not followed by a to-infinitive of the reason.

6. A: Why didn't you enjoy your holiday?

B: Well, _____ a long story short, the hotel was dirty and the food _____ gave me incessant indigestion.
✔ **D) to cut / served**
To cut a long story short is a fixed expression with the to-infinitive, meaning 'to say it briefly'. **The food served** uses a past participle with passive meaning: the food that was served. Not **being served**, which suggests something still going on at that moment.

7. There will be a crisis if nothing is done _____ inflation.
✔ **B) to control**
We use the to-infinitive to show purpose: something must be done **to control** inflation. Not **for controlling**, because we don't normally use **for + -ing** to give the purpose of an action like this.

8. I am against children _____ to school before they are six.
✔ **A) being sent**
After the preposition **against** we use an -ing form. Children don't send themselves, so we need the passive gerund: **against children being sent** to school. Not **to be sent**, because a preposition cannot be followed by a to-infinitive.

9. She is very clever at _____ people _____ her ideas are their own.
✔ **C) making / think**
After **at** we use the -ing form (**making**), and **make someone do something** takes the bare infinitive: **making people think**. Not **to think**, because **make** (active) is never followed by **to**.

10. He hates _____ when he is having his after-lunch nap.
✔ **B) being disturbed**
Hate can take the -ing form, and here the meaning is passive: other people disturb him. So we say **hates being disturbed**. Not **to disturb**, which would mean that he disturbs other people.

11. We were made _____ a lot of boring history books at school.
✔ **C) to read**
In the active, **make** takes the bare infinitive (**They made us read**), but in the passive we need **to**: **We were made to read**. Not **read**, because the passive form of **make** always needs **to**.

12. He's the second man _____ in this way.
✔ **D) to be honoured**
After **the first / the second / the last** we use the to-infinitive. He receives the honour, so it must be passive: **the second man to be honoured**. Not **to honour**, which would mean he honoured someone else.

13. It's stupid of you _____ so much.
✔ **C) to smoke**
The pattern **It's + adjective + of you + to-infinitive** is used to judge someone's behaviour: **It's stupid of you to smoke** so much. Not **smoking**, because this pattern needs the to-infinitive.

14. The woman _____ in the _____ house was screaming hysterically.
✔ **C) trapped / blazing**
Trapped is a past participle with passive meaning (the woman who was trapped), and **blazing** is a present participle meaning the house was burning at that moment. Not **blazed**, because the fire was still burning, not finished.

15. The drunkard spoke aggressively when _____ by the police to accompany them to the police station.
✓ **B) asked**
When asked is a short form of **when he was asked**: a past participle with passive meaning after a conjunction. Not **asking**, because the police asked him, he didn't ask them.

16. Floods _____ away the bridge, the river was impassable.
✓ **D) having carried**
This is a participle clause with its own subject (**Floods**). The perfect participle **having carried** shows that the floods carried the bridge away first, and as a result the river couldn't be crossed. Not **carrying**, because the action was already finished.

17. We spent a very enjoyable evening _____ about old times.
✓ **A) talking**
The pattern is **spend time + -ing**: **spent an evening talking** about old times. Not **to talk**, because **spend time** is not followed by a to-infinitive.

18. _____ their final check, the astronauts boarded their spacecraft.
✓ **C) Having received**
The perfect participle **having received** shows one action was completed before the next: first they received their final check, then they boarded. Not **received**, because that would make the clause passive, but the astronauts did the receiving.

19. It’s no use _____ to him. He’s asleep.
✓ **B) talking**
The fixed expression **It’s no use** is followed by the -ing form: **It’s no use talking** to him. Not **to talk**, because this expression always takes the gerund.

20. Come in now. I’m sorry _____ you waiting so long.
✓ **B) to have kept**
To apologise for something that has already happened, we use **sorry + perfect infinitive**: **I’m sorry to have kept you waiting**. Not **keeping**, because **sorry** needs **for** before an -ing form (**sorry for keeping**).

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