ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Gerund – Infinitive (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 8

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

Explanations

1. He lost his interest, _____ to obtain promotion.
✓ **D) having failed**
The perfect participle **having failed** shows an action that happened before the main action: first he failed to get promotion, and then he lost interest. It also gives the reason. Not **failing**, because it suggests both things happened at the same time.

2. The film was so terrifying that I could hardly bear _____ it.
✓ **A) watching**
After **can't bear** / **could hardly bear** we use the **-ing** form (or the to-infinitive): **I could hardly bear watching it.** The bare infinitive **watch** is not possible after **bear**.

3. The police found the money _____ in a disused cottage house.
✓ **A) hidden**
Find + object + past participle describes the state the object was in. The money had been hidden by someone, so the meaning is passive: **found the money hidden**. Not **hiding**, because money cannot hide itself.

4. A job worth _____ is worth _____ well.
✓ **C) doing / doing**
The adjective **worth** is always followed by the **-ing** form: **worth doing**, **worth seeing**. This proverb uses it twice: **A job worth doing is worth doing well.**

5. Don’t stand there _____ nothing.
✓ **B) doing**
After **stand/sit/lie + place** we use the **-ing** form to describe what someone is doing at the same time: **Don't stand there doing nothing.**

6. If I catch you _____ again, I’ll make you _____ in after school _____ some extra work.
✓ **D) cheating / stay / to do**
Catch someone doing something means find them in the middle of it: **catch you cheating**. **Make someone do** takes the bare infinitive: **make you stay**. The to-infinitive **to do** shows purpose (why you stay). Not **to stay**, because **make** (active) is never followed by **to**.

7. This form is _____ in ink.
✓ **B) to be filled**
Be + passive infinitive (**is to be done**) is used for rules and instructions: **This form is to be filled in ink** = it must be filled in ink. It is passive because the form does not fill itself. Not **to fill**, because that would be active.

8. You mentioned _____ in a car accident last month.
✓ **C) having been**
Mention is followed by the **-ing** form. The perfect gerund **having been** shows that the accident happened before the time of mentioning it. Not **to have been**, because **mention** does not take a to-infinitive.

9. I’m annoyed about your _____ to phone me yesterday.
✓ **A) forgetting**
After a preposition (**about**) and a possessive (**your**) we need a gerund: **your forgetting**. The verb **forget** itself can then be followed by **to phone** (forget to do something).

10. Do you object to _____?
✓ **D) smoking**
In **object to**, **to** is a preposition, not part of an infinitive, so it is followed by the **-ing** form: **Do you object to smoking?**

11. I’m not used to _____ up early.
✓ **C) getting**
Be used to means 'be accustomed to'. Here **to** is a preposition, so it takes the **-ing** form: **I'm not used to getting up early.** Not **to get**, which would confuse it with **used to** (past habit).

12. Every half hour he stops work _____ a cigarette.
✓ **A) to smoke**
Stop + to-infinitive means stop one activity in order to do another: he stops work **to smoke** a cigarette. Compare **stop smoking** = give up smoking. Not **smoking**, because that would not show his purpose.

13. He advised me _____ a Renault.
✓ **D) to buy**
When **advise** has a personal object, it takes the to-infinitive: **advise someone to do** something. So: **He advised me to buy a Renault.**

14. He advised _____ a Renault.
✓ **B) buying**
When **advise** has no personal object, it is followed by the **-ing** form: **He advised buying a Renault.** Compare **He advised me to buy…**. Not **to buy**, because without an object **advise** needs a gerund.

15. I got my friend _____ me to the airport.
✓ **A) to drive**
Get someone to do something (persuade or arrange for them to do it) takes the to-infinitive: **I got my friend to drive me.** Not **drive**, because the bare infinitive is used after **have**, not **get**.

16. I had my friend _____ me to the airport.
✓ **C) drive**
Have someone do something (arrange for them to do it) takes the bare infinitive without **to**: **I had my friend drive me.** Not **to drive**, which is used after **get**.

17. I had a hard time _____ his house.
✓ **D) finding**
Have a hard time / have difficulty / have trouble are followed by the **-ing** form: **I had a hard time finding his house.**

18. Mary spent all day _____ ready to leave on vacation.
✓ **B) getting**
Spend + time + -ing form: **spend all day getting ready**. Not **to get**, because **spend time** is never followed by a to-infinitive.

19. When she needed a passport photo, she had her picture _____ by a professional photographer.
✓ **A) taken**
Have something done means arrange for another person to do it for you. It uses the past participle: **she had her picture taken** by a photographer.

20. The main idea behind _____ a lot of buildings is _____ new office blocks.
✓ **C) demolishing / to erect**
After the preposition **behind** we need a gerund: **behind demolishing**. After **The idea/aim/purpose is…** we often use a to-infinitive to express the purpose: **is to erect new office blocks**. Not **to demolish**, because a preposition cannot be followed by a to-infinitive.

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