ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Paragraph Completion MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 2

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1	**A**	2	**E**	3	**A**	4	**C**	5	**D**	6	**D**	7	**D**	8	**E**	9	**C**	10	**A**
11	**D**	12	**E**	13	**C**	14	**D**	15	**A**										

Explanations

1. When we were halfway through the valley, I looked at the others; _____ I was very worried, for we still had a long way to walk, and there wasn't more than an hour's daylight left.
✓ A) they all looked as tired as I felt.
The writer looks at the others, so the gap must say how they looked. **They all looked as tired as I felt** fits, and it explains why the writer was worried: they were tired, the walk was long and it would soon be dark. The other options don't fit a walk through a valley or don't describe the others.

2. In the Arctic, winters are not so cold as is usually believed. The fairly warm water of the Gulf Stream flows under the ice of the polar seas. This warm water acts like a great radiator: _____
✓ E) by giving off a little heat it keeps the weather from becoming too cold.
The gap must explain how the warm water works **like a radiator**. A radiator gives off heat, so **by giving off a little heat it keeps the weather from becoming too cold** completes the idea and links back to the first sentence about mild winters. The other options are about plants, ice or snow, not about the warm water.

3. I've just finished reading his latest novel, and I must say I found it rather disappointing. _____ In fact I think I could write a better novel myself!
✓ A) The story was weak and the characters were not at all true to life.
The writer found the novel **disappointing** and thinks they could write a better one, so the gap must give a reason for this negative opinion: **the story was weak and the characters were not at all true to life**. Not "It was much better than his earlier novels" or "The main character is a delightful person", because these are positive and contradict the writer's view.

4. Bees can fly quite long distances very easily. Moreover, they can fly as fast as ten meters a second. _____ In search of food, bees usually fly out from home for about two miles. Some have been known to return home from as far as ten miles away.
✓ C) Thus a trip of several miles takes only a few minutes.
The sentence before says bees fly **ten meters a second**. The gap draws a result from this speed: **Thus a trip of several miles takes only a few minutes**. **Thus** means "so, as a result". The options about how bees find their way home belong to a different topic, not speed and distance.

5. It was about midday when they came to a small village. They had been driving for over five hours and felt a little tired. _____ It had been converted from a nineteenth-century house. They enjoyed the food and were very pleased with the service.
✓ D) They decided to rest and have lunch at the restaurant by the roadside there.
They were tired after driving, and the next sentences say **It had been converted from a nineteenth-century house** and **They enjoyed the food**. So the gap must mention a place to eat: **the restaurant by the roadside**. Not "The restaurant was very disappointing", because they were pleased with the food and service.

6. At seven o'clock, I suddenly remembered I had promised to have dinner with the Johnsons. I was expected there at 7:30. _____ In other words, I was very short of time. Still, I managed to get there on time.
✓ D) This only gave me half an hour to change my clothes and get there.
From 7:00 to 7:30 is half an hour, and the next sentence says **In other words, I was very short of time**. So the gap must say **This only gave me half an hour to change my clothes and get there**. Not "it would take me at least an hour", because then the writer could not arrive on time.

7. _____ I got there at 9:15, just 15 minutes early. Half an hour later I was still waiting for him. I began to get worried. Then I saw him coming towards me.
✓ D) Peter and I had agreed to meet at the bus stop.
The paragraph talks about arriving "there", waiting "for him" and seeing "him" coming, so the first sentence must say who "he" is and where "there" is: **Peter and I had agreed to meet at the bus stop**. The other options don't explain who the writer was waiting for.

8. Stealing from shops has become quite a common problem. More and more measures are being taken to prevent it. _____ There are televisions too, to "keep an eye on" people. But in spite of all these precautions, stealing is on the increase.
✓ E) Usually all big stores employ plainclothes detectives.
The gap must give one of the **measures** taken to stop shoplifting, because the next sentence adds another one with **too** (televisions). **Plainclothes detectives** are store detectives in normal clothes, so they are such a measure. The other options are not measures against stealing.

9. Jane and Tim were married last year. _____ Then they found a small house for themselves. They moved in two months ago and are very happy.
✓ C) For six months they lived with Tim's parents.
The story goes in time order: married last year, then **Then they found a small house**. The gap must say where they lived before that: **For six months they lived with Tim's parents**. The other options don't continue the story.

10. We call such things as earthquakes and floods "natural disasters." If these were predictable, the damage they cause could be much reduced. As it is, some remote area is often hit. _____ And relief, when it comes, often comes too late.
✓ A) It then takes days to get adequate help out.
The gap follows the idea that a **remote area** is hit and comes before **relief often comes too late**. So it must explain the delay: **It then takes days to get adequate help out**. A remote place is far away and hard to reach. The other options give details that don't link the two sentences.

11. Almost all the people we knew well and liked used to go to the Moonlight Restaurant. We went there nearly every night, too. There were other similar places around, but we did not go to them. _____
✓ D) This was largely because we did not like the people who went to them.
The last sentence says they didn't go to the other places, so the gap gives the reason: **This was largely because we did not like the people who went to them**. It matches the first sentence: they went to the Moonlight because of the people they liked. Not "I took my wife to one of them", because it contradicts "we did not go to them".

12. Jane held the string of the balloon tightly. She was smiling very happily, but her mother was not quite so happy _____; and then, there would be tears.
✓ E) because she knew the balloon would burst before long
The gap gives the reason the mother was not happy, and the next part says **then, there would be tears**. So the mother knew something bad would happen: **because she knew the balloon would burst before long**. The other options don't explain the coming tears.

13. I don't know how long I had been asleep, but when I woke up, the telephone was ringing. _____ I got out of bed and felt my way through the darkness to the telephone. After I had finished on the telephone, I was completely awake and didn't want to sleep any more.
✓ C) It seemed to have been ringing for a long, long time.
The sentence before says the telephone was ringing when the writer woke up, so the gap continues this idea: **It seemed to have been ringing for a long, long time**. The other options don't talk about the telephone, and "I couldn't sleep well" doesn't fit, because the writer was deeply asleep.

14. Paul saw the ball not far off. He ran up to it and, turning, kicked it. But the grass was wet, and he couldn't kick it cleanly. _____ Everyone in the other team was happy, but his own team was very sad.
✓ D) So the ball went straight into his own goal.
Paul made a bad kick on the wet grass, and then the other team was happy while his team was sad. That means something went wrong for his team: **So the ball went straight into his own goal** (an own goal). **So** shows the result of the bad kick. Not "he was very pleased with himself", because his team was sad.

15. My brother Martin is interested in photography. Wherever he goes he takes his camera with him. _____ Moreover, I read a lot about paintings and painters, and I also go to art exhibitions.
✓ A) As for me, I am fond of painting.
The last sentence talks about **I** and adds more with **Moreover** (paintings, painters, art exhibitions). So the gap must change from Martin to the writer and introduce the writer's interest: **As for me, I am fond of painting**. **As for me** is used to change the topic to yourself. The other options are still about Martin or don't mention painting.

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