ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Paragraph Completion MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 4

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

Explanations

1. 'Gone with the Wind' was one of the most expensive epic pictures made up to that time. _____ After the waste of all the money and time to find the right woman for the part, the director's brother brought Vivien Leigh to his brother and said: 'I want you to meet Scarlett O'Hara.'
✓ C) One of the reasons for this expense was that so many screen tests had been made to find the right Scarlett O'Hara.
The missing sentence must link **expensive** (sentence 1) with **the waste of all the money and time to find the right woman** (sentence 3). Only the option about the cost of the **screen tests** for Scarlett O'Hara makes this link. Not the option about the director's 'many problems', because it does not explain the expense or the search for an actress.

2. The rate of crime in our area has increased dramatically. _____ The changes in the value of money, inflation, war, etc., have forced some people to resort to crime in order to live.
✓ C) This seems to be a common problem throughout our country and even the world.
The last sentence gives causes that affect whole countries: **inflation**, **war**, **the value of money**. So the gap needs a sentence that widens the problem from 'our area' to **our country and even the world**. Not 'People are always interested in an easy way of making money', because the text says people are **forced** into crime, not that they choose it.

3. In my youth, my family and I spent our holidays at our village. _____ Although we had no financial ties left there, the relatives and friends that were all very special to us lured us back so that we returned every chance we had.
✓ A) These trips were full of especially joyful memories.
The last sentence explains why the family kept going back: the **relatives and friends were all very special to us**. The gap needs a general comment on these trips, and **full of especially joyful memories** prepares for that explanation. The other options give single details that do not lead to the idea of being 'lured back'.

4. It was once said that one of the values of TV films, even old reruns, was that they gave a person a deeper understanding of life. _____ Today, however, as many people do not really have the time to read, good films on TV seem to be the only alternative.
✓ C) Before these times, good books were said to do the same thing.
The last sentence contrasts 'today' with the past: people no longer have time **to read**, so TV films are the **only alternative**. The gap must say that, in earlier times, **good books** gave people the same deeper understanding of life. Not 'I prefer to spend my free time reading', because the text is general and does not use 'I'.

5. Have you ever noticed how beautiful the web of a spider is? _____ This awe-inspiring work of beauty is, however, a deadly trap for unsuspecting insects.
✓ E) The intricate details of the web are so fine and so well crafted that even today no artist can reproduce them.
The phrase **This awe-inspiring work of beauty** in the last sentence refers back to a sentence that praises the web's beauty. Only the option about details so fine that **no artist can reproduce them** does this. Not the option about the size of webs, because size does not describe beauty.

6. The audience at the concert hall viewed the performance with pleasure. _____ He slowly crossed to the grand piano, bowed towards the audience, gracefully sat down and began to play.
✓ A) The entrance of the long-awaited pianist brought the audience to their feet.
The last sentence begins with **He slowly crossed to the grand piano**, so the gap must introduce a man: the pianist. Only the option about the entrance of the **long-awaited pianist** gives a person for **He** to refer to. The other options never mention the performer.

7. Being a parent can be very difficult at times. _____ Older children, on the other hand, don't want the assistance you offer them for anything.
✓ B) Younger children need assistance with everything.
On the other hand shows a contrast with the sentence before it. Older children want **no** help, so the gap must say that **younger children need assistance with everything**. The other options do not compare children of different ages.

8. The storm had caused only minor damage to the vessel, and the crew and captain tried to reassure the passengers. _____ So it was decided to return the ship to port and cancel the excursion.
✔ E) However, the passengers were on their first trip and became frightened.
The damage was only **minor**, yet the trip was cancelled, so the gap must explain this with a contrast. **However, the passengers were on their first trip and became frightened** gives that reason. Not 'The water had flooded the lower levels', because that contradicts 'only minor damage'.

9. The large sheepdog was one of the happiest creatures on the farm. _____ He was like one of the family who faithfully performed his duties and in return was loved and cared for by everyone.
✔ C) His mother had died at his birth and the dog had been cared for by the farmer's family from then on.
The last sentence says the dog was **like one of the family** and was loved and cared for by everyone. The gap explains why: the family **had cared for him from his birth**, after his mother died. Not 'He hadn't been adopted by the family right after his birth', because that contradicts the close family bond.

10. 'The Lady with the Lamp', better known as Florence Nightingale, was a young English woman who trained to be a nurse in Germany. _____ At the end of this time she became accepted as the authority on nursing matters and became involved in establishing nursing schools which taught modern nursing.
✔ C) Her fame was founded when she changed the situation of nursing soldiers during the Crimean War.
The last sentence starts with **At the end of this time**, so the gap must mention a period of time. Only **during the Crimean War** does this, and it also explains why she became **the authority on nursing matters**. Not the option about nurses entering soldiers' wards, because it gives no time period for 'this time' to refer to.

11. Loch Ness is well known as the lake in which a monster is said to live. _____ Many people have claimed to have seen this monster and some have even taken pictures which are not really clear enough to be good evidence for scientists.
✔ A) The lake is extremely deep and believed to be large enough to hide a huge animal in it.
The first sentence introduces the legend of the monster, and the gap should add a fact that makes the legend seem possible. The lake is **extremely deep** and could **hide a huge animal**. Not 'People created the legend to attract tourists', because the next sentence treats the sightings seriously.

12. Early settlers in America were not injured or hurt by the natives of this land. _____ It was only after they had lost their lands and hunting grounds and had been driven onto poor land, where staying alive was difficult, that they became the fierce fighters shown in television westerns.
✔ D) The first colonists were in fact aided by the Indians who lived in this area of the world.
The first sentence says the natives did **not** harm the settlers. The gap continues this idea: in fact, they **aided** (helped) the first colonists. The last sentence then explains how this friendly relationship changed later. Not the cowboys option, because it jumps to later fighting before the change is explained.

13. The children had gotten dressed in their best clothes. The weather was sunny if not warm. _____ He finally got up and the children gave a cheerful yell and went running to the door.
✔ E) They had tried everything to get their father to take them out this Sunday but they had been unsuccessful up to now.
The last sentence says **He finally got up** and the children ran happily to the door, so the gap must introduce the father and the children's wish to go out. **They had tried everything to get their father to take them out … up to now** fits exactly. Not the option saying their father was too ill, because then the happy ending makes no sense.

14. It is not easy really to understand and appreciate another culture. One needs to study the language and become fluent in it. One has to be familiar with the history, religion and the aesthetics of the society.
_____
✔ D) But even after years of effort there are likely to be certain qualities that remain a mystery to us.
The paragraph begins with **It is not easy** to understand another culture and lists everything one must do: language, history, religion, aesthetics. A good concluding sentence returns to that difficulty: **But even after years of effort** some qualities **remain a mystery**. Not 'Everyone should be encouraged to learn a foreign language', because the paragraph does not give advice and is not only about language.

15. _____ She had been given to the United States by China. But last week she was found dead in her outdoor enclosure at the Washington National Zoo. At 23 she was the oldest panda in captivity outside of China.
✔ A) The panda, Ling-Ling, was one of the best-known and most-loved animals in the world.
The second sentence begins with **She**, so the first sentence must introduce one particular female animal. Only **The panda, Ling-Ling** does this. Not 'A panda is a large black and white animal', because it talks about pandas in general, so 'She' would have nothing to refer to.