ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Paragraph Summarizing MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 1

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1	E	2	D	3	A	4	C	5	A	6	B	7	E	8	C	9	C	10	C

Explanations

1. However much we may complain about the number of advertisements there are in a newspaper, the fact remains that without advertisements there would be no newspapers. It's the advertisements that finance the newspapers and make it possible for us to buy them cheaply.
✓ E) Advertisements are essential to newspapers; without them they could not be produced economically.
The paragraph's main point is that **without advertisements there would be no newspapers**, because advertising pays for them and keeps them cheap. Only this option sums up that idea. The other options add ideas that are not in the text, such as too little space for news.

2. Brian and Gordon are brothers. People meeting them for the first time usually think Gordon is much the nicer. He's good looking, he's friendly and talks well. Later, they begin to notice he is rather spoilt. Then, they realize what a good person Brian is.
✓ D) Gordon makes a good first impression but his brother is a much better person.
At first people like Gordon best (**first time**), but **later** they see he is spoilt and realize Brian is a good person. This option gives both halves of that contrast. Not 'Brian has clearly spoiled his brother', because the text never says who spoiled Gordon.

3. The average child is exceedingly curious. He investigates everything within reach, from electric plugs to piles of earth. His favourite word is "why". The adult finds this period exhausting but he should not try to check the activities, unless they are dangerous, as the child is establishing the habit of learning.
✓ A) Curiosity in children should be encouraged as it creates a learning habit.
The key sentence is the last one: adults should not stop the child's activities **as the child is establishing the habit of learning**. This means curiosity should be encouraged. Not 'an unimportant stage', because the text says this stage builds an important habit.

4. Janet was very enthusiastic about the concert. She praised the pianist, the singer and the choice of the programme; but it was the violin concerto that she praised most of all.
✓ C) Janet thought the concert was wonderful, especially the violin concerto.
Janet was **very enthusiastic** and praised everything, but she praised the **violin concerto most of all**. This option gives both points. Not 'Janet went to the concert because she wanted to hear the violin concerto', because the text doesn't say why she went.

5. Everyone I've talked to recently admits that Mr. Burton was not a very good manager. Now that Mr. Carr is in charge of the company, most people are expecting things to improve; he really is a natural leader, and liked and respected by everyone.
✓ A) It is generally agreed that Mr. Carr will manage the company much better than Mr. Burton did.
Everyone agrees Mr. Burton was **not a very good manager**, and **most people are expecting things to improve** now that Mr. Carr is in charge. So people believe Mr. Carr will manage better. Not 'Mr. Carr didn't like the way Mr. Burton managed', because the text doesn't give Mr. Carr's opinion.

6. Most people don't realize that Paul and Mark are brothers. Paul is tall and fair, and interested in all types of sport. Mark, who is short and dark-haired, is studying Math at the university. Math is his only hobby too.
✓ B) Though brothers, Paul and Mark are very different in appearance and in interests.
The text contrasts the brothers' looks (**tall and fair** vs **short and dark-haired**) and interests (**sport** vs **Math**). So they are very different in appearance and interests. Not 'Paul isn't nearly as clever as Mark', because the text says nothing about how clever they are.

7. Patrick didn't even ask his father if he could go to Barcelona for the weekend with Erick. He knew it would cost too much. But he didn't want to mention it to Erick. So, next day, he said simply, "Father won't let me."
✓ E) Patrick didn't want Erick to know that he couldn't afford to go to Barcelona for the weekend.
Patrick knew the trip **would cost too much**, but he **didn't want to mention it** to Erick, so he gave a false excuse. He was hiding the fact that he couldn't afford it. Not 'Patrick's father didn't want Patrick to go', because he never even asked his father.

8. John is only 16 years old. Everyone else on the team is either 17 or 18. Even so, he's a much-valued member of the team. In fact, some people think he's the best player the team has.
✓ C) John is the youngest member of the team and also one of the best players.
John is 16 and **everyone else** is 17 or 18, so he is the youngest. He is also **much-valued**, and some think he is **the best player**. This option combines both facts. Not 'John joined the team when he was 16', because the text says he is 16 now.

9. Leroy walked slowly round the exhibition, looking at the pictures. None of them seemed very interesting. He felt very disappointed. Then suddenly he saw the portrait of an old man. He stopped in front of it and looked at it for a long time. It was a wonderful portrait.
✔ C) Except for one portrait, Leroy thought the exhibition was very poor.
None of them seemed very interesting and Leroy **felt very disappointed**, until he found one **wonderful portrait**. So he thought the exhibition was poor except for that one picture. Not 'Leroy met an interesting old man', because the old man was only in the portrait.

10. Whenever I need something, the first place I go to is Dawson's store. There they sell just about everything. You can buy clothes there, things for the house and for the garden, and also sports equipment. They stock a wide variety of goods. Everything is good quality, and the prices are reasonable.
✔ C) In my opinion, Dawson's is an excellent store and not too expensive.
The writer goes to Dawson's **first**, says **everything is good quality** and **the prices are reasonable**. So in the writer's opinion it is an excellent store that is not too expensive. Not 'prices are high', because the text says the opposite.

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