ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs and Idioms MCQ Exercise 2

English Grammar Tests · 25 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/phrasal-verbs-and-idioms-mcq-exercise-2/

1	**A**	2	**A**	3	**A**	4	**C**	5	**B**	6	**D**	7	**B**	8	**A**	9	**B**	10	**E**
11	**A**	12	**C**	13	**D**	14	**C**	15	**B**	16	**A**	17	**B**	18	**C**	19	**D**	20	**A**
21	**E**	22	**B**	23	**A**	24	**B**	25	**D**										

Explanations

1. The new project will be left to John as he is the most senior executive.
✓ **A) given to**
If a task is **left to** someone, it is **given to** that person to deal with: **The decision was left to the manager.** Not **be responsible for**, because it doesn't fit the sentence (**will be be responsible for John**).

2. I always confused the name Janet with the name Janice.
✓ **A) mixed up**
To **confuse A with B** is to think A is B by mistake, which is the same as to **mix up** A and B: **I always mix up their names.** Not **told apart**, which means the opposite: seeing the difference between two things.

3. My aunt devoted herself to her children after her husband died.
✓ **A) became dedicated**
To **devote yourself to** someone or something is to give all your time and energy to them, i.e. to **become dedicated** to them. Not **took care of**: it is close in meaning, but **took care of herself to her children** makes no sense.

4. The doctor says that he should be able to pull through the surgery without any problems.
✓ **C) get over**
To **pull through** means to survive or recover from a serious illness or operation, so here it is close to **get over**: **She was very ill, but she pulled through.**

5. My sister asked me to keep an eye on my niece while she was out.
✓ **B) watch**
To **keep an eye on** someone is to **watch** them so that they stay safe or out of trouble. Not **look for**, which means to search for something you have lost.

6. I've been looking forward to this vacation for a very long time.
✓ **D) anticipating**
To **look forward to** something is to **anticipate** it, i.e. to wait for it with pleasure: **I'm looking forward to the weekend.** Not **expecting**, which only means you think something will happen, with no sense of pleasure.

7. Mary came up with a fantastic scheme.
✓ **B) thought of**
To **come up with** an idea or plan is to **think of** it or create it: **She came up with a great solution.** Not **thought for**, because in this meaning **think** is followed by **of**.

8. The students really do seem to look up to their teacher.
✓ **A) admire**
To **look up to** someone is to **admire** and respect them: **Children often look up to their older brothers and sisters.**

9. After getting that last electric bill, we decided to cut down on the unnecessary use of appliances.
✓ **B) reduce**
To **cut down on** something is to **reduce** how much of it you use or do: **I'm trying to cut down on sugar.** Not **remove**, because cutting down means using less, not stopping completely.

10. I haven't been able to get through to him. He still doesn't see my point.
✓ **E) make him understand**
To **get through to** someone means to succeed in making them understand or accept what you are saying: **I tried to explain, but I couldn't get through to her.** The clue is **He still doesn't see my point**. Not **understand**, because the speaker wants the other person to understand, not to understand him.

11. I plan to do away with all this old clothing.
✓ **A) get rid of**
To **do away with** something is to **get rid of** it: **We should do away with these old rules.** Not **kill**: **do away with** can mean that when it refers to a person, but here it is about clothes.

12. I'll let you in on it, but you have to promise not to tell anyone.
✓ **C) share a secret**
To **let someone in on** something is to **share a secret** with them. The clue is **promise not to tell anyone**. Not **allow to enter**: **let in** alone has that meaning, but **let in on** is about information.

13. If I were you, I'd look out for her. You never know what she will do next.
✓ **D) be careful of**
Here **look out for** means to **be careful of** someone. The clue is **You never know what she will do next**. **Look out for** can also mean to watch for or protect someone, but the context shows the speaker means caution.

14. One of the biggest problems in modern society is the need for everyone to keep up with their neighbours.
✔ **C) be equal to**
To **keep up with** someone means to stay at the same level as them, i.e. to **be equal to** them, often in money or possessions: **keeping up with the Joneses**. Not **race with**: the idea is competing to stay equal, not running a race.

15. When I look back on my youth, I'm astounded at the number of mistakes I made in my life.
✔ **B) remember**
To **look back on** a time is to **remember** and think about it: **When I look back on my school days, I smile.** Not **imagine**, which is about things that are not real or have not happened.

16. I think she is making the whole story up. Maybe she is just imagining it.
✔ **A) inventing**
To **make up** a story is to **invent** it, i.e. to say something that is not true. The clue is **just imagining it**. Not **retelling**, which means telling a true story again.

17. The doctor suggested that I think the matter over before deciding whether I really wanted to have the plastic surgery or not.
✔ **B) consider**
To **think something over** is to **consider** it carefully before deciding: **Take a few days to think it over.** Not **wait**: you may wait before deciding, but **think over** means thinking about the matter.

18. The best thing to do is try out the new job and then decide if you should continue to work or not.
✔ **C) test**
To **try out** something is to **test** it to see if it is good or suitable: **Try out the new job first.** Not **work with**, which doesn't include the idea of testing before deciding.

19. This matter must be cleared up immediately or we will not be able to continue with the meeting.
✔ **D) clarified**
To **clear up** a matter is to make it clear or solve it, i.e. to **clarify** it: **Let's clear up this misunderstanding.** Not **cleaned**: **clear up** can mean tidy a room, but a **matter** at a meeting is explained, not cleaned.

20. You've put off going to the dentist so long that you are going to end up losing your tooth.
✔ **A) postponed**
To **put off** doing something is to **postpone** it, i.e. to delay it until later: **Don't put off your homework.** Not **refused**, because you still plan to go, just not now.

21. The new agreements have brought about the most unexpected reactions from the public.
✔ **E) caused**
To **bring about** something is to **cause** it to happen: **The new law brought about big changes.** Not **helped**, because the agreements made the reactions happen; they did not just help them.

22. I'm sorry that I'm going to have to call off the party this weekend, but I'm not feeling well.
✔ **B) cancel**
To **call off** an event is to **cancel** it: **The match was called off because of rain.** Not **delay**, which means it will still happen later, as with **put off**.

23. The officer pointed out that the speed limit in the city was only 30 and we had been going 40 miles per hour.
✔ **A) indicated**
To **point out** that something is true is to draw someone's attention to it, i.e. to **indicate** it: **She pointed out that the shop was closed.** Not **warned**: the officer is stating a fact that they broke the limit, not warning them about a future danger.

24. If we talk over this problem with Mom, she may be able to help us.
✔ **B) discuss**
To **talk something over** is to **discuss** it with someone, often to solve a problem: **Let's talk it over at lunch.** Not **inform**, which means only giving information, not talking together.

25. Please make a point of putting your signature on the bottom of the page.
✔ **D) be sure to**
To **make a point of** doing something is to make a special effort to do it, i.e. to **be sure to** do it: **He makes a point of calling his mother every week.** Not **show that**: **make a point** on its own can mean to state an argument, but **make a point of** + -ing means to do something deliberately.

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com