ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs and Idioms MCQ Exercise 4

English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/phrasal-verbs-and-idioms-mcq-exercise-4/

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

Explanations

1. I've been looking high and low for you. Where have you been?
✓ **A) everywhere**
The idiom **high and low** means **everywhere**: you searched in every possible place. Example: **I searched high and low for my keys.**

2. Little by little, they were able to compromise on the contract.
✓ **B) gradually**
Little by little means **gradually**: slowly, in small steps over time. Not **to a small degree**, because the idiom describes how something happens over time, not how much.

3. All at once, the ghost appeared in front of her.
✓ **E) suddenly**
All at once means **suddenly**, without any warning. Not **one time**: the phrase is about something happening unexpectedly, not about how many times.

4. I'm leaving for good this time.
✓ **C) forever**
For good means **forever** or permanently: the speaker is never coming back. Not **at last**, which means 'finally, after a long wait'.

5. The young man was very down to earth and trusted by everyone.
✓ **A) practical, realistic**
Someone who is **down to earth** is **practical and realistic**, and simple and honest in the way they behave. That is why everyone trusts the young man.

6. I got cold feet just before I had to go on stage for my solo.
✓ **B) was nervous**
To **get cold feet** means to suddenly feel **nervous** or afraid just before doing something important. Not **froze**: the idiom is about losing courage, not about the body being cold or unable to move.

7. The child took after his mother, not his father.
✓ **C) resembled**
To **take after** someone means to **resemble** an older family member in looks or character. Example: **She takes after her grandmother.** Don't confuse it with **look after**, which means 'take care of'.

8. I had to give up working at home when the baby became two.
✓ **D) stop**
To **give up** doing something means to **stop** doing it. Example: **He gave up smoking.** Not **resign**: you resign from a job or position, but here the person simply stopped working from home.

9. The fireworks went off at exactly 9:15.
✓ **E) exploded**
When fireworks or bombs **go off**, they **explode**. Example: **The bomb went off in the street.** Not **started**: an alarm that goes off starts ringing, but fireworks that go off explode.

10. I've come down with a very bad cold.
✓ **A) become ill**
To **come down with** an illness means to **become ill** with it, usually something not too serious. Example: **She came down with the flu.**

11. The teacher is going to go over my project with me.
✓ **B) examine**
To **go over** something means to **examine** or check it carefully. Not **grade**: the teacher will look through the project with the student, not just give it a mark.

12. The new bird is getting on well with the other ones in the cage.
✓ **A) getting along**
To **get on well with** someone means to have a friendly relationship with them. **Get along with** means the same. Not **living with**: the birds already live together, and the phrase describes how friendly they are.

13. I just haven't been able to get round to telephoning my mother. Could you let her know I'll be late for dinner?
✓ **C) find time for**
To **get round to** doing something means to finally **find time for** it after delaying. The speaker has been too busy to phone. Not **reach**: the problem is time, not contacting her.

14. Look out! There's an animal in that box.
✓ **A) take care**
Look out! is a warning that means **take care** or be careful, because there is danger. Not **look at**: it isn't asking you to look at something, it warns you.

15. It is difficult to bring up a child.
✓ **D) raise**
To **bring up** a child means to **raise** them: to care for them until they are an adult. Not **educate**, which is only one part of bringing up a child.

16. Let's cut across the backyard and jump over the fence.
✓ **B) take a short cut**
To **cut across** a place means to go through it to **take a short cut**, a quicker way. Not **run through**: the phrase is about choosing a shorter route, not about speed.

17. He let me down yesterday. I shouldn’t have relied on him to that extent.
✓ **E) disappointed**
To **let someone down** means to **disappoint** them by not doing what they expected. The clue is 'I shouldn't have relied on him'. Not **dropped me off**, which means taking someone somewhere in a car.

18. We set off for Ankara at 8:30 that morning.
✓ **A) started**
To **set off** means to **start** a journey. The time 8:30 shows when the trip began. Not **travelled**, because **set off** refers only to the moment of leaving.

19. They set up a new programme to work with drug abusers.
✓ **A) established**
To **set up** an organisation or programme means to **establish** or start it. Not **planned**: planning comes before, but **set up** means it actually started.

20. What does get away with mean in this sentence? The student wasn't able to get away with cheating in the exam.
✓ **B) escape punishment**
To **get away with** something wrong means to **escape punishment** for it. Example: **He cheated, but he didn't get away with it.** Not **run off**: **get away** on its own can mean escape from a place, but **get away with** a bad action means not being punished.

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