ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 13

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Explanations

1. In her first year in business, my aunt came _____ more problems than she had expected.
✔ **D) up against**
Come up against means to meet or face a problem or difficulty. Example: **We came up against a lot of opposition.**

2. You can count _____ me if you ever want any help.
✔ **B) on**
Count on someone means to rely on or trust them to help you. Example: **You can count on me.**

3. If you're sure the trip isn't going to cost more than ten pounds, then you can count me _____.
✔ **A) in**
Count me in means 'include me, I want to take part'. The opposite is **count me out**.

4. We'll get home much quicker if we _____ this field.
✔ **A) cut across**
Cut across a place means to go straight through it, usually as a shortcut. Example: **We cut across the park to save time.**

5. Your neighbour is so rude. If I were you, I wouldn't stand _____ his behaviour.
✔ **D) for**
Stand for something means to accept or tolerate it, usually in negative sentences. Example: **I won't stand for this behaviour.** Not **stand by**, which means to support someone or keep a promise.

6. You mustn't let him treat you so badly; you must stand _____ him and be strong.
✔ **C) up to**
Stand up to someone means to refuse to accept bad treatment from them and defend yourself. The clue is **be strong**. Not **stand by**, which means to support someone.

7. If you _____ (subtract) twenty-five from a hundred, you are left with seventy-five.
✔ **B) take away**
Take away means to subtract one number from another. Example: **Ten take away three is seven.**

8. I was feeling rather tired, so I didn't really _____ what the teacher was saying.
✔ **B) take in**
Take in information means to understand and remember it. Because she was tired, she couldn't **take in** the lesson. Not **take up**, which means to start a hobby or use space or time.

9. I'm very flattered that you want me to make the speech at the end-of-term party, but, to be honest with you, I don't really _____ it (think I'm capable of doing it).
✔ **A) feel up to**
Feel up to something means to feel able or strong enough to do it, as the words in brackets show. Example: **I don't feel up to going out tonight.**

10. The landlord threatened to evict her when she fell _____ her rent.
✔ **A) behind with**
Fall behind with payments or work means to fail to pay or do them on time. Example: **He fell behind with his rent.**

11. We were both completely taken _____ by the car salesman, who turned out to be a crook.
✔ **C) in**
Be taken in by someone means to be tricked or deceived by them. The clue is **turned out to be a crook**.

12. I knew from the start he was dishonest so I wasn't taken _____ by him, but some of my friends lost money.
✔ **A) in**
Be taken in by someone means to be tricked or deceived. He was dishonest, but I wasn't fooled, so I **wasn't taken in** by him.

13. The plane _____ late because of the terrible weather.
✔ **D) took off**
When a plane **takes off**, it leaves the ground and starts flying. Example: **Our flight took off on time.**

14. I think it's a lot more difficult to _____ children nowadays than it used to be.
✔ **D) bring up**
Bring up children means to look after them and teach them until they are adults. Example: **She was brought up by her grandparents.**

15. How many more times have I got to tell you not to _____ here without knocking?
✔ **C) burst in**
Burst in means to enter a room suddenly and noisily, often without knocking. Not **burst out**, which means to leave suddenly or to start laughing or crying (**burst out laughing**).

16. The present situation calls _____ prompt action.
✔ **D) for**
Call for something means to need or require it. Example: **This situation calls for quick action.**

17. Anyway, John, _____ (remove) your coat and come through and meet the others.
✓ **A) take off**
Take off clothes means to remove them, as the word **remove** shows. The opposite is **put on**.

18. They always _____ extra staff in the summer.
✓ **D) take on**
Take on staff means to employ new workers. Example: **The shop takes on extra staff at Christmas.** Not **take in**, which means to deceive someone or give them a place to stay.

19. The company has had a bad year, and will therefore not be taking _____ any new workers.
✓ **D) on**
Take on workers means to employ them. After a bad year, the company won't **take on** anyone new. Not **take up**, which means to start a hobby or fill time or space.

20. I'm going to the bank to _____ some money.
✓ **B) take out**
Take out money means to get it from your bank account. Example: **I took out £50 from the cash machine.**

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