ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 14

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Explanations

1. The marriage will _____ next Monday at noon.
✔ **A) take place**
Take place means 'happen', and we use it for planned events such as weddings, meetings or concerts: **The concert will take place on Friday.** Not **go off**, which is used for alarms, bombs or lights.

2. I really thought he was telling the truth. He certainly took me _____.
✔ **C) in**
Take someone in means to deceive or fool someone so that they believe something false. The clue is 'I really thought he was telling the truth'. Not **for**: **take someone for** needs more words after it, e.g. **He took me for a fool.**

3. When I retire, I think I'll _____ (start / begin) painting.
✔ **D) take up**
Take up means to start a new hobby or activity: **She took up yoga last year. Set off** means to start a journey, not a hobby.

4. My doctor advised me to get some exercise, so I've decided to _____ tennis.
✔ **A) take up**
Take up a sport or hobby means to start doing it regularly. Not **take on**, which means to accept work or responsibility, or to employ someone.

5. When he came back to England, he _____ up the job he had had before.
✔ **B) took**
Take up a job (or a post) means to start doing it. Here he started the same job again after coming back to England.

6. I'm afraid I can't give you an answer straight away, Mr. Green. I'd like to _____ for a day or two.
✔ **C) think it over**
Think something over means to consider it carefully before deciding, which fits 'I can't give you an answer straight away'. Not **think it up**, which means to invent an idea or excuse.

7. I'll be back soon; I'm just going to _____ my new bike.
✔ **B) try out**
Try out means to test something to see how well it works: **try out a new bike**. Not **try on**, which is used for clothes: **try on a jacket**.

8. Oh, blast! The button has just _____ my dress.
✔ **D) come off**
Come off means to become separated from something it was fixed to: **A button came off my shirt.**

9. There was an expectant hush from the audience as the leading actor _____ stage.
✔ **B) came on**
Come on stage means to walk onto the stage in front of the audience. **Come off stage** is the opposite: to leave it.

10. I think I'll go to bed. I can feel a headache _____.
✔ **A) coming on**
When an illness or pain **comes on**, it starts: **I can feel a cold coming on.** That is why the speaker wants to go to bed.

11. In order to be able to afford a holiday every summer I have to try to put _____ some money each month.
✔ **A) away**
Put money away means to save it for later. The clue is 'to be able to afford a holiday'. Not **put off**, which means to delay something.

12. If Diane doesn't turn _____ in the next five minutes, then we'll have to go without her.
✔ **B) up**
Turn up means to arrive or appear: **She turned up late.** Not **turn out**, which means to have a particular result.

13. They turned _____ at the party, despite the bad weather.
✔ **D) up**
Turn up means to arrive or come to an event. 'Despite the bad weather' shows they still came to the party.

14. The effects of the anaesthetic used for the operation take quite a time to _____ off.
✔ **A) wear**
Wear off means that a feeling or effect slowly becomes weaker and disappears: **The pain will wear off soon.**

15. Our school _____ for the summer holidays on 10th July.
✔ **A) breaks up**
In British English, a school **breaks up** when the term ends and the holidays begin. Not **breaks down**, which means to stop working (for machines) or to lose control of your feelings.

16. When you come to London, I can _____ for the night.
✔ **C) put you up**
Put someone up means to let them stay in your home for a night or more. Not **put someone off**, which means to make them not want to do something.

17. Choose the best alternative to replace the underlined words.

Robert started to get out of bed, but he was so weak from his illness that he **fainted** on the floor.
✔ **A) passed out**
Pass out means to faint, to become unconscious for a short time. Not **pass away**, which means to die.

18. Poor old Mr Lonely **died** peacefully on Tuesday.
✔ **B) passed away**
Pass away is a polite way of saying 'die'. Not **pass out**, which means to faint.

19. Low pressure coming in from the Mediterranean will **cause** a change in the weather.
✔ **D) bring about**
Bring about means to cause something to happen, especially a change: **The new law brought about big changes.** Not **bring round**, which means to make someone conscious again or to persuade them.

20. Is he going to **participate in** the 5000-metre race this year?
✔ **C) go in for**
Go in for means to take part in a competition or race: **She's going in for the singing contest.** Not **go for**, which means to try to get something or to attack.

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