ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 16

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

Explanations

1. Not one of the girl's teachers could _____ her poor examination results.
✓ **C) account for**
Account for means to explain why something happened. Here, no teacher could explain why her exam results were so poor. Not **answer back**, which means to reply rudely to someone in authority.

2. If the car _____ once more, I'm going to get a new one.
✓ **A) breaks down**
Break down means that a machine or vehicle stops working. The words **once more** and **get a new one** show that the car keeps failing. Example: **My car broke down on the motorway.**

3. New students spend the first few days _____ themselves _____ the layout of the university.
✓ **C) acquainting / with**
Acquaint yourself with something means to learn about it and become familiar with it. New students use their first days to get to know the layout of the university. The pattern is **acquaint oneself with + noun**.

4. You go now and I'll _____ you later.
✓ **A) catch up with**
Catch up with someone means to reach a person who is ahead of you. One person leaves first, and the other will join them later. Not **back up**, which means to support someone.

5. We certainly didn't _____ all this rain when we booked the holiday.
✓ **C) figure on**
Figure on means to expect something or include it in your plans. When they booked the holiday, they did not expect so much rain. Not **run into**, which means to meet someone or a problem by chance; it does not fit **when we booked**.

6. If you will just _____ me for a few moments, I'll explain the reasons behind the decision.
✓ **C) bear with**
Bear with someone is a polite way of asking them to be patient and wait a little. The clue is **for a few moments**. Example: **Please bear with me while I find your file.**

7. He was glad he had _____ the first question.
✓ **B) disposed of**
Dispose of can mean to deal with something quickly and finish it. He was glad he had finished the first question. The past participle **disposed of** follows **had**. **Took up with** is wrong in form, because **had** needs a past participle, and it is also wrong in meaning.

8. Our advisors _____ the plan, saying that it would be too costly.
✓ **D) came out against**
Come out against something means to say publicly that you oppose it. The clue is **saying that it would be too costly**. Not **got out of**, which means to avoid doing something you should do.

9. His new novel _____ in the fall.
✓ **D) comes out**
Come out means that a book, film or album is published or released. The present simple **comes out** is used here for a scheduled future event. **Fall** is American English for autumn. Not **shows up**, which means to arrive or appear somewhere, usually used for people.

10. She could _____ a year's salary in a week if you let her.
✓ **B) run through**
Run through money means to spend it very quickly. Spending a year's salary in a week, **if you let her**, shows how fast she spends. Not **put aside**, which means to save money, the opposite idea.

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