ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Phrasal Verbs MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 08

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Explanations

1. My father was called _____ halfway through the Second World War.
✔ **C) up**
Call up means to order someone to join the army, usually in wartime. **He was called up in 1942** means he had to become a soldier.

2. Do you think you could _____ these figures for me, just to make sure they're correct?
✔ **A) check over**
Check over means to look at something carefully to find mistakes. The clue is **to make sure they're correct**. **Check off** means to tick items on a list, and **check in** is what you do at a hotel or an airport.

3. I hope the weather will _____ before we leave for Brighton.
✔ **C) clear up**
When the weather **clears up**, the rain or clouds go away and it becomes fine. Not **clear off**, which is a rude way to tell a person to go away.

4. Oh, Miss Jones, would you mind _____ these figures again, please?
✔ **C) going over**
Go over something means to check or examine it carefully, often again. The clue is **these figures again**: Miss Jones is asked to check the numbers once more.

5. Help yourself to an apple. I think there are enough to _____.
✔ **B) go round**
If there is enough food to **go round**, there is enough for everyone to have some. Example: **Are there enough chairs to go round?**

6. It looks as if the weather is beginning to _____ at last.
✔ **D) clear up**
The weather **clears up** when the rain stops and the sky becomes bright. **Clear out** means to empty a room or cupboard, and **clear away** means to tidy things off a table.

7. This is a word I have never come _____ before.
✔ **A) across**
Come across something means to find or meet it by chance. Example: **I came across an old photo in a drawer.**

8. It must be spring; the leaves have started _____ (appearing) on all the trees in the park.
✔ **C) coming out**
Leaves and flowers **come out** when they appear in spring. The hint **(appearing)** gives the meaning. **Break up** means to end a relationship or a meeting.

9. The government may be hiding the facts now, but they are bound to _____ sooner or later.
✔ **C) come out**
When facts or secrets **come out**, they become known to the public. The clue is **hiding the facts now**: the truth will be discovered later. Not **come up**, which means that a topic is mentioned in a discussion.

10. Why don't you _____ (visit us) on Friday?
✔ **D) come round**
Come round means to visit someone at their home. The hint **(visit us)** gives the meaning. Not **turn up**, which means to arrive, often unexpectedly.

11. By the way, Jill, Gregory was asking _____ you (asking how you are).
✔ **A) after**
Ask after someone means to ask how they are. Example: **Your aunt was asking after you.**

12. I'm afraid you've signed the agreement now, Mr. Blake. It's too late to back _____ it.
✔ **A) out of**
Back out of an agreement means to decide not to do what you promised. The clue is **you've signed the agreement now**: it is too late to withdraw.

13. I tried hard but I simply couldn't break _____ from my old habits.
✔ **B) away**
Break away from something means to escape from it or stop being controlled by it. The phrase is often used with habits or traditions. **Break into** means to enter a building by force.

14. How did you manage to come _____ without even a scratch?
✔ **D) through**
Come through a dangerous situation means to survive it. The clue is **without even a scratch**: the person was not hurt at all. Not **come round**, which means to wake up after being unconscious.

15. Many people _____ meditation to relax.
✔ **C) take up**
Take up a hobby or activity means to start doing it. The clue is **to relax**: people start meditation for this reason. Not **give up**, which means to stop doing something.

16. I took _____ tennis again at the beginning of this year.
✔ **D) up**
Take up a sport or hobby means to start doing it. With **again**, it means starting it once more. Not **take on**, which means to accept work or responsibility.

17. Which shirt shall I _____ (wear) tonight?
✔ **D) put on**
Put on clothes means to dress yourself in them. The hint **(wear)** gives the meaning. Not **go with**, which means that two things look good together.

18. Until I repay my bank loan, I'll have to _____ my living expenses.
✔ **B) cut down on**
Cut down on something means to use or spend less of it. The clue is **until I repay my bank loan**: the speaker must spend less money. **Turn down** means to refuse an offer.

19. If you want to lose weight, you should _____ the number of sweets and chocolates you eat.
✔ **C) cut down on**
Cut down on means to eat, drink or use less of something. To lose weight, you eat fewer sweets. Not **watch out for**, which means to be careful of a danger.

20. The nights are beginning to draw _____ again. It was light this time last week.
✔ **C) in**
When the nights **draw in**, it gets dark earlier each evening, as it does in autumn. The clue is **It was light this time last week**.

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