ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

PRE-INTERMEDIATE Test 1

Pre-Intermediate English Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. _____ three languages: French, Spanish, and English.
✔ **D) I speak**
For facts and things that are always true, use the present simple: **I speak**. Speaking three languages is a permanent fact, not something happening right now.

2. Where _____ from?
✔ **B) does Hans come**
Present simple questions need **does** with he/she/it, and then the base verb: **Where does Hans come from?**

3. What _____ tonight?
✔ **C) are you doing**
Use the present continuous for plans in the near future: **What are you doing tonight?** In a question, **are** comes before **you**.

4. "Where is George?"

"He _____ a shower."
✔ **C) is having**
The action is happening now, so use the present continuous: **He is having a shower**. Not **has**: that is for habits, e.g. **He has a shower every morning**.

5. "What _____?"

"I don't know. Look it up."
✔ **A) does this word mean**
Present simple questions use **does** + subject + base verb: **What does this word mean?** Do not use **mean** in the continuous form.

6. "Do you want a cigarette?"

"No, thanks. I _____."
✔ **D) don't smoke**
This is a habit, so use the present simple negative: **I don't smoke**. Not **am not smoking**: that means only at this moment.

7. Last year I _____ to America.
✔ **D) went**
Last year shows a finished time in the past, so use the past simple: **went**, the past form of **go**.

8. How long _____ in America?
✔ **B) did you stay**
Past simple questions use **did** + subject + base verb: **How long did you stay?**

9. The weekend was boring. I _____ anything.
✔ **C) didn't do**
The weekend is finished (**was boring**), so use the past simple negative: **didn't do**.

10. "I'm going to university next year."

"What _____ study?"
✔ **D) are you going to**
Use **be going to** for future plans. In questions, put **are** before **you**: **What are you going to study?**

11. **(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

Enrique _____ in Puebla, a town in Mexico.
✔ **B) lives**
The text describes Enrique's life now, so use the present simple. With **he/she** add **-s**: **Enrique lives**.

12. He _____ medicine because he _____ to be a doctor.
✔ **C) is studying**
His studies are going on in this period of his life, so use the present continuous: **He is studying medicine**. Not **studied**: the rest of the sentence is in the present (**wants**).

13. He _____ medicine because he _____ to be a doctor.
✔ **D) wants**
Want is a state verb, so we don't use it in the continuous form. Use the present simple: **he wants**. Not **is wanting**.

14. He's married, but he _____ any children.
✔ **C) doesn't have**
But shows a contrast, and **any** is used in negatives: **he doesn't have any children**.

15. His wife, Silvia, _____ in a primary school.
✔ **B) teaches**
This is her job now, so use the present simple with **-es** for **she**: **Silvia teaches**.

16. Enrique _____ cooking. He can make an excellent enchilada!
✔ **C) loves**
He can make is present, so use the present simple: **Enrique loves cooking**.

17. At the weekend, I usually _____ go swimming.
✔ **B) (no word)**
Usually goes straight before the main verb, and no other word is needed: **I usually go swimming**. Not **want**: you would need **want to go**.

18. Are you _____ the party?
✔ **C) enjoying**
Are you + **-ing** is the present continuous, for something happening now: **Are you enjoying the party?**

19. How many sisters _____?
✓ A) do you have
Questions with **have** use **do** + subject + **have**: **How many sisters do you have?** Not **do you has**: after **do**, use the base verb.

20. I _____ understand what you are saying.
✓ B) don’t
You are saying is about now, so use the present simple negative: **I don't understand**. Not **didn't**: that is past.

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