ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Prepositions And Phrasal Verbs Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 6

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1	**B**	2	**E**	3	**A**	4	**B**	5	**A**	6	**E**	7	**D**	8	**C**	9	**E**	10	**B**
11	**A**	12	**C**	13	**B**	14	**D**	15	**A**	16	**B**	17	**E**	18	**D**	19	**B**	20	**B**
21	**E**	22	**D**	23	**A**	24	**C**	25	**E**										

Explanations

1. It might be a good idea to buy a _____ raincoat because then it can be worn with either side out.
✔ **B) reversible**
Reversible clothing can be worn with either side out, which is exactly what the clue **with either side out** describes: **a reversible jacket**. The other adjectives (decisive, strenuous, extravagant, slippery) don't describe something you can turn inside out.

2. She is a very _____ child, who always does as she's told.
✔ **E) compliant**
Compliant means willing to obey rules or do what others want. The relative clause **who always does as she's told** defines the word. **Influential** and **fanciful** don't fit the meaning of obedience.

3. Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications was _____ technology, research and development to the tune of 619 million dollars in 2006.
✔ **A) funding**
To **fund** something means to provide money for it. The clue is **to the tune of 619 million dollars**, which means 'to the amount of' a sum of money. Not **tackling**: it means dealing with a problem, and it does not go with spending a sum of money.

4. If you are both going to lie, at least stick to the same story and don't _____ each other.
✔ **B) contradict**
To **contradict** someone is to say the opposite of what they have said. **Stick to the same story** is the clue: if your stories differ, you contradict each other. **Intervene** means to get involved in a situation, and it would need **in**.

5. Scientists in different countries, working _____ of each other, have come up with very similar results.
✔ **A) independently**
Independently of means separately, without contact or help from each other. The fixed pattern **independently of each other** fits, and the result (similar findings) is surprising because they worked separately. None of the other adverbs can be followed by **of each other**.

6. In recent years, scientists have come to a/an _____ that the earth is warming mostly due to the emission of carbon dioxide from electrical power plants that burn coal, oil and natural gas.
✔ **E) agreement**
Come to an agreement is a fixed collocation meaning to reach a shared opinion or decision. Here it is followed by a **that**-clause stating what the scientists agree on. A **treaty** is a formal agreement between countries, and we don't **come to** one.

7. Pele and Maradona have been _____ the best football players in the world up to now.
✔ **D) indisputably**
Indisputably means without any doubt, in a way nobody can argue with. It is a typical adverb before a superlative: **indisputably the best**. **Continuously** means without stopping, and it doesn't express a judgement about who is best.

8. Nokia set up a tent recently at the Los Angeles Film Festival to _____ its mobile-video phones and technology.
✔ **C) show off**
To **show off** something means to display it proudly so that people notice it. Here a company is using a tent at a festival to present its new phones. **Give away** means to give something for free, which is not the purpose of a display tent.

9. His publishers will soon be _____ his latest collection of essays, which he wrote during his trip to China recently.
✔ **E) bringing out**
To **bring out** a book means to publish it or put it on sale. The subject **his publishers** and the object **his latest collection of essays** point to this meaning. **Making up** means inventing something, which is not what publishers do with a finished book.

10. She did not get the money honestly and legally. She got it by _____.
✔ **B) deception**
Deception is the act of making someone believe something that is not true, usually to gain something. **Not honestly and legally** is the clue: **She got it by deception**. **Detention** means being kept in prison or held somewhere, so it doesn't fit.

11. You can raise the microphone or lower it. It's _____.
✓ **A) adjustable**
Adjustable means it can be changed to a different position or size. The clue is **raise the microphone or lower it**: **an adjustable chair**. **Breakable** means easily broken, which is not the point here.

12. Last night I went to see a romantic film which was rather _____.
✓ **C) moving**
Moving means causing strong feelings, especially sadness or sympathy, and it describes a romantic film well: **a moving story**. Not **moved**: the **-ed** adjective describes how a person feels (**I was moved**), not the film. **Ecstatic** also describes a person's feeling of great happiness.

13. Words that sound alike but are spelt _____ are called homophones, as in the example of to, two and too.
✓ **B) differently**
Homophones sound the same but are **spelt differently**, like **to**, **two** and **too**. The contrast **sound alike but** tells you the spelling is not the same. **Similarly** would remove the contrast that **but** signals.

14. One reason why artificial flavourings and colourings are _____ used in ready-made foods is that they are much cheaper than natural ingredients.
✓ **D) widely**
Widely used means used a lot, in many places. The reason given (**they are much cheaper**) explains why they are used so much. **Scarcely** (hardly at all) means the opposite and doesn't match the reason.

15. Squid force water out of their bodies to _____ themselves through the water.
✓ **A) propel**
To **propel** something means to push or drive it forward with force: **rockets are propelled by burning fuel**. Squid shoot water out of their bodies to push themselves forward. **Project** means to throw or send something forward away from you, not to move yourself through water.

16. The dentists working in this hospital object to _____ teeth without doing everything that can be done.
✓ **B) extracting**
To **extract** a tooth means to pull it out; this is the standard medical verb: **have a tooth extracted**. The dentists object to pulling teeth out before trying every other treatment. **Ejecting** means forcing something or someone out, and **dragging** means pulling something along the ground, so neither is used for teeth.

17. We thought of buying the pretty wooden Ottoman house we saw by the Bosphorus, but then we _____ the idea, as the roof was too damaged.
✓ **E) gave up**
To **give up an idea** means to stop planning to do something. The clue is **but then** and **the roof was too damaged**, which shows they changed their minds. **Did up** means repaired or decorated, which they would only do if they had bought the house.

18. A brief outline of the course and bibliography were _____ to the students at the first meeting.
✓ **D) handed out**
To **hand out** things means to give one to each person in a group: **The teacher handed out the worksheets**. The outline and bibliography were given to the students at the first meeting. **Broken down** means divided into parts or stopped working, which doesn't fit giving papers to students.

19. In formulating a hypothesis, we must keep it _____ with what we know of the real world; it cannot disagree with our experience.
✓ **B) congruent**
Congruent with means in agreement with or consistent with something. The second clause, **it cannot disagree with our experience**, explains the meaning. **Proper** does not take **with** in this sense, and **meticulous** (very careful about details) describes a person or their work.

20. Some species of animals have become extinct because they could not _____ to a changing environment.
✓ **B) adapt**
To **adapt to** something means to change in order to suit new conditions. The clue is the preposition **to** and **a changing environment**. **Foresee** means to know something will happen; it takes a direct object, not **to**.

21. The college is about to _____ a program for reducing math anxiety among students.
✓ **E) initiate**
To **initiate** a program means to start it officially. **Is about to** shows the program is just beginning. **Nominate** means to suggest a person for a job or prize, not to start a program.

22. An experienced farmer can estimate the annual _____ of his acres with surprising accuracy.
✓ **D) yield**
A **yield** is the amount of crops a piece of land produces: **a high annual yield of wheat**. The context of a farmer and his acres points to this word. **Resource** is a supply of something useful, and it does not collocate with **annual** in this sense.

23. Although she was knowledgeable in a number of fields, she was hired for her particular _____ in computer programming.
✓ **A) expertise**
Expertise means expert skill or knowledge in a particular area, and it is often used with **in**: **expertise in computer programming**. The contrast with **knowledgeable in a number of fields** shows she was chosen for one special skill. **Utility** means usefulness and is not used for a person's skills.

24. His opponents could not harm Achilles, who was _____ only in his heel.
✓ **C) vulnerable**
Vulnerable means able to be hurt or attacked. In the Greek myth, Achilles could be wounded only in his heel, which gives us the phrase **Achilles' heel** (a weak point). The other adjectives have nothing to do with being harmed.

25. We _____ kept George off the planning committee because we didn't want him to know that the party was to be in his honour.
✓ **E) deliberately**
Deliberately means on purpose, intentionally. The reason clause, **because we didn't want him to know**, shows it was a planned decision. **Subsequently** means afterwards, and it doesn't express intention.