ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Prepositions Of Time & Place & Movement Test A1 – A2 Grammar Exercises

A1 A2 Level Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. A: When is his birthday?

B: It's _____ January 19th.
✔ **B) on**
We use **on** with dates: **on January 19th**. Not **in**, which is for months only: **in January**.

2. Look at the helicopter _____ the air! It is pink!
✔ **A) in**
We say **in the air** for things that fly. **Up** alone is wrong here, but **up in the air** is also fine.

3. Sally met John _____ the new cinema in Brooklyn, not _____ Ivy Street.
✔ **C) at / on**
We use **at** for a place like a building where people meet: **at the cinema**. We use **on** with street names: **on Ivy Street**.

4. Marcy usually worked _____ the weekend _____ the past.
✔ **A) at / in**
In British English we say **at the weekend**. We say **in the past** for an earlier time.

5. I was _____ Paris for a business trip _____ Christmas.
✔ **C) in / at**
We use **in** with cities: **in Paris**. We use **at** with holiday periods: **at Christmas**.

6. Ryan often goes to bed _____ midnight _____ Sundays.
✔ **D) at / on**
We use **at** with clock times: **at midnight**. We use **on** with days: **on Sundays**.

7. Nelson always sits _____ Margaret in the classroom, and their desk is _____ Clara and Mandy's.
✔ **A) next to / behind**
Next to means very close, at the side: Nelson sits **next to** Margaret. **Behind** means at the back of: their desk is **behind** Clara and Mandy's desk.

8. The man is sitting at his desk _____ the middle of the room and a light bulb is hanging _____ his head.
✔ **B) in / over**
We say **in the middle of** a room. **Over** means higher than something: the light bulb hangs **over** his head.

9. Stacy travelled _____ one continent to another _____ bicycle last year.
✔ **C) from / by**
We say **from** one place **to** another. We use **by** for ways of travelling: **by bicycle**, **by bus**.

10. I am travelling to India _____ two weeks and I am going to stay there _____ the winter, too.
✔ **B) in / in**
In two weeks means two weeks from now. We use **in** with seasons: **in the winter**.

11. A: Where is the vacuum cleaner? I can't find it.

B: It is _____ the door, but you need to take it _____ its box.
✔ **A) behind / out of**
Behind the door means at the back of the door. We take something **out of** a box when we remove it.

12. The cock jumped _____ the fence _____ the farm and began crowing.
✔ **D) onto / around**
Onto shows movement to the top of something: the cock jumped **onto** the fence. The fence goes **around** the farm, on every side of it.

13. Eric visited his aunt at the hospital _____ the morning and called one of his neighbours _____ noon.
✔ **A) in / at**
We say **in the morning**. We use **at** with times of the day: **at noon**. Not **on**, which is for days and dates.

14. A: Some Indians have a red mark _____ their two eyebrows.

B: Yes, it is called a "bindi".
✔ **D) between**
Between means in the space in the middle of two things: the mark is **between** the two eyebrows.

15. In the Arabic love story, Layla and Majnun, Majnun walks _____ the desert to find Layla.
✔ **C) across**
Across means from one side to the other side: Majnun walks **across** the desert to find Layla.

16. Her great-grandfather wrote a special dictionary _____ the 20th century and you can find it in some libraries _____ present.
✔ **C) in / at**
We use **in** with centuries: **in the 20th century**. **At present** means now.

17. A: The black van _____ the bank transports money.

B: And there is a man _____ it. He is wearing a uniform. It must be the driver.
✔ **D) in front of / beside**
In front of means facing something, before it: the van is **in front of** the bank. **Beside** means next to: the man is **beside** the van.

18. He first walked _____ the street when the traffic light turned green and then started to walk _____ the pavement.
✔ **A) across / along**
Across means from one side to the other: he walked **across** the street. **Along** means following the length of something: he walked **along** the pavement.

19. A: When did your cousins visit you?

B: _____ Christmas Day _____ dawn.
✔ **B) On / at**
We use **on** with special days: **on Christmas Day**. We use **at** with times of the day: **at dawn**.

20. A: Can you see the turtle _____ the flowers?

B: Yes, it is coming _____ its shell. It is not afraid of us!
✔ **D) among / out of**
Among means in the middle of many things: the turtle is **among** the flowers. It is coming **out of** its shell, so it is leaving the inside.

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