ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Prepositions MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 2

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Explanations

1. What are curtains usually made _____?
✔ **C) of**
We use **made of** to name the material something consists of: **Curtains are made of cloth.** Not **with**, which we use for things added, e.g. **a cake made with eggs**.

2. Great Britain consists _____ three parts.
✔ **A) of**
The verb **consist** is always followed by **of**: **Great Britain consists of England, Scotland and Wales.** It is not used with **from**, **with** or **in** in this meaning.

3. The train stopped _____ all the stations and long before we got _____ London every seat was taken and people were standing _____ the corridors.
✔ **D) at / to / in**
A train stops **at** a station. With **get** meaning 'arrive', we use **to**: **got to London**. People stand **in** a corridor because it is an enclosed space. Not **got in London**: with this meaning, **get** needs **to**.

4. I congratulated all my classmates _____ passing the exam.
✔ **C) on**
We **congratulate someone on** something: **I congratulated her on her new job.** Not **for**, which is a common mistake with this verb.

5. - _____ what time will you arrive?

- I don't know. It depends _____ the traffic.
✔ **C) _____ / on**
What time…? usually needs no preposition in everyday English, and **depend** is always followed by **on**: **It depends on the weather. At what time** is possible, but **depends** cannot be used without **on**, so only this option fits both gaps.

6. My father died three years ago _____ a sudden heart attack.
✔ **A) from**
We say someone **died from** or **died of** an illness or injury: **He died from a heart attack.** Only **from** is offered here; **by**, **at** and **on** are not used with **die** for a cause.

7. This house reminds me _____ the one I lived _____ when I was a child.
✔ **A) of / in**
Remind someone of something means 'make them think of something similar'. We **live in** a house, and in a relative clause the preposition goes at the end: **the one I lived in**. Not **remind me about**, which means 'help me remember to do something'.

8. We shall be waiting _____ a bus _____ 2 till 3.
✔ **C) for / from**
We **wait for** someone or something, and a time period is given with **from … till/to**: **from 2 till 3**. Not **for / to**, because **to 2 till 3** makes no sense.

9. There is a place _____ 6 stamps _____ each page _____ Nick's stamp book.
✔ **A) for / on / of**
A place for something means space intended for it; things are printed or stuck **on** a page; and **each page of the book** shows that the page belongs to the book. Not **in each page**: we say **on a page**.

10. Alice drank _____ the bottle and turned _____ a very small girl.
✔ **E) from / into**
We **drink from** a bottle or cup, and **turn into** means 'change and become something different': **The frog turned into a prince.** Not **out / of**: **drank out the bottle** is wrong; we would need **drank out of the bottle**.

11. When we draw we make pictures _____ a pen, a pencil or chalk.
✔ **B) with**
We use **with** for the tool or instrument we use to do something: **write with a pen**, **cut with a knife**. Not **by**, which is used for methods and transport (**by hand**, **by car**), not for a particular tool.

12. He suddenly jumped _____ a bus.
✔ **D) on**
We get or jump **on** (or **onto**) a bus, train or plane: **He jumped on a bus.** For cars and taxis we use **in/into** instead.

13. Who is the girl _____ the blue dress, sitting _____ the head of the table?
✔ **C) in / at**
We use **in** for clothes someone is wearing: **the girl in the blue dress**. The fixed phrase is **at the head of the table**, meaning 'at the most important end'. Not **with the blue dress**: for clothes being worn, we use **in**.

14. Children are very fond _____ swimming.
✔ **A) of**
The adjective **fond** is always followed by **of**: **She is fond of music.** Not **about**, which is used with other adjectives such as **crazy about** or **happy about**.

15. The old woman could go _____ foot, but she preferred going _____ car.
✔ **E) on / by**
The fixed phrase is **on foot** (walking), and we use **by** with transport when there is no article: **by car**, **by bus**. Note that we say **in a car** (with **a**), but **by car** (without **a**).

16. _____ the top of the hill the tourists could see hundreds of cars running quickly _____ the road.
✓ **A) from / along**
We use **from** to show the place you look from: **From the window I could see the sea.** Cars move **along** a road, which means 'following its length'. Not **at / to**: **running to the road** doesn't describe movement on the road.

17. Please go on _____ your work while I am out.
✓ **B) with**
Go on with something means 'continue doing it': **Go on with your homework.** Not **go on to**, which means 'move to something new': **After that, he went on to study law.**

18. We arrived _____ London _____ 6 p.m. _____ a foggy November day.
✓ **A) in / at / on**
We **arrive in** a city or country, use **at** with clock times (**at 6 p.m.**), and **on** with days, including a particular day such as **on a foggy November day**. Not **arrive to**: we say **arrive in** or **arrive at**, never **arrive to**.

19. He started going _____ school _____ the age of five.
✓ **C) to / at**
We **go to school**, and we give someone's age with the phrase **at the age of**: **She started reading at the age of four.** Not **in the age of**: **at** is the fixed preposition here.

20. I'm going to wait _____ it stops raining.
✓ **A) till**
Till (**until**) means 'up to the time when' and can be followed by a clause: **wait till it stops raining**. Not **for**, which needs a noun (**wait for the rain to stop**), not a clause like **it stops**.

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