ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Present Tenses MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 3

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

Explanations

1. - _____ your father _____ at the Medical College?

- Yes, he does.
✔ **D) does / work**
The answer **Yes, he does** shows the question is in the present simple. With **he/she/it** we make present simple questions with **does** + base verb: **Does your father work…?**

2. He _____ to school at 7:30 and _____ at 2 o'clock.
✔ **A) goes / comes back**
This is a daily routine, so we use the present simple. With **he** both verbs take -s: **goes** and **comes back**. Not **go / come back**, because **he** needs the -s ending.

3. - You _____ not _____ your soup.

- I'm sorry. I'm not hungry.
✔ **C) are / eating**
The speaker is talking about what is happening right now at the table, so we use the present continuous: **You are not eating your soup.** The reply **I'm not hungry** is about the present moment too.

4. - Who _____ French in your family? - I _____.
✔ **A) speaks / do**
When **who** is the subject, the verb is singular: **Who speaks…?** In the short answer we repeat the auxiliary for **I**: **I do.** Not **speak / does**, because **who** takes **speaks** and **I** takes **do**.

5. Although Mary has been cooking for many years, she still _____ how to prepare Chinese food.
✔ **D) doesn't know**
Still shows a present situation, so we use the present simple. **Know** is a state verb, and with **she** the negative is **doesn't know**. Not **don't know**, because **she** needs **doesn't**.

6. The aims of the course _____ me willing to begin.
✔ **D) make**
The subject is **the aims** (plural), so the verb has no -s: **The aims make me willing to begin.** Not **makes**, because the verb agrees with **aims**, not with **course**.

7. Listen! Somebody _____ in the next room.
✔ **D) is singing**
Listen! shows the action is happening now, so we use the present continuous. **Somebody** is singular: **is singing**. Not **sings**, because that is for habits.

8. - _____ life _____ on Mars?

- No, it _____.
✔ **A) Does / exist / doesn't**
This is a general fact, so we use the present simple. **Life** is singular: **Does life exist on Mars? No, it doesn't.**

9. I _____ this man at all.
✔ **A) don't know**
Know is a state verb, so we use the present simple, not the continuous. With **I** the negative is **don't know**. Not **doesn't know**, which is for **he/she/it**.

10. The boys _____ four English books so far this year.
✔ **D) have read**
So far this year means the period is not finished and the result matters now, so we use the present perfect: **have read**. Not **read** (past simple), because it is used for finished time periods.

11. I know he reads every book I _____ ever _____ of.
✔ **C) have / heard**
Ever with experience up to now goes with the present perfect: **have** + past participle, so **every book I have ever heard of**. With **I** we use **have**, not **has**. Not **had heard**, because the sentence is about now (**I know**, **he reads**), not about a time before another past event.

12. Nothing will make him _____ back to her.
✔ **B) come**
After **make** + person we use the base verb without **to**: **make him come**. Not **to come**, because **make somebody do** never takes **to** in the active.

13. Listen! Someone _____ at the door.
✔ **D) is knocking**
Listen! shows the action is happening now, so we use the present continuous: **is knocking**. Not **knocks**, which is for habits.

14. "This thief _____ usually promise to steal again," said Sherlock Holmes.
✔ **D) doesn't**
Usually shows a habit, so we use the present simple. **This thief** is singular, so the negative is **doesn't** + base verb: **doesn't usually promise**. Not **don't**, which is for plural subjects and **I/you**.

15. Samuel says he's 25 years old, but nobody _____ him.
✔ **B) believes**
Believe is a state verb, so we use the present simple. **Nobody** is singular and already negative: **nobody believes him**. Not **doesn't believe**, because **nobody** + a negative verb makes a double negative.

16. The sea _____ to those who _____ to listen to it.
✔ **C) speaks / like**
General truths use the present simple. **The sea** is singular, so **speaks**; **those** is plural, so **like**. Not **speaks / likes**, because **those who** needs a plural verb.

17. Take your umbrella. It _____.
✔ **D) is raining**
The rain is happening now, which is why you need your umbrella, so we use the present continuous: **It is raining.** Not **rains**, which is for general facts or habits.

18. We can’t disturb him now. He _____.
✔ **D) is operating**
Now and **We can't disturb him** show the action is in progress at this moment, so we use the present continuous: **He is operating.** Not **operates**, which describes his job in general.

19. The children of the man who works with me _____ the window this morning.
✔ **D) have broken**
The subject is **the children** (plural), and **this morning** is still part of today with a result now, so we use the present perfect: **have broken**. Not **has broken**, because the verb agrees with **children**, not with **man**.

20. “Who _____ this picture?” the teacher asks.
✔ **E) has drawn**
The teacher asks about a finished picture that is in front of them now, so the present perfect fits: **Who has drawn this picture?** When **who** is the subject, the verb is singular, so **has**, not **have**.

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