ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Proverbs MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 1

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Explanations

1. An Englishman's home is his _____.
✔ **D) castle**
The proverb is **An Englishman's home is his castle**. It means that people have the right to privacy and control in their own home, just as a king does in his castle.

2. "False friends are _____."
✔ **D) worse than open enemies**
The proverb is **False friends are worse than open enemies**. You can protect yourself from an enemy you know, but a false friend can hurt you when you do not expect it.

3. A good name is better _____.
✔ **A) than riches**
The proverb is **A good name is better than riches**. A good reputation is worth more than money. **Riches** means a lot of money or valuable things.

4. After the long school holidays, Mrs. Hay went to talk to Betty's teacher. "Betty is glad that school has started," she said. "She is _____."
✔ **C) as happy as a lark**
As happy as a lark means very happy. Betty is glad school has started, so she is very happy. Not **as busy as a bee**, because the story talks about her feelings, not about hard work.

5. So _____ so done.
✔ **E) said**
The saying is **So said, so done**. It means something was done immediately after it was said, like **No sooner said than done**.

6. "While there is _____ there is hope."
✔ **D) life**
The proverb is **While there is life, there is hope**. As long as someone is alive, things can still get better. Do not mix it up with **Where there's a will, there's a way**.

7. "Better face a danger than be always in _____."
✔ **C) fear**
The proverb is **Better face a danger than be always in fear**. It is better to deal with a problem bravely than to live in fear of it all the time.

8. I have a younger sister. From her childhood, she dreamt of becoming a pianist. When she was seven, our mother sent her to a music school. At first, it was difficult for a little girl to spend hours playing the piano and she could not make much progress; but my sister didn't give up. Time passed. From year to year, she became more skilful and achieved her dream. Which proverb best fits this story?
✔ **A) Practice makes perfect.**
Practice makes perfect means that if you do something again and again, you become very good at it. The sister practised for years and became a skilful pianist.

9. Mr Brown was very afraid of the dentist. Once he had a terrible toothache and couldn't sleep. The next day, he decided to go to the dentist's and have his tooth extracted. Which proverb best fits this story?
✔ **E) Better face a danger than be always in fear.**
Better face a danger than be always in fear fits because Mr Brown was afraid of the dentist, but he finally went and solved his problem. Not **Where there is a will, there's a way**, because the story is about facing a fear, not about finding a way to do something difficult.

10. An hour in the morning _____.
✔ **D) is worth two in the evening**
The proverb is **An hour in the morning is worth two in the evening**. People work better and do more early in the day.

11. John was a very lazy pupil. During his school years, he didn't learn his lessons and always played truant. When the examination time came, he also had to take his exams. But, alas, he didn't pass them and he cried bitterly. Which proverb best fits this story?
✔ **E) You have made your bed and you must lie on it.**
You have made your bed and you must lie on it means you must accept the bad results of your own actions. John was lazy, so failing his exams was his own fault.

12. Promise little _____.
✔ **B) but do much**
The proverb is **Promise little but do much**. It is better to do a lot than to make big promises.

13. Joe had a very big supper. When he asked for a piece of bread and butter at bedtime, his mother said, "I've never seen anyone eat so much. You are always as hungry as _____."
✔ **B) a wolf**
As hungry as a wolf means very hungry. Joe always wants to eat more. Not **a lark** or **a bee**: we say **as happy as a lark** and **as busy as a bee**.

14. The last drop makes _____.
✓ **D) the cup run over**
The proverb is **The last drop makes the cup run over**. One more small problem can be too much after many others, like **the last straw**.

15. _____ makes the world go round.
✓ **D) Money**
The saying is **Money makes the world go round**. It means that money is what makes most things in life happen. Not **Gravity**: the saying is about people and life, not science.

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