ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Questions and Answers Test 2

English Grammar Tests · 30 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/questions-and-answers-test-2/

1	**B**	2	**C**	3	**D**	4	**D**	5	**A**	6	**C**	7	**C**	8	**D**	9	**A**	10	**D**
11	**A**	12	**B**	13	**D**	14	**C**	15	**C**	16	**B**	17	**D**	18	**A**	19	**B**	20	**C**
21	**C**	22	**E**	23	**C**	24	**A**	25	**D**	26	**B**	27	**E**	28	**B**	29	**E**	30	**D**

Explanations

1. You haven't seen him this morning, _____?
✔ **B) have you**
A negative sentence takes a positive tag, made with the same auxiliary: **haven't → have you?** Not **had you**, because the sentence is in the present perfect, not the past perfect.

2. The United States is in North America, _____?
✔ **C) isn't it**
A positive sentence with **is** takes a negative tag: **isn't it? The United States** is one country, so we use **it**.

3. You were late to work this morning, _____?
✔ **D) weren't you**
A positive sentence with **were** takes a negative tag with the same verb: **weren't you?** Not **did you**, because the main verb here is **be**, and **be** makes its own tag.

4. Tom can't work with animals, _____?
✔ **D) can he**
A negative sentence with **can't** takes a positive tag: **can he? Tom** becomes **he**. Not **couldn't he**, because the sentence is present and negative.

5. You should be here by the time we are ready to leave, _____?
✔ **A) shouldn't you**
The tag repeats the modal from the main clause, **should**. A positive sentence takes a negative tag: **shouldn't you?** The subject is **you**, not **we**. **We** is the subject of the time clause, not of the main clause.

6. Mom, when I was five, I couldn't swim, _____?
✔ **C) could I**
A negative sentence with **couldn't** takes a positive tag: **could I?** The subject is **I**. Not **couldn't I**, because a negative sentence needs a positive tag.

7. She had better call the teacher to let him know she will be late getting to class, _____?
✔ **C) hadn't she**
With **had better**, the tag uses only **had**: **She had better call..., hadn't she?** Not **hadn't better she**, because **better** is never part of the tag.

8. The meal won't be ready for another hour, _____?
✔ **D) will it**
Won't is negative, so the tag is positive: **will it? The meal** becomes **it**. Not **won't it**, because both parts would then be negative.

9. You prefer drinking Nescafe to tea, _____?
✔ **A) don't you**
A present simple positive sentence with **you** takes the tag **don't you?** Not **do they**, because the subject is **you** and a positive sentence needs a negative tag.

10. Those books are yours, _____?
✔ **D) aren't they**
A positive sentence with **are** takes a negative tag: **aren't they? Those books** becomes **they**. The tag always puts the verb before the subject, so **they aren't** is wrong.

11. I'm not allowed to go to the movies, _____?
✔ **A) am I**
I'm not is negative, so the tag is positive: **am I?** Not **aren't I**, because that is the tag for a positive sentence, e.g. **I'm late, aren't I?**

12. She isn't watching television, _____?
✔ **B) is she**
A negative sentence with **isn't** takes a positive tag: **is she?**

13. They may not be coming today, _____?
✔ **D) may they**
The tag repeats the modal **may**. A negative sentence takes a positive tag: **may they?** Not **may not they**, because a tag after a negative sentence is positive. A short negative tag would also need a contraction, never **may not they**.

14. The bus couldn't have arrived yet, _____?
✔ **C) could it**
With a modal perfect, the tag uses only the modal: **couldn't have arrived → could it?** The sentence is negative, so the tag is positive. **The bus** becomes **it**.

15. They needn't have brought their suitcases with them, _____?
✔ **C) need they**
Here **need** is a modal verb (**needn't have** + past participle), so the tag repeats it. The sentence is negative, so the tag is positive: **need they?**

16. You hardly ever see Sheila anymore, _____?
✔ **B) do you**
Hardly ever has a negative meaning, so the tag is positive: **do you?** Not **don't you**, because the sentence already counts as negative.

17. Neither of the boys came to school today, _____?
✔ **D) did they**
Neither makes the sentence negative, so the tag is positive. We use **they** for **neither of the boys** and **did** for the past simple: **did they?**

18. Open the door for me, _____? It's stuffy in here.
✔ **A) would you**
After an imperative such as **Open the door**, a polite request tag is **would you?** (also **will you? / could you?**). Not **did you** or **don't you**, because imperatives do not take **do**-tags.

19. "I'm working in New York now."
"Oh, _____?"
✔ **B) are you**
A short reply question shows interest. It uses the same auxiliary and the other person's subject: **I'm working → Oh, are you?**

20. Oh, so you think you're so smart, _____?
✔ **C) do you**
After **Oh, so…**, a positive sentence can take a positive tag to show surprise or sarcasm: **so you think you're smart, do you?** The verb is **think** (present simple), so the tag uses **do**. Not **are you**, because the tag follows **think**, not **you're**.

21. You daren't tell me that you had an accident with the car, _____?
✔ **C) dare you**
Daren't is used here as a modal verb, so the tag repeats it. The sentence is negative, so the tag is positive: **dare you?** Not **had you**, because the tag follows the main verb, **daren't**, not **had** in the **that**-clause.

22. No one likes the cake, _____?
✔ **E) do they**
No one makes the sentence negative, so the tag is positive. We use **they** for **no one** and **do** for the present simple: **do they?** Not **does it**, because the subject is people, not the cake.

23. I should give you some money this evening, _____?
✔ **C) shouldn't I**
A positive sentence with **should** takes a negative tag with the same subject: **shouldn't I?** The subject is **I**, not **you**.

24. We may not leave before the bell rings, _____?
✔ **A) may we**
The tag repeats the modal **may**. A negative sentence takes a positive tag: **may we?** Not **can we**, because the tag must use the same modal.

25. Everyone warned you about his temper, _____?
✔ **D) didn't they**
We use **they** in tags after **everyone**. The sentence is positive and in the past simple, so the tag is **didn't they?**

26. Let's go together, _____?
✔ **B) shall we**
The tag after **Let's…** is always **shall we?**: **Let's go, shall we?**

27. I don't suppose that anyone wants to help me clean the kitchen, _____?
✔ **E) do they**
After **I don't suppose (that)…**, the tag goes with the second clause, **anyone wants**. The negative **don't suppose** makes the whole idea negative, so the tag is positive. **Anyone** becomes **they**: **do they?** Not **do I**, because the question is about other people.

28. None of the children want to eat ice cream, _____?
✔ **B) do they**
None makes the sentence negative, so the tag is positive. The tag uses **they** for **the children** and **do** for the present simple: **do they?**

29. Our dogs barked all night and disturbed you, _____?
✔ **E) didn't they**
A positive sentence in the past simple takes the tag **didn't**. **Our dogs** becomes **they**: **didn't they?** Not **did they**, because a positive sentence needs a negative tag.

30. I shan't be able to see him today, _____?
✔ **D) shall I**
Shan't is the negative of **shall**, so the tag is positive with the same subject: **shall I?** Not **won't I**, because the tag must be positive and repeat **shall**.

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com