ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Relatives Test B1 Grammar Exercises

A2 B1 Level Grammar Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/relatives-test-b1-grammar-exercises/

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

Explanations

1. The car alarm _____ went off ten minutes ago is still on.
✔ **C) which**
We use **which** (or **that**) for things. Here it refers to **the car alarm** and is the subject of **went off**. **Who** is only for people.

2. The Moon, _____ diameter is only a fourth of the Earth's, is the only natural satellite of the Earth.
✔ **D) whose**
Whose shows possession and is followed by a noun: **the Moon's diameter → whose diameter**. It works for things as well as people. **That** cannot be used for possession or after a comma.

3. The burglar _____ no one saw entering the apartment stole jewellery worth a hundred thousand dollars.
✔ **A) whom**
Whom refers to a person and is the object of the clause: **no one saw him → whom no one saw**. **Which** is for things, not people.

4. He panicked when he couldn't find the key in his pocket _____ he always kept it.
✔ **C) where**
Where introduces a relative clause about a place: **his pocket** is the place in which he kept the key. **Which** would need **in**: **the pocket in which he kept it**.

5. We hired a new engineer _____ worked for a big electronics company for years.
✔ **C) who**
Who is used for people and is the subject of the clause: **the engineer worked for a big company**. **Which** is for things, and **whose** needs a noun after it.

6. Newton made his discoveries during a time _____ humans didn't know much about science.
✔ **D) when**
When introduces a relative clause about a time: **a time when humans didn't know much**. **On which** is wrong; with **time** we would say **at which** or **in which**.

7. Cities _____ history goes back thousands of years usually have a lot of historical sites.
✔ **B) whose**
Whose shows possession: **the cities' history → cities whose history**. **Of which** would need a different word order: **cities the history of which**.

8. It's important that the groceries _____ we buy every day do not contain any harmful chemicals.
✔ **A) ____**
When the relative pronoun is the object of the clause (**we buy the groceries**), we can leave it out: **the groceries we buy**. **Which** or **that** is also possible, but no option needs to be added here.

9. Scientists are still trying to find the reasons _____ tornados and hurricanes form.
✔ **C) why**
After **the reason(s)** we use **why**: **the reasons why tornados form**. **When** is for times and **where** is for places.

10. The person _____ she was waiting turned out to be a close friend of mine.
✔ **B) for whom**
The verb is **wait for**, so the preposition is needed: **she was waiting for the person → the person for whom she was waiting**. Not **whom** alone, because then **for** is missing.

11. In primary school, I had some very good friends _____ names I still remember.
✔ **D) whose**
Whose shows possession and is followed by a noun: **my friends' names → friends whose names**. **Of whom** cannot be used directly before **names**.

12. Football is one of the things _____ he has always been very keen on.
✔ **A) ____**
The pronoun is the object of **keen on** (**he is keen on the things**), so it can be left out: **the things he is keen on**. Not **to which**, because the preposition with **keen** is **on**, and it is already at the end.

13. On the day of the picnic, it started to rain in the morning, _____ was a big disappointment.
✔ **A) which**
After a comma, **which** can refer to the whole previous idea: the rain starting was a disappointment. **That** cannot be used after a comma in this way.

14. The skirt _____ colour I didn't like that much actually fitted me better than the other.
✔ **B) whose**
Whose shows possession and is followed by a noun: **the skirt's colour → the skirt whose colour**. **That** cannot show possession.

15. Maths, _____ most students aren't very fond of, is my favourite subject.
✔ **D) which**
Which is used for things in a clause between commas: **most students aren't fond of maths → Maths, which most students aren't fond of**. The preposition **of** is already at the end, so **at which** is wrong.

16. The necklace _____ she always wears for special occasions is from her grandmother.
✓ **C) that**
That (or **which**) is used for things and is the object here: **she always wears the necklace**. **Whom** is only for people.

17. I can only recommend the holiday resort _____ we spent a week at this year.
✓ **A) which**
Which refers to the resort and goes with the preposition **at** at the end: **we spent a week at the resort**. Not **where**, because **where** already means **at which**, so **at** would be repeated.

18. I sometimes see some famous people having a cup of coffee at the cafe _____ is at the corner of my street.
✓ **C) which**
Which is the subject of **is**: **the cafe is at the corner**. Not **where**, because **where** cannot be the subject of a verb; it needs a subject after it (**the cafe where we meet**).

19. The small orchard near the church _____ we used to eat cherries and apricots doesn't exist anymore.
✓ **D) where**
Where refers to a place: **we used to eat cherries in the orchard**. **Which** would need a preposition, e.g. **in which**.

20. Liv and Tyler met each other in 1994, _____ they went to an ancient village _____ they carried out some excavation works.
✓ **B) when / where**
The first gap refers to a time (**in 1994**), so we use **when**. The second refers to a place (**an ancient village**), so we use **where**.

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