ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Self Study Guide – Test Your English Grammar Part 07

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## Explanations

**1.** One manufacturer, Smart Transport, Inc., _____ a press conference every other month.
✓ **A) holds**
Use the **present simple** for regular, repeated actions. The clue is **every other month**: it happens again and again. Not **is holding**, because the present continuous is for actions happening now or arranged for one time.

**2.** Lucy _____ for a drink this evening. I invited her yesterday.
✓ **B) is coming**
Use the **present continuous** for future arrangements that are already fixed. The clue is **I invited her yesterday**: the plan is already made. Not **will come**, because **will** is for predictions and quick decisions, not fixed plans.

**3.** By early in the 21st century, one in four Japanese people _____ over sixty-five.
✓ **A) will be**
Use **will** for predictions about the future. **By early in the 21st century** points to a future time, as seen from when the book was written. Not **shall be**, because **shall** is only used with **I** and **we**, and only in British English.

**4.** I'll think of you when _____ on the beach next week.
✓ **D) I'm lying**
After time words like **when**, **before** and **until**, we use a present tense for the future, not **will**. Here the action is in progress at that time, so we need the present continuous: **when I'm lying**. Not **I'll be lying**, because **will** is not used after **when** in time clauses.

**5.** The builders say they _____ the roof by Tuesday.
✓ **C) will have finished**
Use the **future perfect** (**will have + past participle**) for an action that will be complete before a point in the future. The clue is **by Tuesday**. Not **will be finishing**, because that shows an action in progress, not a finished one.

**6.** He promised that he _____ call my mother the following day to wish her a happy birthday.
✓ **B) would**
In reported speech after a past verb like **promised**, **will** changes to **would**. He said, 'I will call her tomorrow', so we report it as **he promised that he would call** her **the following day**. Not **will**, because **the following day** shows we are looking back from a later time.

**7.** Before the construction of the Channel Tunnel, which connects France and England, most people didn't believe that travel by land between the two countries _____ possible in the twentieth century.
✓ **B) would be**
This is the **future in the past**. The main verb is past (**didn't believe**), so we use **would** to talk about something that was still in the future at that time. Not **will be**, because it doesn't match the past tense of the main verb.

**8.** By next year, the taxpayers _____ over twenty-two million dollars for a transportation system that is already out-of-date.
✓ **C) will have spent**
Use the **future perfect** (**will have spent**) for an action that will be complete before a future time. The clue is **By next year**. Not **will have been spending**, because we don't use the continuous form with a total amount like **twenty-two million dollars**.

**9.** She'll pay us back when she _____ a job.
✓ **A) gets**
After **when** in a time clause about the future, we use the **present simple**, not **will**: **when she gets a job**. Not **will get**, because **will** is not used after **when** here.

**10.** Don't sweep the floor before your parents _____.
✓ **D) arrive**
After **before** in a sentence about the future, we use the **present simple**: **before your parents arrive**. **Parents** is plural, so the verb has no **-s**. Not **arrives**, because that form is for one person (**he/she/it**).

**11.** Will you stay here until _____ off?
✓ **C) the plane takes**
After **until** in a time clause about the future, we use the **present simple**, not **will**: **until the plane takes off**. Not **the plane will take**, because **will** is not used after **until**.

**12.** I won't tell you my secret unless you _____ not to tell anyone.
✓ **C) promise**
**Unless** means **if not**, and it is followed by a present tense for the future: **unless you promise**. Not **don't promise**, because **unless** already has a negative meaning.

**13.** Whenever _____ a thunderstorm, the cat hides under the bed.
✓ **B) there's**
**Whenever** + **present simple** is used for something that always happens, and the main verb **hides** is present too. So we say **Whenever there's a thunderstorm**. Not **there'll be**, because **will** is not used after **whenever**.

**14.** Your little robot dog will wag his tail if you _____ him on the floor.
✓ **A) place**
This is the **first conditional**: **if + present simple, will + verb**. So we say **if you place him on the floor**. Not **will place**, because **will** is not used in the **if** part.

**15.** Your little robot dog will even bark if you _____ sound files into his body.
✓ **A) put**
This is the **first conditional**: **if + present simple, will + verb**. So we say **if you put sound files into his body**. Not **will put**, because **will** is not used in the **if** part.

**16.** Unless they _____ ticket prices, I'm not going to fly anymore. I'm not that rich.
✓ **D) lower**
**Unless** means **if not** and takes a present tense for the future: **Unless they lower ticket prices**. Not **don't lower**, because **unless** is already negative, so a double negative would change the meaning.

**17.** If I was free for six months, I _____ around the world.
✓ **B) would travel**
This is the **second conditional**, used for an imaginary situation: **if + past simple, would + verb**. So we say **If I was free…, I would travel**. Not **will travel**, because the situation is not real.

**18.** Your roommate is really noisy. If I _____ with him, I'd talk to him about the problem.
✓ **A) lived**
This is the **second conditional**: **if + past simple, would + verb**. The speaker doesn't live with him, so it is imaginary: **If I lived with him, I'd talk to him**. Not **would live**, because **would** is not used in the **if** part.

**19.** If I didn't like flying that much, I _____ a pilot.
✓ **D) wouldn't be**
This is the second conditional: **if** + past simple, **would** + verb. In reality the speaker likes flying and is a pilot, so the imaginary result is **I wouldn't be a pilot**. Not **won't be**, because the situation is not real.

**20.** He took me for his housemaid. How surprised he'll be when he _____ out who I am!
✓ **D) finds**
After **when** in a time clause about the future, we use the **present simple**: **when he finds out**. Not **will find**, because **will** is not used after **when**.

**21.** I'll be surprised if he _____ an accident soon. He drives like crazy.
✓ **B) doesn't have**
In the **if** part of a first conditional, we use the present simple, not **will**. The clue is **He drives like crazy**, so the speaker expects an accident: **I'll be surprised if he doesn't have one**. Not **has**, because that would mean the speaker expects him to be safe.

**22.** If he _____ for you, he'll be very angry.
✓ **D) is still waiting**
In the **if** part we use a present tense, not **will**. The action is in progress, so we use the present continuous: **If he is still waiting**. Not **will still be waiting**, because **will** is not used after **if**.

**23.** If _____ you what you're doing, say you're with me.
✓ **B) anybody asks**
In the **if** part we use the **present simple** for the future, not **will**. **Anybody** is used in questions and **if** clauses: **If anybody asks you…**. Not **nobody asks**, because the meaning would be strange.

**24.** _____ him I'm ashamed.
✓ **B) Whenever I see**
**Whenever** + **present simple** is used for something that happens every time, and the main verb **I'm ashamed** is present too. Not **If I saw**, because a past form doesn't match the present **I'm ashamed**.

**25.** If Bob _____ your letter, I'm sure he'll phone you today.
✓ **C) has received**
In the **if** part we use a present tense, not **will**. The **present perfect** (**has received**) shows the letter may already have arrived. Not **will have received**, because **will** is not used after **if**.

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