ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Self Study Guide – Test Your English Grammar Part 13

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Explanations

1. George regretted _____ Dick the money.
✓ **C) giving**
Regret + -ing means you are sorry about something you did in the past. George gave Dick the money and later felt sorry about it: **regretted giving**. Not **to give**: **regret to** is used to announce bad news (**We regret to inform you…**).

2. We regret _____ you, but your suggestion has not been accepted.
✓ **B) to inform**
Regret + to-infinitive is used, often in formal letters, to say you are sorry about the news you are giving now: **We regret to inform you…**. Not **informing**: **regret + -ing** means being sorry about something you did in the past.

3. The car needs _____.
✓ **A) servicing**
Need + -ing has a passive meaning: **The car needs servicing** = the car needs to be serviced. Not **to service**: that would mean the car itself has to service something.

4. I expect _____ you working very hard when I come back.
✓ **A) to find**
Expect is followed by a **to-infinitive**: **I expect to find you working**.

5. Her parents don't want _____ married.
✓ **D) her to get**
The pattern is **want + object + to-infinitive**: **want her to get married**. Not **that she get**: **want** is not followed by a **that**-clause.

6. Be careful! I don't want there _____ any trouble.
✓ **C) to be**
Want follows the pattern **want + object + to-infinitive**, and **there** can act as the object: **I don't want there to be any trouble**.

7. Watch _____ over the stream.
✓ **C) him jump**
Verbs of perception such as **watch, see** and **hear** take **object + bare infinitive** (without **to**) for a complete action: **Watch him jump**. Not **him to jump**: these verbs don't take **to** in the active.

8. I looked out of the window and saw Mary _____ the road.
✓ **A) crossing**
See + object + -ing describes an action that was in progress when you saw it: **saw Mary crossing the road**. Not **to cross**: perception verbs don't take **to** in the active.

9. I had a strange dream last night. I dreamt I was in bed when suddenly I heard a dog _____ at the front door.
✓ **D) barking, then scratching**
Hear + object + -ing is used for actions in progress. Both verbs follow the same pattern: **heard a dog barking, then scratching**. Perception verbs never take **to** in the active, so all options with **to** are wrong.

10. I felt someone _____ my hand.
✓ **D) grasp**
Feel + object + bare infinitive is used for a short, complete action: **I felt someone grasp my hand**. Not **to grasp**: perception verbs don't take **to** in the active.

11. I saw someone _____ the bathroom.
✓ **B) enter**
See + object + bare infinitive is used for a complete action: **I saw someone enter the bathroom**. Not **to enter**: **see** doesn't take **to** in the active.

12. I once heard Brendel _____ all the Beethoven concertos.
✓ **B) play**
Hear + object + bare infinitive is used for a whole, complete action. Brendel played all the concertos from start to finish: **heard Brendel play**. Not **to play**: **hear** doesn't take **to** in the active.

13. She watches me _____ football every weekend.
✓ **B) playing**
Watch + object + -ing describes an action in progress: **She watches me playing football**. Not **to play**: **watch** doesn't take **to** in the active.

14. I can hear someone _____ upstairs.
✓ **D) talking**
Hear + object + -ing is used for an action that is happening now: **I can hear someone talking upstairs**.

15. I'm so scared that I can feel my hands _____.
✓ **B) shaking**
Feel + object + -ing describes an action in progress: **I can feel my hands shaking**. Not **being shaken**: the hands shake by themselves, so the passive is wrong.

16. Did you notice anyone _____ outside when you left?
✓ **B) waiting**
Notice + object + -ing describes an action in progress: **notice anyone waiting outside**. Not **to wait**: **notice** doesn't take **to** in the active.

17. Even her getting fatter and fatter didn't _____ less.
✓ **B) make her eat**
Make (meaning 'cause' or 'force') takes **object + bare infinitive**: **didn't make her eat less**. Not **make her to eat**: there is no **to** after **make** in the active.

18. Mr Trager let us _____ our dictionaries during the test.
✓ **B) use**
Let + object + bare infinitive: **let us use our dictionaries**. Not **to use**: **let** is never followed by **to**.

19. Eating and drinking too much didn't let _____ weight.
✓ **B) her lose**
Let + object + bare infinitive: **didn't let her lose weight**. Not **her to lose**: **let** is never followed by **to**.

20. Why won't you let _____ everything?
✓ **B) me explain**
Let + object + bare infinitive: **let me explain**. Not **me to explain**: **let** is never followed by **to**.

21. She was tired, but we couldn't _____ accept our help.
✓ **D) make her**
Make + object + bare infinitive: **couldn't make her accept our help**. Not **make her to**: there is no **to** after active **make**.

22. In 1938, Anna Freud was forced _____ from Vienna to England.
✓ **D) to emigrate**
In the passive, **force** is followed by a **to-infinitive**: **was forced to emigrate**. Not **be emigrated**: **emigrate** has no object, so it can't be passive.

23. She was allowed _____ Sally Tomato at Sing Sing once a week.
✓ **A) to visit**
Be allowed is followed by a to-infinitive: **She was allowed to visit Sally Tomato**. Not **paying a visit to**: the -ing form can't follow **be allowed**.

24. He doesn't allow us _____ personal calls.
✓ **A) to make**
With an object, **allow** takes **object + to-infinitive**: **allow us to make personal calls**.

25. We don't allow _____ in the lecture room.
✓ **A) smoking**
Without an object, **allow** is followed by the **-ing** form: **We don't allow smoking**. Not **to smoke**: **allow + to-infinitive** needs an object (**allow people to smoke**).

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