ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Self Study Guide – Test Your English Grammar Part 17

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Explanations

1. Concepts of modern nursing were founded by Florence Nightingale, an English nurse _____ to the care of the sick and the war-wounded.
✔ **C) whose life was dedicated**
We need a possessive relative pronoun: her life → **whose life**. **Whose life was dedicated** means 'her life was given' to the care of the sick. Not **which**, because **which** is for things, not people, and **which dedicated her life** would need a clause verb and a person pronoun.

2. I have had many teachers _____ I have admired greatly.
✔ **B) whom**
The teachers are the object of **admired** (I admired them), so we use the object pronoun **whom** for people. Not **which**, because it is used for things.

3. It is not surprising that the person _____ influenced my life the most was a teacher.
✔ **A) who**
The gap is the subject of **influenced** and refers to a person, so we use **who**. A subject relative pronoun cannot be left out, so the empty option is wrong.

4. Few visitors to Disney World in Florida know that much of its electrical power comes from the energy _____ by burning its own garbage.
✔ **D) it produces**
The energy (that) it produces is a relative clause where the relative pronoun is the object, so it can be left out: **it produces**. Not **that produces**, because then the energy would produce something, which makes no sense here.

5. Tulips, _____ into Holland in the 1590s, were quickly and highly valued, and by the 1630s they had become the objects of wild financial speculation in Europe.
✔ **D) introduced**
This is a reduced passive relative clause: **which were introduced → introduced**. Tulips did not introduce anything; they were introduced, so a passive meaning is needed. Not **which introduced**, because that is active.

6. Cork, the second-largest city in Ireland, is the site of many industries, _____ automobile manufacturing and whiskey distilling.
✔ **C) two of which are**
After a quantity word with **of**, we use **which** for things: **two of which are** = two of these industries are. Not **two of whom**, because **whom** is for people, and **that** is never used after a preposition.

7. Because of the success _____ I had in this class, I became more confident and at ease.
✔ **A) —**
The success (that) I had: the relative pronoun is the object of **had**, so it can be left out. Not **what**, because **what** cannot follow a noun like **success**.

8. _____ we need is a big fridge.
✔ **D) What**
What means 'the thing that': **What we need** = the thing that we need. Not **That**, because it needs a noun before it.

9. Martin’s garage, _____ the car had been taken, was not far away.
✔ **D) where**
Where introduces a relative clause about a place and means 'to which / at which': **the garage where the car had been taken**. Not **what** or **who**, because **what** cannot follow a noun and **who** is for people.

10. The Olympic Games, _____ in 776 B.C., did not include women participants until 1900.
✔ **B) first played**
This is a reduced passive relative clause: **which were first played → first played**. Not **they were first played**, because that adds a second full clause without a linking word.

11. They gave me _____ I asked for.
✔ **B) what**
What means 'the thing that': **They gave me what I asked for**. Not **that** or **which**, because they need a noun before them.

12. There’s the man _____ took your coat.
✔ **B) who**
The gap is the subject of **took** and refers to a person, so we use **who**. It cannot be left out because it is the subject.

13. It’s certain to be a good game, _____ wins.
✔ **D) whoever**
Whoever means 'any person who' / 'it doesn't matter who': **whoever wins** = no matter which team or person wins. Not **whatever**, because winners are people or teams, and **whichever** would need a noun or a clear choice (**whichever team wins**).

14. The people in Canada were very friendly _____ we went.
✔ **C) wherever**
Wherever means 'in every place that' or 'it doesn't matter where': **wherever we went** means in every place we visited. Not **whatever** or **whoever**, because the sentence is about places, not things or people.

15. The dentist had to pull out two of my teeth, _____ was a real pity.
✔ **C) which**
After a comma, **which** can refer to the whole previous clause: **..., which was a real pity** (the fact that he pulled out two teeth). Not **that** or **what**, because they cannot be used in this way after a comma.

16. I'll give you my address and phone number but I need something _____.
✔ **C) I can write on**
You write **on** something (paper), so the preposition must stay at the end: **something I can write on**. Not **I can write**, because without **on** it means the thing is the words you write.

17. She is lucky: _____ much she eats, she never gets fat.
✔ **B) however**
However much means 'it doesn't matter how much': **however much she eats** = no matter how much she eats. Not **whatever**, because **whatever much** is not possible; **much** goes with **however**.

18. I liked _____ you said at the meeting very much.
✔ **B) what**
What means 'the thing(s) that': **I liked what you said** = I liked the things that you said. Not **that** or **which**, because there is no noun before the gap.

19. Where is the book _____ I bought this morning?
✔ **C) that**
The book is a thing, so we use **that** (or **which**). Not **what**, because **what** cannot follow a noun.

20. _____ caused the accident, nobody knows.
✔ **B) What**
What caused the accident means 'the thing that caused the accident'. Not **Which** or **Whichever**, because there is no clear set of choices.

21. _____ I'd like most is a home computer.
✔ **C) What**
What means 'the thing that': **What I'd like most** = the thing I'd like most. Not **That** or **Which**, because they need a noun before them.

22. Sergeant Brown, _____ was very polite.
✔ **A) whom I showed my license,**
Show someone something: I showed him my license → **whom I showed my license**. **Whom** is the object form for people. Not **which ... to**, because **which** is for things, and not **to what**, because **what** cannot follow a noun.

23. Where is the man _____ I saw this morning?
✔ **A) who**
The man is a person, so we use **who** (or **whom/that**). Not **which**, because it is for things.

24. There is the driver _____ overtook us five minutes ago.
✔ **D) who**
The gap is the subject of **overtook** and refers to a person, so we use **who**. Not **whom**, because **whom** is the object form.

25. He is a man _____ falls a heavy responsibility.
✔ **D) on whom**
Responsibility falls **on** a person, so we need the preposition + object pronoun: **on whom falls a heavy responsibility** (formal inversion = a heavy responsibility falls on him). Not **whose shoulders**, because there is no preposition before it.

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