ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Some / Any / No – A Lot Of / Much / Many – (A) Little / (A) Few Test A2 – B1 Grammar Exercises

A2 B1 Level Grammar Tests · 18 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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1	**B**	2	**A**	3	**D**	4	**B**	5	**C**	6	**B**	7	**C**	8	**D**	9	**D**	10	**B**
11	**B**	12	**A**	13	**C**	14	**D**	15	**B**	16	**D**	17	**C**	18	**C**				

Explanations

1. There are _____ potatoes in the cupboard, but I don't have _____ carrots. I need to buy some.
✔ **B) some / any**
Use **some** in positive sentences and **any** in negative sentences and questions: **There are some potatoes, but I don't have any carrots.** Not **no / a few**, because **I don't have a few carrots** is wrong here: after **don't have** we use **any** to mean 'zero carrots'.

2. A: Have you got _____ brothers or sisters?

B: I have _____ sisters, but I have got two brothers.
✔ **A) any / no**
Use **any** in questions: **Have you got any brothers or sisters?** In the answer, **I have no sisters** means 'I have zero sisters'. **No** goes with a positive verb (**have**), and **but … two brothers** shows the contrast.

3. There aren't _____ coins in the cash register so I need to get _____ change from the bank.
✔ **D) any / some**
Use **any** after a negative verb: **There aren't any coins**. Use **some** in a positive sentence: **get some change**. **Change** is uncountable, so **a few change** is wrong.

4. If you ring the doorbell at half-past six, _____ will be home to answer the door.
✔ **B) someone**
Someone means 'a person'. Only a person can be at home and answer the door, so **something** and **somewhere** don't fit.

5. My neighbour had _____ to park his car, but _____ allowed him to park in their garage.
✔ **C) nowhere / somebody**
Had nowhere to park means there was no place to park his car. **But somebody allowed him** shows that a person helped him. Not **anywhere**, because it needs a negative verb (**didn't have anywhere**).

6. A: How _____ time do you spend studying English?

B: I study English for _____ hours every day.
✔ **B) much / a few**
Time is uncountable, so we ask **How much time**. **Hours** is plural and countable, so we say **a few hours**. Not **How many time**, because **many** is only for countable nouns.

7. I have _____ money on me today; can you lend me _____?
✔ **C) no / some**
I have no money means 'I have zero money'. When we offer or ask for something, we use **some** in the question: **can you lend me some?**

8. There are _____ children but _____ adults in the playground today.
✔ **D) few / a lot of**
Few children means 'not many children'. **But** shows the contrast with **a lot of adults**. Both nouns are countable, so **a little** and **much** are wrong.

9. For dessert, my friend ate _____ chocolate cake and I ate _____ apple pie, but it wasn't a big piece.
✔ **D) some / a little**
Cake and **pie** are used here as uncountable food. **Some chocolate cake** is a normal amount. **A little apple pie** is a small amount, and the clue is **it wasn't a big piece**. Not **a few**, because it goes only with plural countable nouns.

10. _____ knew who the wallet belonged to, so we handed it in to our teacher.
✔ **B) Nobody**
Nobody knew means 'no person knew', so they gave the wallet to the teacher. Not **Anybody**, because at the start of a sentence it doesn't make a negative meaning.

11. _____ can prevent an earthquake, but _____ can do something to lessen its destructive effects.
✔ **B) Nothing / everybody**
Nothing can prevent an earthquake means it is impossible to stop one. **But everybody can do something** means all people can help reduce the damage. Not **Anyone … someone**: **Anyone can prevent an earthquake** is untrue, and it doesn't fit the contrast with **but**.

12. _____ student in my class has a dictionary, so they don't need to ask _____ when they have to learn the meaning of a word.
✔ **A) Every / anyone**
Every student (with a singular noun and **has**) means all the students. They **don't need to ask anyone**: after a negative verb we use **anyone**. Not **no one**, because **don't … no one** is a double negative.

13. Nurdan has looked _____ for her house keys and purse, but she can't find them _____.
✔ **C) everywhere / anywhere**
Looked everywhere means she looked in all places. After the negative **can't find**, we use **anywhere**. Not **nowhere**, because **can't … nowhere** is a double negative.

14. A: Hello, does _____ here speak English? I need a translator.

B: I do, but I have _____ time. I have to go back to work in ten minutes.
✓ D) anyone / very little
Use **anyone** in questions: **Does anyone here speak English? Time** is uncountable. **Very little time** means 'not much time', and the clue is **in ten minutes**. Not **a lot of**, because B is in a hurry.

15. I had _____ health problems last year. Thankfully, this year I haven't had _____ so far.
✓ B) a few / any
Problems is plural and countable, so we say **a few health problems**. In the negative sentence **haven't had**, we use **any**, and it can stand alone without the noun. Not **a lot of**, because it must be followed by a noun.

16. **Jane wanted to clean the forest and park because the rubbish was _____.**
✓ D) harming the animals and plants there
The passage says the rubbish **was harming the wildlife and plants**, and it also **made the area look untidy**. The text doesn't mention rivers or say that all the residents were disturbed.

17. **Which of the following isn't true?**
✓ C) Few people came to the meeting.
The passage says **A lot of people turned up** at the meeting, so **Few people came to the meeting** is not true. All the other options are stated in the text.

18. **The government aims to _____ by introducing recycling in a few weeks.**
✓ C) decrease the amount of rubbish
The passage says the government was planning **to introduce recycling**, **which should reduce the amount of rubbish**. **Decrease** means the same as **reduce**.

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