ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Speak English Around Town Lesson 19 Idioms, Proverbs, Expressions MCQ Test

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1	A	2	B	3	A	4	D	5	B	6	B	7	A	8	C	9	A	10	D

Explanations

1. **(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

Two years ago, I decided to join the Continental Hotel's _____.
✔ **A) rewards program**
A **rewards program** is a plan that gives regular customers points, discounts or free stays. Here, the writer joins the hotel's plan for frequent guests, and the next sentences talk about earning points and getting special offers.

2. I figured it would be _____ since I travel frequently on business.
✔ **B) worth my while**
Worth my while means useful or worth the time and effort. The writer travels a lot, so joining the program will bring real benefits. Not **as a rule**, because **be as a rule** does not make sense here.

3. Whenever I stay at a Continental Hotel, I _____.
✔ **A) earn points**
To **earn points** means to collect points that you can later use for free stays or gifts. This is the main benefit of a rewards program, and the next sentence says the hotel **also** sends special offers.

4. They also send me _____ in the mail.
✔ **D) special offers**
Special offers are deals, such as discounts, that a company sends to its customers. The hotel sends them by mail as another benefit of the program.

5. Last week, my husband and I decided to use the points and spend the weekend in Manhattan. _____, we only travel when we can get a special deal.
✔ **B) As a rule**
As a rule means usually or generally. The couple usually travels only when there is a special deal, so using the points fits their habit: **As a rule, I get up at seven.**

6. When we arrived to _____, the hotel was a _____.
✔ **B) check in**
To **check in** means to arrive at a hotel and register at the front desk. **Arrived to check in** means they arrived in order to register.

7. When we arrived to _____, the hotel was a _____.
✔ **A) zoo**
If a place is **a zoo**, it is very crowded, noisy and busy. The next sentence explains why: a company was holding a big conference there.

8. It turns out that some company was having its annual sales conference there that weekend. _____!
✔ **C) Just our luck**
Just our luck! is said when something bad happens, often at the worst possible time. The couple wanted a relaxing weekend, but the hotel was full of conference guests.

9. The attendees _____ all weekend, partying both nights until 3 a.m.
✔ **A) made a racket**
To **make a racket** means to make a lot of loud noise. The guests were partying until 3 a.m., so they were very noisy. Not **reeked of**, because it needs a noun after it (a smell).

10. The hallways _____ cigarette smoke. We didn't get much sleep, but we did enjoy sightseeing in the city.
✔ **D) reeked of**
To **reek of** something means to smell very strongly and unpleasantly of it: **The hallways reeked of cigarette smoke.** The words **cigarette smoke** after the gap show that a smell is needed.

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