ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Straightforward Pre-intermediate and Intermediate Level Placement Test

English Level Tests · 50 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/straightforward-pre-intermediate-and-intermediate-level-placement-test/

1	**B**	2	**A**	3	**A**	4	**B**	5	**C**	6	**A**	7	**A**	8	**C**	9	**B**	10	**B**
11	**B**	12	**B**	13	**D**	14	**A**	15	**B**	16	**A**	17	**D**	18	**D**	19	**B**	20	**B**
21	**C**	22	**A**	23	**D**	24	**D**	25	**B**	26	**B**	27	**A**	28	**B**	29	**C**	30	**D**
31	**A**	32	**B**	33	**B**	34	**D**	35	**B**	36	**B**	37	**D**	38	**C**	39	**A**	40	**B**
41	**A**	42	**B**	43	**C**	44	**C**	45	**B**	46	**C**	47	**A**	48	**C**	49	**C**	50	**B**

Explanations

1. _____ at school yesterday?
✔ **B) Were you**
You always goes with **were** in the past: **Were you at school yesterday?** Not **Was you**, because **was** is for **I/he/she/it**.

2. -- Is your family large?

-- _____.
✔ **A) Yes, it is.**
The question uses **is your family**, so **family** is treated as one thing (**it**). The short answer repeats the verb: **Yes, it is.**

3. What _____ he want?
✔ **A) does**
In present simple questions with **he/she/it** we use **does**: **What does he want?** Not **do**, because **do** is for **I/you/we/they**.

4. _____ do you have dinner?
✔ **B) What time**
What time asks about the hour: **What time do you have dinner?** – At seven. **When time** is not correct English.

5. He _____ to go home.
✔ **C) didn’t want**
Past simple negative: **didn't** + base verb: **He didn't want to go home.** Not **didn't wanted**, because after **didn't** the verb has no **-ed**.

6. Where _____ to school?
✔ **A) did you go**
Past simple questions use **did** + subject + base verb: **Where did you go to school?** Not **did you went**, because after **did** we use **go**.

7. Latin _____ compulsory in Irish schools, but it isn't now.
✔ **A) used to be**
Used to + verb describes a past situation that is not true now: **Latin used to be compulsory**. The clue is **but it isn't now**. Not **has been**, because the present perfect would mean it is still compulsory.

8. The boy _____ cake when his mother came into the room.
✔ **C) was eating**
Past continuous (**was/were** + **-ing**) is for an action in progress when another action happened: **was eating** … **when his mother came in**. Not **was eat**, because the verb needs **-ing**.

9. There _____ milk for my breakfast.
✔ **B) isn’t any**
In negative sentences we use **any**: **There isn't any milk.** Not **isn't some**, because **some** is usually for positive sentences.

10. _____ people from Poland went to Scotland in the 20th century.
✔ **B) Many**
Many goes directly before a plural noun: **Many people**. Not **Many of**, because **many of** needs **the/my/these** after it: **many of the people**.

11. There are _____ French speakers in Montreal.
✔ **B) a lot of**
A lot of works with plural countable nouns like **speakers**. **Much** and **a little** are for uncountable nouns (**much water**, **a little milk**).

12. She _____ with her friends on Facebook every day.
✔ **B) communicates**
Present simple is for habits; the clue is **every day**. With **she** we add **-s**: **communicates**. Not **is communicating**, because that is for actions happening now.

13. More and more people _____ divorced every year.
✔ **D) are getting**
Present continuous (**are** + **-ing**) describes a trend that is changing now; the clue is **more and more**. **Get divorced** means to end a marriage. **Getting** alone is wrong because it needs **are**.

14. Many, but not all, people _____ get married in a church.
✔ **A) want to**
Want is a state verb and takes a **to**-infinitive, so the present simple **want to** is required (**people want to get married**). **Are wanting to** is wrong because state verbs are not normally used in continuous tenses, **wanting to** lacks a finite auxiliary verb, and **used to want** is missing **to** before **get married** (**used to want to get married**).

15. Would you like _____ to the theatre tonight?
✓ **B) to go**
Would like is followed by **to** + verb: **Would you like to go…?** Not **going**, because **like + -ing** is used with **I like**, not **would like**.

16. I _____ to Peru on holiday next month.
✓ **A) am flying**
Present continuous is used for fixed future plans: **I am flying to Peru next month.** The clue is **next month**. **Will flying** is wrong, because **will** is followed by the base verb.

17. Oh! It _____. I'll take an umbrella with me.
✓ **D) 's raining**
Present continuous (**'s raining**) is for something happening now; the clue is **Oh!** and the umbrella. Not **rains**, because present simple is for habits.

18. -- Do you have any plans for tonight?

-- Yes, we _____ to the cinema.
✓ **D) are going**
For plans already made we use present continuous: **We are going to the cinema.** The clue is **plans for tonight**. Not **will go**, because **will** is for decisions made at the moment of speaking.

19. I plan to _____ two weeks by the beach.
✓ **B) spend**
We **spend** time somewhere: **spend two weeks by the beach**. After **plan to** we need the base verb, so **spending** is wrong.

20. The fast food restaurant was _____ dirty. We didn't eat there.
✓ **B) extremely**
Before an adjective (**dirty**) we need an adverb: **extremely dirty** (= very, very dirty). Not **extreme**, which is an adjective.

21. This restaurant is _____ the one over there.
✓ **C) more traditional than**
Long adjectives make the comparative with **more … than**: **more traditional than**. **Traditionaler** is not a word.

22. My coffee was _____ yours. I almost burned my mouth.
✓ **A) hotter than**
Short adjectives add **-er** + **than**: **hot → hotter than** (double the **t**). Not **hotter as**; we always use **than** after a comparative.

23. The _____ coffee in the world comes from Indonesia.
✓ **D) most expensive**
For the top of a group (**in the world**) we use the superlative. Long adjectives use **the most**: **the most expensive**.

24. I _____ sushi.
✓ **D) have never eaten**
Present perfect: **have** + past participle. **Never** = not at any time: **I have never eaten sushi.** Not **have ever eaten**, because **ever** is used in questions, not positive sentences.

25. She has _____ finished this week's report.
✓ **B) already**
Already goes between **has** and the verb and means 'sooner than expected': **She has already finished.** Not **yet**, which is used in questions and negatives and goes at the end.

26. I don't think you _____ them.
✓ **B) should email**
After **should** we use the base verb without **to**: **you should email them**. Not **should to email**.

27. In the future there _____ cures to the world's worst diseases.
✓ **A) might be**
Might be expresses a future possibility: **there might be cures**. Not **will being**, because **will** is followed by the base verb (**will be**).

28. The space tourists _____ certainly need to be very fit.
✓ **B) will**
Will + **certainly** is used for a confident prediction: **They will certainly need to be fit.** Not **won't**, because the negative order is **certainly won't**, and the meaning would be wrong.

29. If my new company is successful, I _____ employ people to help me.
✓ **C) will be able to**
First conditional: **if** + present, **will** + verb. The future of **can** is **will be able to**. Not **will able to**, because **be** is needed.

30. A famous reality TV show _____ in Sweden in 1997.
✓ **D) was shown**
Past passive: **was/were** + past participle. The show did not do the action, so we say **was shown**; **in 1997** shows the past. Not **is shown**, which is present.

31. The film Avatar was directed _____ James Cameron.
✓ **A) by**
In passive sentences we use **by** to say who did the action: **directed by James Cameron**.

32. I've had my cat _____ 4 years.
✓ **B) for**
For + a period of time: **for 4 years**. **Since** + a point in time: **since 2020**.

33. Her horse is lovely. She _____ it since she was a teenager.
✓ **B) has had**
Present perfect (**has had**) with **since** shows something that started in the past and is still true. Not **had**, because she still has the horse.

34. I've received 33 emails _____.
✓ **D) this week**
Present perfect goes with unfinished time periods like **this week**. Finished times such as **yesterday**, **on Friday** or **two days ago** need past simple.

35. How often have you been to the doctor _____?
✓ **B) in the last twelve months**
Present perfect is used with a period up to now: **in the last twelve months**. **Yesterday**, **last week** and **one year ago** are finished times and need past simple.

36. I was saving up _____ a new computer.
✓ **B) to buy**
We use **to** + verb to give a purpose: **saving up to buy a computer**. Not **for buying**; we say **saving up for a computer** (noun) or **to buy** (verb).

37. You _____ wear a suit to work, but you can if you want.
✓ **D) don't have to**
Don't have to means it is not necessary; the clue is **but you can if you want**. Not **mustn't**, which means it is not allowed.

38. I had to _____ a uniform to school when I was younger.
✔ **C) wear**
After **had to** we use the base verb, and we **wear** clothes: **I had to wear a uniform.**

39. Cecilia knows someone _____ went to the carnival in Rio de Janeiro.
✔ **A) who**
We use **who** for people in relative clauses: **someone who went…** Not **which**, which is for things.

40. Oxfam is a charity _____ tries to find lasting solutions to poverty.
✔ **B) which**
We use **which** (or **that**) for things and organisations: **a charity which tries…** Not **who**, which is for people.

41. A lot of _____ came to Ireland in the 1990s.
✔ **A) immigrants**
Immigrants are people who come to live in a country. **Emigrants** are people who leave their country, so they don't 'come to' Ireland.

42. There was a nice meal and a band at the wedding _____.
✔ **B) reception**
A wedding **reception** is the party after the ceremony, with food and music. The **ceremony** is the part where people get married.

43. I mostly _____ my friends via email.
✔ **C) keep in touch with**
Keep in touch with someone means to keep talking or writing to them: **I keep in touch with my friends via email.** Not **get on well with**, which means to have a good relationship.

44. Bob has had a very interesting _____. He has had jobs in many countries and industries.
✔ **C) career**
A **career** is all the jobs you do during your working life; the clue is **jobs in many countries and industries**. Not **carrier**, which is a different word (a person or company that carries things).

45. She's very successful. Her _____ has risen a lot in the past few years.
✔ **B) salary**
A **salary** is the money you are paid for your job, and it can **rise**. Not **earnings**, because it is plural and would need **have risen**.

46. I am very _____ in old cars.
✔ **C) interested**
Interested in describes how a person feels: **I'm interested in old cars.** Not **interesting**, which describes the thing (**Old cars are interesting**); **keen** and **fond** need **on** and **of**.

47. He _____ his exam because he didn't study.
✔ **A) failed**
Fail an exam means not pass it; the clue is **because he didn't study**.

48. The house will look cleaner when you have finished the _____.
✔ **C) housework**
Housework is cleaning and other jobs in the house. Not **homework**, which is school work you do at home.

49. Stress is not an illness, but it can _____ to many illnesses.
✔ **C) contribute**
Contribute to means to be one of the causes of something: **Stress can contribute to illness.** Not **affect**, because **affect** has no **to** after it.

50. He _____ off his holiday until after the winter.
✔ **B) put**
Put off means to delay something to a later time: **He put off his holiday until after the winter. Call off** means to cancel.

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com