ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Synonymous Sentences Paraphrasing/Restatement MCQ Test With Answers – Mini Comprehension Exercise 4

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

Explanations

1. Choose the "restatement" that is closest in meaning to the original sentence. More than one choice may be factually correct, but you should choose the one that is the closest "restatement" of the first sentence.

Whether you're a mother, a mother-to-be or not even thinking about being a mom, there is still something to interest you in this book.
✓ E) You would be wise to read this book if you are already a mother, or if you are shortly to become a mother, or even if you have no intention of ever becoming a mother.
The original says the book has something for every woman: a **mother**, a **mother-to-be** (shortly to become a mother) and a woman **not even thinking about being a mom** (no intention of becoming one). Only this option keeps all three groups and the idea that the book is worth reading. The other options add ideas that are not in the original: marriage secrets, a comparison, men, or who wrote the book.

2. ***I'm going to ask him to let me know if he runs across any other such novellas with a historical connection.***
✓ D) I am fond of historical novellas and I think he may help me find more of them; I really enjoyed the one he told me about.
Run across is a phrasal verb meaning **come across** or **find by chance**. The speaker wants him to report any more historical novellas he finds, and **other such novellas** shows that he has already mentioned one. This option keeps that meaning: the speaker likes these books and hopes he can help find more. The wrong options read **run across** literally, as running.

3. ***I would have given you one free of charge if I had known that you had to have one.***
✓ E) I wasn't aware that you were in great need of one of these; otherwise, I would have given you one and asked for no money in return.
This is a third conditional about the past. **If I had known** means the speaker did **not** know you needed one, and **I would have given you one free of charge** means they would have charged nothing. The answer keeps both ideas: **I wasn't aware … otherwise, I would have given you one and asked for no money**. Not the option with **If you had convinced me**: the original is about not knowing, not about being persuaded.

4. ***Driven by an understandable desire to obtain good arable land, the Chalmuks constantly sought to expand their territories by hook or by crook.***
✓ B) The Chalmuks were always after adding new lands to their territories because they were aware that their own lands weren't good enough for crop plantation.
Arable land is land good for growing crops, and **by hook or by crook** means by any possible means. The Chalmuks **constantly sought to expand their territories** because they wanted good farmland, which suggests their own land was not good enough. Only this option keeps both the constant expansion and the reason for it. The others contradict the original: they make the Chalmuks dislike farming or not want good land, call them peaceful buyers, or have neighbours giving land away.

5. ***Alas! A friend of mine had warned me that selling such a large quantity of shares without consulting an expert might be rather unwise.***
✓ A) I am sorry that I did not heed my friend's advice; he had advised me to consult an expert if I was intending to sell any such large quantity of shares.
Alas! expresses regret, and the past perfect **had warned** suggests the speaker ignored the warning and sold the shares anyway. The answer shows this regret (**I am sorry that I did not heed my friend's advice**) and repeats the advice to consult an expert. Not the option with **an expert's permission**: the friend spoke about advice, not permission. **Alas** is not a name, either.

6. ***No one disagrees that the environment has to be protected, but should this really take priority over economic development?***
✓ C) Everyone agrees that protection of the environment is a must, but some think that economic development is even more important.
No one disagrees means everyone agrees that the environment must be protected. The question **should this really take priority over economic development?** shows doubt: perhaps economic development matters more. The answer keeps both parts: general agreement, then the opposing view. The distractors either say the environment comes first or claim that everyone puts economic development first.

7. ***I have no idea how he may be persuaded that the project is already nothing but stillborn.***
✓ A) I just don't know how anyone will manage to make him understand that this project is already dead.
Stillborn literally means **born dead**. Used about a plan or project, it means it failed before it really began. **Nothing but** means **only** or **simply**, so the project is simply dead, and the speaker doesn't know how to make him accept this. The answer says the same: **this project is already dead**. The options with **still not born** misread **stillborn** as **not born yet**.

8. ***I very much doubt that he is experienced enough to be given a position of such responsibility.***
✓ E) I am almost certain that he's not experienced enough to be appointed to such a responsible position.
I very much doubt that means the speaker is nearly sure the statement is **not** true. So the speaker is **almost certain that he's not experienced enough** for such a responsible position. Not the option **I'm not at all sure that he will fail**: it reverses the meaning and suggests he might succeed.

9. ***However much effort she put into it, she could not put things right between herself and her husband.***
✓ D) She tried all she could, but her relationship with her husband showed no improvement.
However much effort she put into it means **no matter how hard she tried**, and **could not put things right** means the problem stayed. So she tried everything, but the relationship did not improve. The distractors wrongly say she did not try hard enough or should have tried harder, which contradicts **however much effort**.

10. ***However hard he tries, he will never again enjoy the confidence of his wife as much as he did before.***
✓ E) No matter what he does, she is not likely to trust him ever again in the same degree as she used to.
However hard he tries means **no matter what he does**. **He will never again enjoy the confidence of his wife as much as before** means she will never trust him as fully as she used to. The answer keeps both ideas. Not the option **there is a good chance that his wife will begin to trust him again**: it reverses the meaning. The option **have confidence in his wife** is also wrong, because the original is about her trust in him, not his trust in her.

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