ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Use of English Vocabulary Test A

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1	**B**	2	**A**	3	**B**	4	**A**	5	**D**	6	**C**	7	**D**	8	**A**	9	**A**	10	**B**
11	**D**	12	**B**	13	**A**	14	**C**	15	**C**										

Explanations

1. **(Please note: Questions 1-15 are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

What Teenagers Do With Their Money

Thirteen-year-olds do not spend as much money as their parents suspect - at least not according to the findings of a _____ survey, Money and Change.
✔ **B) recent**
Recent means 'done or made not long ago': **a recent survey**. Not **latest**, because it normally follows **the** or a possessive (**the latest survey**), not **a**. **Late** does not mean 'new' here, and **fresh** is not used with **survey**.

2. The survey _____ three hundred teenagers, 13-17 years old, from _____ Britain.
✔ **A) included**
Include is used for the people who are part of a survey or group: **The survey included 300 teenagers**. **Contain** is for things inside something (**The box contains books**), and **enclose** means to put something in an envelope or surround it.

3. The survey _____ three hundred teenagers, 13-17 years old, from _____ Britain.
✔ **B) all over**
All over + place means 'in every part of': **from all over Britain**. Not **the whole**, because before a country name we say **the whole of Britain**. **Entire** and **complete** cannot go straight before a country name either.

4. By the time they _____ their teens, most children see their weekly allowance rise dramatically to an amazing national average of £5.14.
✔ **A) reach**
We **reach** an age or a stage of life: **reach their teens**. **Reach** takes a direct object. Not **arrive**, because it needs **at** or **in**, and **get** would need **to** (**get to their teens**).

5. Two-thirds think they get _____ money, but most expect to have to do something to get it.
✔ **D) enough**
Enough means 'as much as you need' and goes naturally before a noun: **get enough money**. **Adequate**, **acceptable** and **satisfactory** are more formal and describe quality, so they sound unnatural with **get ... money** here.

6. Although they have more cash, worry about debt is _____ among teenagers.
✔ **C) increasing**
Increasing means 'becoming greater'. It can be used without an object: **worry about debt is increasing**. Not **raising**, because **raise** needs an object (**raise prices**). **Gaining** and **heightening** also normally need an object (**gaining ground**, **heightening fears**).

7. Therefore, the _____ of children _____ an effort to save for the future.
✔ **D) majority**
The majority of means 'most of' or 'more than half of': **the majority of children**. Not **most**, because we say **most children** or **most of the children**, never **the most of children**.

8. Therefore, the _____ of children _____ an effort to save for the future.
✔ **A) make**
The fixed collocation is **make an effort** (to try hard to do something). We never say **do an effort** or **have an effort**, and **try** cannot take **an effort** as its object.

9. Greater access to cash _____ teenagers does not, however, mean that they are more irresponsible _____ a result.
✔ **A) among**
Among is used for a group of people: **access to cash among teenagers**, meaning in this group. Not **between**, which is normally used for two people or things, or for clearly separate ones.

10. Greater access to cash _____ teenagers does not, however, mean that they are more irresponsible _____ a result.
✔ **B) as**
As a result is a fixed phrase meaning 'because of this'. Not **for**, **in** or **like**, because these do not form this phrase.

11. The economic recession seems to have encouraged _____ attitudes to money, even in the case of children at these ages.
✔ **D) cautious**
Cautious means 'careful and avoiding risk'. The passage says the recession has made teenagers save more, so their attitude to money is careful: **cautious attitudes to money**. **Aware** is followed by **of** (**aware of the risks**), and **helpful** does not fit the meaning.

12. Instead of wasting what pocket _____ they have on sweets or magazines, the 13-year-olds who took _____ in the survey seem to _____ to the situation by saving more than half _____ their cash.
✔ B) money
Pocket money is a fixed expression for the small amount of money parents give children regularly. The earlier sentence calls it a **weekly allowance**. **Pocket cash** and **pocket change** are not used with this meaning.

13. Instead of wasting what pocket _____ they have on sweets or magazines, the 13-year-olds who took _____ in the survey seem to _____ to the situation by saving more than half _____ their cash.
✔ A) part
Take part in means 'to join in or participate': **took part in the survey**. Not **place**, because **take place** means 'happen' and is not followed by a person doing the activity.

14. Instead of wasting what pocket _____ they have on sweets or magazines, the 13-year-olds who took _____ in the survey seem to _____ to the situation by saving more than half _____ their cash.
✔ C) respond
Respond to a situation means to react to it by doing something. Here the teenagers react by saving more. **Reply** and **answer** are used for questions, letters or people, not for situations.

15. Instead of wasting what pocket _____ they have on sweets or magazines, the 13-year-olds who took _____ in the survey seem to _____ to the situation by saving more than half _____ their cash.
✔ C) of
Before a determiner such as **their**, we use **half of**: **more than half of their cash**. **From**, **as** and **for** cannot follow **half** in this way.

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