ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Use of English Vocabulary Test O

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

The Big Day

Whatever candidates may think about examiners, they are not in fact _____ monsters, dripping red ink instead of blood, but ordinary people who will do their best to pass candidates as _____ as candidates follow certain basic rules of the game.
✔ **D) insensitive**
Insensitive means not caring about other people's feelings, which suits the image of cruel 'monsters'. The negative prefix for **sensitive** is **in-**. Not **insensible**, which means unconscious or unaware.

2. Whatever candidates may think about examiners, they are not in fact _____ monsters, dripping red ink instead of blood, but ordinary people who will do their best to pass candidates as _____ as candidates follow certain basic rules of the game.
✔ **C) long**
As long as means 'on condition that': examiners will pass you **as long as** you follow the rules. Not **as soon as**, which is about time, not about a condition.

3. Many candidates are _____ in the First Certificate not because their English is _____ but because they are _____ about the requirements of the examination.
✔ **D) unsuccessful**
To be **unsuccessful in** an exam means to fail it. The sentence explains why candidates fail: not their English, but their lack of knowledge about the exam.

4. Many candidates are _____ in the First Certificate not because their English is _____ but because they are _____ about the requirements of the examination.
✔ **A) inadequate**
Inadequate means not good enough. The sentence says candidates fail not because their English is **not good enough**, but for another reason. Not **illegible**, which describes handwriting that cannot be read.

5. Many candidates are _____ in the First Certificate not because their English is _____ but because they are _____ about the requirements of the examination.
✔ **A) ill-informed**
Ill-informed means not having enough correct information. Candidates fail because they do not know enough **about the requirements** of the exam. **Informed** is positive and does not fit; **dissinformed** and **mal-informed** are not English words.

6. Before you _____ for the examination, make sure you know what is expected of you; you are _____ to do well unless you answer all the questions set, and don't include _____ material.
✔ **D) sit**
After time words like **before**, **when** and **after**, we use the present simple for the future: **Before you sit for the exam…**. Not **will sit**, because **will** is not used after **before** in this kind of clause.

7. Before you _____ for the examination, make sure you know what is expected of you; you are _____ to do well unless you answer all the questions set, and don't include _____ material.
✔ **C) unlikely**
Be unlikely to do something means it will probably not happen: **you are unlikely to do well**. Not **impossible**, which is too strong and is not normally followed by a personal subject + **to**-infinitive in this way.

8. Before you _____ for the examination, make sure you know what is expected of you; you are _____ to do well unless you answer all the questions set, and don't include _____ material.
✔ **A) irrelevant**
Irrelevant material is information that has nothing to do with the question. The advice is to answer the questions set and not to add unconnected information. Not **illogical**, which means not based on clear reasoning.

9. Don't start writing as _____ as you get the paper - think first, write _____!
✔ **D) soon**
As soon as means 'immediately when': **Don't start writing as soon as you get the paper**. The other words do not form a fixed expression with **as … as** here.

10. Don't start writing as _____ as you get the paper - think first, write _____!
✔ **C) later**
Later means at a time after now, contrasting with **first**: **think first, write later**. Not **lately**, which means 'recently' (**I haven't seen him lately**).

11. If part of an answer is incorrect, you _____ cross it out and write the preferred answer neatly above it.
✔ **C) should**
Should is used to give advice or instructions: **you should cross it out**. Not **have**, because it would need **to** (**have to**).

12. If your handwriting _____ illegible, it will be difficult for the examiner to give you credit for it, _____ it is right or _____.
✔ **D) is**
This is a first conditional: **If** + present simple, **will** + verb. **If your handwriting is illegible, it will be difficult…**. Not **were** or **was**, which belong to the second conditional (**would**).

13. If your handwriting _____ illegible, it will be difficult for the examiner to give you credit for it, _____ it is right or _____.
✔ **C) whether**
Whether … or not shows that something is true in both cases: the examiner cannot give credit **whether it is right or not**. Not **if**, which is not normally used in the pattern **it is right or not** after a comma like this.

14. If your handwriting _____ illegible, it will be difficult for the examiner to give you credit for it, _____ it is right or _____.
✔ **D) not**
The fixed pattern is **whether … or not**. Not **false**, because the natural opposite of **right** is **wrong**, and the set expression here is **or not**.

15. You will also lose marks if your essay is written in an _____ style for the type of writing and intended audience.
✔ **C) inappropriate**
Inappropriate means not suitable: a style that does not suit the type of writing or the readers. The negative prefix for **appropriate** is **in-**; **unappropriate** and **disappropriate** are not words, and **misappropriate** means to steal money.

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