ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About PUPILS Choose The Correct Answer MCQ Exercise 37

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Explanations

1. The children can get to school ten minutes earlier if they take a short _____ through the park.
✔ **A) cut**
A **short cut** (also **shortcut**) is a quicker way to get somewhere. Example: **We took a short cut across the field.**

2. When Mr Obsequious was at school, he won first _____ for good behaviour.
✔ **C) prize**
We say **win first prize** for winning a competition or award. Not **price**, which is how much something costs.

3. This is an exciting book which _____ new ground in educational research.
✔ **A) breaks**
The idiom **break new ground** means to do something new that nobody has done before. The other verbs do not form this idiom.

4. Little Tom did not like his first _____ at school at all.
✔ **D) term**
A **term** is one of the parts of the school year, e.g. **the autumn term**. A **period** is a single lesson, not a long part of the year.

5. We all laughed at his _____ of the teacher.
✔ **C) imitation**
An **imitation** is copying the way someone speaks or behaves, often to make people laugh. Not **mimic**: as a noun, a mimic is the person who does the imitating.

6. They had lunch together in the school _____.
✔ **C) canteen**
A **canteen** is a room in a school, factory or office where people eat meals. A **restaurant** or **bar** is a public business, not part of a school.

7. You could _____ all the worthwhile information in this article into one page.
✔ **A) condense**
To **condense** a text means to make it shorter while keeping the important information: **condense an article into one page**. **Shorten** does not go naturally with **into one page** and does not suggest keeping the important points.

8. Sue's teacher _____ her to improve her drawing.
✔ **A) encouraged**
The pattern is **encourage someone to do something**. Not **made**: we say **made her improve**, without **to**. **Insisted** and **persisted** are never followed by **her to**.

9. We all make mistakes; no-one is _____.
✔ **B) infallible**
Infallible means never making mistakes. The sentence says everyone makes mistakes, so **no-one is infallible**. **Fallible** means the opposite, able to make mistakes.

10. It's your _____ that we're late for school again.
✔ **B) fault**
It's your fault means you are responsible for something bad. Not **mistake**: we say **you made a mistake**, not **it's your mistake that…**

11. I think you should _____ that matter with your teacher.
✔ **C) discuss**
Discuss takes a direct object: **discuss a matter with someone**. **Complain** and **enquire** need a preposition (**complain about**, **enquire about**).

12. Since Oscar had no proper reason for missing school, his absence should be treated as _____.
✔ **D) truancy**
Truancy means staying away from school without permission or a good reason. The clue is **no proper reason for missing school**.

13. If pupils are to understand the notice, the instructions must be _____ clearer.
✔ **C) made**
The pattern is **make something + adjective**, so in the passive it becomes **be made clearer**. Not **wrote**: this is the past simple, and the passive would need **written**, which also does not fit before **clearer**.

14. You are late again - please try to be _____ in future.
✔ **C) punctual**
Punctual means arriving on time. The clue is **You are late again**. **Reliable** is too general and is not specifically about time.

15. An IQ test is supposed to measure the _____ of your intelligence.
✔ **C) level**
An IQ test measures the **level** of your intelligence, meaning how high or low it is. **Height** is used for physical things, such as how tall something is, and **extent** means how far something reaches or how big it is.

16. You are not very _____ today, Hugh. What's the matter? I've never known you so quiet.
✓ **D) talkative**
Talkative means liking to talk a lot. The clue is **I've never known you so quiet**. **Chattering** and **talking** are verb forms, so they are not normally used after **very** to describe a person.

17. Those pupils never _____ any notice of what their teacher says.
✓ **D) take**
The fixed phrase is **take notice of something**, meaning to pay attention to it. We do not say **give notice of** or **make notice of** with this meaning.

18. Annie is already twelve but she hasn't learned to _____ the time yet.
✓ **D) tell**
We say **tell the time**, meaning to be able to read a clock. Not **say the time**: that means speaking the time aloud, not the skill of reading a clock.

19. Patrick _____ the whole morning looking for his essay, but still couldn't find it.
✓ **D) spent**
The pattern is **spend time doing something**: **spent the whole morning looking**. **Passed the morning** exists, but it is not followed by an **-ing** verb in this way.

20. Rita is not _____ of doing this work, so she should change her class.
✓ **A) capable**
The pattern is **capable of doing something**, meaning able to do it. **Fit** and **suitable** take **for**, and **possible** is not used about a person in this way.

21. After he broke the window, the boy was _____ from school.
✓ **C) expelled**
Expelled means officially made to leave a school as a punishment. Not **evicted**: that is used for making someone leave a house or flat.

22. A child's first five years are the most important as far as learning is _____.
✓ **B) concerned**
The fixed phrase **as far as something is concerned** means 'when we talk about something'. Example: **As far as money is concerned, we're fine.**

23. It takes a great deal of _____ for the class to make a trip abroad.
✓ **D) organisation**
Organisation (uncountable) means the work of planning and arranging something. **It takes a great deal of organisation** is a natural phrase. **Arrangement** in this sense is usually plural (**arrangements**), so it does not fit after **a great deal of**.

24. There is no _____ in going to school if you're not willing to learn.
✓ **B) point**
The fixed phrase is **there is no point in doing something**, meaning it is useless. Not **reason**: we say **there is no reason to go**, not **no reason in going**.

25. There are three of us and there is only one book so we'll have to _____ it.
✓ **C) share**
Share means to use something together with other people. **Divide** and **split** mean cutting something into parts, which you cannot do with one book.

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