ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Word Formation Test Exercises – Multiple Choice Questions With Answers – Advanced Level 40

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Explanations

1. He has been living _____ since he left Turkey.
✔ **C) abroad**
Abroad is an adverb meaning 'in or to a foreign country': **live abroad**, **study abroad**. It needs no preposition or article. Not **foreigner**, which is a noun for a person; you cannot 'live foreigner'.

2. The members have been _____ the subject for six hours but they haven't come to an _____ yet.
✔ **E) debating / agreement**
Debate a subject means discuss it formally from different sides. **Come to an agreement** (also **reach an agreement**) is a fixed collocation, and **an** fits before the vowel sound. Not **common point**: we say **find common ground**, and 'an common point' is wrong anyway.

3. A good dictionary is an important _____ in learning a new language.
✔ **D) aid**
An **aid** is something that helps you do something: **a learning aid**, **a teaching aid**, **a hearing aid**. A dictionary is a typical **aid to learning**. Not **aim**, which means a goal, not a tool.

4. The tourists were very much _____ when they saw the magnificent mosques in Istanbul.
✔ **B) amazed**
Amazed (-ed adjective) describes how a person feels: very surprised and impressed. Not **surprising**: -ing adjectives describe the thing that causes the feeling (**the mosques were surprising**), not the people.

5. He became a rich man after he was _____ a great deal of money by his aunt whom he had never seen before.
✔ **E) bequeathed**
Bequeath means to leave money or property to someone in your will. The passive **be bequeathed something by someone** fits the sentence. Not **inherited**: the person who receives the money **inherits** it (**he inherited money from his aunt**), so 'he was inherited money' is wrong.

6. The secretary has become quite _____ to the company because no one knows the filing system except for her.
✔ **C) indispensable**
Indispensable means so important that you cannot manage without it or them. The clue is that only she knows the filing system. Not **influential**, which means having power over others' decisions and does not follow from knowing a filing system.

7. No one can say that he is trying to deceive us. I've known him since he was a child, and he has always been quite _____ about things.
✔ **A) straightforward**
Straightforward about a person means honest and open, not trying to hide or trick. This matches 'no one can say he is trying to deceive us'. Not **truth**, which is a noun; after **quite** we need an adjective (**truthful**).

8. We stopped to let each other talk, then we started talking _____, and laughed at each other.
✔ **B) simultaneously**
Simultaneously means at exactly the same time. They both started talking together and laughed. Not **same time**, which needs **at the**: **at the same time**. Not **meanwhile**, which means 'during the time that something else happens'.

9. The bus is not _____ to come so we'd better go on foot as it is not very far.
✔ **D) likely**
The pattern is **be likely to do something**, meaning it will probably happen: **The bus is not likely to come.** Not **probably**: it is an adverb and cannot follow **is not** before **to come**. We say **it probably won't come**.

10. In a democracy, if there is a _____ decision, anything can be done even if the decision is not reasonable.
✔ **E) majority**
A **majority decision** is one made by more than half of the people voting, which is the basis of democracy. Not **minority**: a minority cannot normally decide alone in a democracy.

11. If necessary _____ are not taken immediately, there will be more teenagers smoking in the near future.
✔ **D) measures**
The collocation is **take measures**, meaning take official actions to deal with a problem: **take necessary measures**. Not **decisions**: we **make** decisions, not 'take' them in this sense. Not **bans**: bans are **imposed**, not 'taken'.

12. His confidence is just a way of hiding his _____.
✔ **E) insecurity**
Insecurity is a lack of confidence in yourself. The sentence contrasts what people see (confidence) with what he hides (its opposite). Not **security**, which is the opposite of what he is hiding.

13. At his grandfather's funeral, the young man tried not to cry, but he was grieving _____.
✔ **B) inwardly**
Inwardly means inside your mind, without showing it to others. The clue is 'tried not to cry, but': his sadness was hidden. Not **sincerely**: it means honestly and does not give the contrast with not showing feelings. **Mindly** is not an English word.

14. I think there is no _____ for his vulgar behaviour because it is completely his own fault.
✔ **A) justification**
Justification is a good reason that shows something is right or acceptable: **there is no justification for such behaviour**. Not **justice**, which means fairness in law or treatment.

15. He is 18 years old so he is too old to be tried as a _____ delinquent.
✔ **D) juvenile**
Juvenile delinquent is a fixed legal term for a young person under 18 who commits crimes. Not **youth**: we say **youth offender**, not 'youth delinquent'.

16. In big supermarkets one can find a good _____ of goods.
✔ **B) selection**
A good selection of means a wide choice or range of things: **a good selection of goods**. Not **alternatives**, because after **a** we need a singular noun.

17. Investigation _____ that a long separation of a child from his mother can lead to psychological problems.
✔ **C) indicates**
Indicate means to show or suggest that something is true. It is common with research findings: **Research indicates that…**. Not **entails**, which means 'involves as a necessary part' and is not used to report findings.

18. What can be more beautiful than walking slowly along a beach on a _____ summer night?
✔ **D) serene**
Serene means calm, peaceful and quiet: **a serene summer night**. It matches the idea of walking slowly and enjoying beauty. Not **windy** or **unpredictable**, which do not fit the peaceful picture. **Tremendously** is an adverb and cannot describe a noun.

19. The first _____ of Parliament will begin in March.
✔ **A) session**
A **session** is a period of time when a parliament or court meets regularly to do its work: **the parliamentary session begins in March**. It **begins** and lasts for weeks or months. Not **strike**, which is workers refusing to work.

20. The earliest _____ of America, as far as we know, were the Native Americans.
✔ **A) inhabitants**
Inhabitants are the people who live in a place. The **earliest inhabitants** were the first people to live there. Not **immigrants** or **settlements**: immigrants come from another country, and settlements are places, not people.

21. Some fruits, such as oranges, are _____ in summer and cost a lot.
✔ **E) scarce**
Scarce means there is not enough of something, so it is hard to get. That is why it costs a lot. Not **rarely**, which is an adverb and cannot follow **are** like this. Not **hard**, which would need **hard to find**.

22. Coffee and tea contain caffeine, which is a _____.
✔ **B) stimulant**
A **stimulant** is a substance that makes your body or brain more active. Caffeine is a typical example. Not **influence**: it is a general noun for power over something, not a type of substance. **Couraging** is not a word.

23. Most paragraphs have one sentence which expresses the general idea or _____ of the paragraph.
✔ **C) topic**
The **topic** is what a paragraph is about. The sentence that states it is called the **topic sentence**. Not **title** or **headline**: these belong to a whole text or article, not to one sentence inside a paragraph.

24. It is said that there is a big _____ between brown and white rice.
✔ **E) difference**
A big difference between A and B is the standard way to say two things are not the same. Not **distinguished**, which is an adjective (famous and respected) and cannot follow **a big**.

25. _____, who are experts on diet and health, say that there are thirteen vitamins that our bodies need.
✔ **D) Nutritionists**
Nutritionists are experts who study food and how it affects health. The clue is 'experts on diet and health' and the topic of vitamins. Not **authorities**, which is too general a word for officials or experts of any kind.

26. According to the _____ of advertising, consumers can shop more intelligently as a result of advertising.
✔ **D) advocates**
Advocates are people who publicly support an idea or policy: **advocates of advertising** argue that it helps consumers. Not **opponents**, who are against advertising and would not praise it. Not **critiques**, which are written reviews, not people.

27. _____ pulls down the top of a dome, and the dome tends to move outward.
✔ **B) Gravity**
Gravity is the force that pulls things down towards the earth. It pulls the top of the dome down, which pushes the sides outward. Not **acceleration**, which is an increase in speed, not a force that pulls.

28. Scientists have found a direct _____ between smoking and lung cancer.
✔ **A) link**
A direct link between A and B means a clear connection, especially cause and effect. Not **correlative** or **corresponding**: these are adjectives, and we need a noun after **a direct**.

29. The Grand _____ in Istanbul is one of the oldest shopping centres in the world.
✔ **B) Bazaar**
A **bazaar** is a market with many small shops or stalls, typical of the Middle East. The **Grand Bazaar** in Istanbul is one of the oldest covered markets in the world.

30. He is like a satanic figure because he approaches people and argues, _____ like a snake.
✔ **B) hissing**
Hiss is the sound a snake makes, a long 'sss'. People can also **hiss** angry words through their teeth. Not **whispering**, which is speaking very quietly and is not linked to snakes. **Roaring** is the sound of a lion.

31. John is very shy. That's why he has great difficulties in oral _____ although he is a very hardworking student.
✔ **C) exams**
Oral exams are exams where you speak instead of writing, which is hard for a shy person. The clue is 'hardworking student'. Not **speech**: 'oral speech' repeats the same idea, and **speech** does not fit the student context.

32. The guests saluted each other, touched glasses with a _____ and clapped.
✔ **E) clink**
A **clink** is the short, light sound of glass or metal touching: **glasses touched with a clink**. Not **crack**, which is the sound of something breaking.

33. When we first came to this university they gave us a _____ room that was so small that we decided to rent a small house instead.
✔ **D) dormitory**
A **dormitory** is a building or room where students live at a university or school. Not **gymnasium**, which is a room for sport.

34. Toni Morrison was one of the most famous _____ writers; her novels describe the lives of black families in the USA.
✔ **E) African-American**
African-American describes Americans whose families came from Africa. The clue is 'black families in the USA'. The older form **Afro-American** is now rare. Not **Indian**, which refers to India or to Native Americans, not to black Americans.

35. Turkey, the UK and the USA are all members of _____, a military alliance founded in 1949.
✔ **D) NATO**
NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organization) is a military alliance founded in 1949. Turkey, the UK and the USA are members. Not **OPEC**, an organisation of oil-exporting countries, nor **UNESCO**, a UN agency for education, science and culture.

36. We rented _____ which could carry 60 passengers and drove to Abant for a picnic last week.
✔ **E) a coach**
In British English a **coach** is a comfortable bus for long journeys and trips, often rented by groups. The clues are 'drove' and '60 passengers'. Not **an automobile**: a car carries only a few people.

37. The _____ of this book made some unforgivable mistakes because he didn't take into consideration the differences between the source text and the target text.
✔ **E) translator**
A **translator** changes a text from one language (the **source text**) into another (the **target text**). Ignoring the differences between them is a translation mistake. Not **author**: the author writes the original book and has no source or target text.

38. When Aladdin's genie said _____, the Statue of Liberty disappeared at the same time.
✔ **C) hocus-pocus**
Hocus-pocus is a magic word that magicians say when doing a trick. It can also mean tricks or nonsense meant to deceive. Not **teeny-weeny** (very small) or **roly-poly** (round and fat), which describe size and shape.

39. The _____ is the main food of the fast-food culture and is nowadays very popular throughout the world.
✔ **D) hamburger**
The **hamburger** is the typical food of fast-food restaurants and is popular all over the world. Not **lahmacun**, a Turkish dish that is not the symbol of global fast-food culture.

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