

English, 2016 EC, common, entrance exam

Grade 12 · English · 2016 E.C.

MARKING KEY — CONFIDENTIAL

Time allowed: 120 minutes

Questions: 30

Total marks: 30

1. I. COMMUNICATIVE ACTIVITIES

(1)

Directions: Questions from 1-20 are presented in the form of conversations. The part said by one of the speakers is given, and a blank space is left for the other. Choose the alternative that is most appropriate to complete the dialogue.

#Father: It is getting too cloudy but the forecast has it that the day will be dry.

#Daughter: Dad! _____ rain. Let's rather rush home.

A. When it is dry, there is no

B. I heard it is unlikely to

C. If the day is cloudy, it may not

D. ✓ **There is no doubt it will**

Answer: D

The daughter tells her father to rush home, so she is sure rain is coming.

Only D, "There is no doubt it will rain", predicts rain. B says rain is unlikely and C says it may not rain, so neither one explains the hurry.

Rule: In a dialogue item, choose the reply that agrees with what the same speaker says next.

2. Yonas: _____ You seem to be busy.

(1)

Sorome: My glasses! Have you seen them?

A. ✓ **What are you looking for?**

B. Haven't you found your glasses?

C. What are you doing?

D. Where are your glasses?

Answer: A

Sorome answers "My glasses! Have you seen them?", so she is searching for something.

A asks exactly that: "What are you looking for?"

D, "Where are your glasses?", is tempting, but Yonas cannot name the glasses before Sorome mentions them.

Rule: The missing line must fit the answer that comes right after it.

3. Gelebo: I hope you gave the money to Mom.

(1)

Dandero: _____ it was stolen. It should be in a ta

A. How much was it? Perhaps

B. The thieves, and

C. I hope you will forgive me, but

D. ✓ **Unfortunately, I didn't, so**

Answer: D

Gelebo asks whether the money reached Mom, so the reply must first answer yes or no.

D answers no and then links the loss to it: "Unfortunately, I didn't, so it was stolen."

C only asks for forgiveness and never answers the question, so the word "so" would have nothing to explain.

The last sentence of this item is cut off in our copy, but the missing words do not change the answer.

4. Aster: Is he your husband? I haven't met him before. (1)
Lidya: Come on, _____ How dare you?
- A. I love my husband. B. why do you ask?
C. my husband is handsome. D. ✓ **what do you mean?**

Answer: D

Lidya is offended, and "How dare you?" shows her anger.

"Come on, what do you mean?" challenges the hidden idea behind Aster's question.

B, "why do you ask?", is calm and polite, so it does not match the anger that follows.

5. Teacher: I don't know why but I am feeling very dizzy. (1)
Friend: _____ see your doctor immediately. Right now!
- A. ✓ **You had better** B. You might
C. It may be good to D. Oh! Perhaps

Answer: A

The friend gives strong, urgent advice, and "Right now!" proves how urgent it is.

"You had better" plus the base verb "see" is the strongest advice form among the options.

"You might" and "It may be good to" only hint, so they are too weak for a person who feels very dizzy.

Textbook: Grade 10 English, Unit 1 grammar (should, ought to and had better).

6. Tutu: I am leaving for US on Monday. US, California. (1)
Titi: _____ Could you repeat that, please?
- A. ✓ **Sorry, I didn't catch that.** B. Are you trying to fool me?
C. Are you leaving on Monday? D. That is too good to begrue.

Answer: A

Titi asks "Could you repeat that, please?", so she did not hear the message clearly.

A, "Sorry, I didn't catch that", is the normal polite way to say you did not hear something.

Think of "catch" here as catching a ball: the words were thrown, but Titi missed them.

Option D is misprinted in our copy, but it is not the answer.

7. Emebet: _____ I have won a scholarship to Germany. (1)
Genet: Are you serious? That is like a lottery.
- A. I have been trying for long. B. What a scholarship!
C. ✓ **You won't believe this but** D. I like German universities.

Answer: C

Genet reacts with "Are you serious? That is like a lottery", so the news surprised her.

C, "You won't believe this but", is the usual way to introduce surprising news.

A and D only give background, so they would not earn such an excited reaction.

8. You: Why should they go at this time of the year (1)
Friend: _____, the weather is great now. Business is also recovering.
- A. You may not take it B. To be certain
C. The convincing reason D. ✓ **To give you an idea**

Answer: D

The friend is about to give reasons: the weather is great and business is recovering.

"To give you an idea" introduces those reasons and fits before a full sentence.

C, "The convincing reason", is only a noun phrase, so it cannot join the next clause without a verb such as "is that".

9. Mamusha: You've got a nice car. It looks great. (1)
Yaya: Sure, but _____
- A. ✓ **it is not very good, I'm afraid.** B. it is brand new straight from Japan.
C. it is as fast as yours. D. it is not as fast as yours.

Answer: A

The word "but" tells you the second part must disagree with the praise "It looks great".

A gives that contrast: the car looks fine, yet Yaya admits it is not really good.

D talks about speed, but nobody mentioned speed, so it contrasts with nothing in the dialogue.

Rule: After "but", expect an idea that goes against what was just said.

10. Mom: Why don't you buy yourself better shoes, son? (1)
Son: _____ I'll buy top-quality ones.
- A. ✓ **If Dad gives me more money,** B. All shoes in the town are bad, but
C. I like these shoes, Mom D. These ones are fine, but

Answer: A

The son will buy top-quality shoes, so the blank must give the condition that is missing today.

A supplies it: "If Dad gives me more money, I'll buy top-quality ones."

D says these shoes are fine, which removes any reason to buy new ones.

Rule: First conditional: "if" plus present tense in one clause, "will" plus base verb in the other.

11. Kenan: I've been to five different countries and they're all in Europe. (1)
Robel: _____ is that true and why did you go?
- A. Let me see B. ✓ **Pardon**
C. Please wait D. I'm sorry

Answer: B

Robel is surprised and wants Kenan to confirm the claim about five countries.

"Pardon?" asks the speaker to repeat or confirm what you have just heard, so it leads well into "is that true".

"Let me see" and "Please wait" ask for time to think, which does not fit a question about truth.

12. Umod: I don't like raw meat. How does it taste? (1)
Shola: _____ But most Ethiopians are enjoying it.
- A. ✓ **I don't either** B. So do I
C. Neither don't I D. Either do I

Answer: A

Umod's sentence is negative, "I don't like raw meat", and Shola agrees with him.

To agree with a negative sentence you say "I don't either" or "Neither do I".

"So do I" agrees with a positive sentence, and "Neither don't I" and "Either do I" are not English forms.

Rule: Agree with a negative using "not ... either" or "neither", but never both negatives at once.

13. Tourist: _____ in your country? (1)

Tour guide: You know, the altitude here is not very high.

- A. ✓ **Why is it so warm** B. What istie altitude
C. Could it be very warm D. What is the weather

Answer: A

The guide answers with a cause: the altitude here is not very high.

A cause answers a "why" question, so A, "Why is it so warm", is the question that fits.

D, "What is the weather", would be answered with words like sunny or rainy, not with a reason.

Option B is misprinted in our copy, but it is not the answer.

14. Bultum: _____ think of taking a break? (1)

Hagos: I was just about to say that. Let'sgo.

- A. When do you B. ✓ **What do you**
C. Would you like to D. How do you

Answer: B

The stem already contains "think of", and the fixed phrase for making a suggestion is "What do you think of" plus an -ing verb.

The line therefore reads "What do you think of taking a break?", and Hagos replies "I was just about to say that."

The recorded key C would give "Would you like to think of taking a break?", which no speaker says, because "would like to" is followed by the action itself, as in "Would you like to take a break?".

Rule: After "think of" and other prepositions, use the -ing form of the verb.

15. Ziyad: I hear they provide free lunch here. (1)

Mukerem: No! _____ nobody will do the public works.

- A. Despite lunch is free B. In my opinion
C. If you have free lunch D. ✓ **If there is free lunch**

Answer: D

Mukerem predicts a result, "nobody will do the public works", so the blank must state the condition.

D, "If there is free lunch", states it in general terms and matches the free lunch Ziyad mentioned.

C switches to "you", so a prediction about "nobody" no longer follows from it.

A is wrong because "despite" is followed by a noun, not by a clause with a verb.

16. Chief: I think we-should leave. I didn't like the atmosphere. (1)

Yared: _____ changing for positive. Let's wait a bit. things seem to be

- A. On the one hand, however B. If you think that way
C. Even though that is the case D. ✓ **I agree up to a point, but**

Answer: D

Yared wants to stay, so his reply must accept part of the Chief's view and then disagree with the plan to leave.

D, "I agree up to a point, but", does exactly that and joins the next clause with "but".

B sounds like giving in, and C turns the whole reply into one long clause with no main statement.

The words of this item are printed out of order in our copy. The intended line is "I agree up to a point, but things seem to be changing for positive. Let's wait a bit."

21. II. LANGUAGE FOCUS

(1)

Directions: Questions from 21 - 48 are incomplete sentences. Choose the word/phrase that best completes the sentence accurately

#We all failed in the recruitment exam. _____ they accepted none of us. I think another round of advertisement is inevitable.

- A. Which means
B. In effect
C. ✓ **Consequently**
D. Accordingly

Answer: C

Failing the exam is the cause and accepting nobody is the result.

"Consequently" is the linking adverb for a result, and it can stand at the head of a new sentence.

"In effect" means "in practice" and shows no cause, and "Which means" starts a relative clause that cannot stand alone as a sentence.

"Accordingly" suits an action taken to fit a rule or plan, so it is weaker than a plain result link here.

22. Let me go and check if the car is ready. It _____ when I came this morning.

(1)

- A. ✓ **was being fixed**
B. might be fixed
C. will have to be fixed
D. intended to be fixed

Answer: A

The action was already in progress at a moment in the past, "when I came this morning", and the car received the action.

The past continuous passive is "was/were being" plus the past participle, so "was being fixed" is right.

B, "might be fixed", talks about a present or future possibility, not about what the speaker saw this morning.

Textbook: Grade 9 English, Unit 2 grammar (simple past and past continuous).

23. We need an immediate restocking. Did you know we were left with _____ food in the fridge?

(1)

- A. some
B. ✓ **little**
C. scarce
D. a little

Answer: B

"Food" is uncountable, so the choice is between "little" and "a little".

"Little" means almost none, while "a little" means some, which would be enough.

The speaker demands immediate restocking, so the meaning must be almost none: "little food".

Rule: "Little" is negative in meaning and "a little" is positive. One small word "a" changes the whole message.

24. They had to get together at six in the morning and when we got up at 5; 45 A.M, we thought we wouldn't make it.

(1)

However, we _____ to get there before they left.

- A. must be able
B. are able
C. could be able
D. ✓ **were able**

Answer: D

The sentence reports one action that really succeeded in the past, and "However" shows the success was a surprise.

"Were able to" is the form for success on one past occasion.

C, "could be able", puts two ability words together, and "must be able" talks about what is necessary, not about what happened.

Rule: For one successful action in the past use "was/were able to", not "could".

25. We are going to use this room _____ a kitchen for the time being. Once the painting is done, however, we will get back there, for it is bigger and more comfortable. (1)
- A. for
B. in
C. like
D. ✓ as

Answer: D

The room is doing the job of a kitchen for now, and the preposition for a role or function is "as".

"Use something as something" is the fixed pattern, for example "use a box as a chair".

C, "like", would only compare the room to a kitchen instead of saying it really serves as one.

26. When we were in Gambella, every day after work, we _____ sit by the river watching fishers caught the big fish called 'gur' and made a lot of money out of it. (1)
- A. ✓ used to
B. are used to
C. have used to
D. were used to

Answer: A

The sentence describes a habit that was repeated in the past and has now stopped.

"Used to" plus the base verb "sit" carries that meaning.

D, "were used to", means "were familiar with" and takes a noun or an -ing verb, so it says something different.

Rule: "Used to sit" is a past habit; "be used to sitting" is being familiar with something.

27. These are _____ people. They don't even know what is good and what is not for them. First, give them a thorough explanation and then call me. (1)
- A. confuse
B. ✓ confused
C. confusion
D. confusing

Answer: B

The people feel the confusion themselves, so the -ed participle "confused" describes them.

An -ing adjective names what causes the feeling, so "confusing people" would mean people who confuse others.

The next sentence says they need a thorough explanation, which proves the confusion is inside them.

Textbook: Grade 12 English, Unit 5 grammar (gerunds, infinitives and participles).

28. I would like _____ her before she leaves. There is a big secret she didn't want to tell the family. (1)
- A. see
B. seeing
C. to be seeing
D. ✓ to see

Answer: D

"Would like" is always followed by the infinitive with "to".

So the sentence must read "I would like to see her before she leaves."

B, "seeing", follows verbs such as "enjoy" or plain "like", but never "would like".

Rule: "Would like" plus "to" plus the base verb, as in "I would like to go".

29. I would have married her _____ I had known her dad was one of the wealthiest in the town. I was just unlucky. (1)
- A. unless
B. before
C. because
D. ✓ if only

Answer: D

The speaker regrets something that never happened, and "would have married" with "had known" marks the third conditional.

"If only" keeps that pattern and adds the regret that "I was just unlucky" confirms.

A, "unless", means "if not", so it would reverse the meaning and say he married her without knowing.

Textbook: Grade 12 English, Unit 3 grammar (tense balance in conditional sentences).

30. Neither staff members nor the police _____ on the premise when the gangs robbed everything. I guess it wouldn't be easy to arrest them. (1)
- A. are
B. is
C. ✓ were
D. was

Answer: C

With "neither ... nor", the verb agrees with the subject nearer to it, and here that is "the police".

"Police" takes a plural verb, and the event is past, so the verb is "were".

B and D are singular, and A is present tense, which clashes with "when the gangs robbed everything".

Textbook: Grade 10 English, Unit 5 grammar (subject-verb agreement).

— END OF MARKING KEY —

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