Use of English B2 – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 34

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Exercise 1: Open cloze

Read the text about Maya and write ONE word in each gap.

Example: Maya lives ___ a small town near the coast. → in

1. Last spring, Maya decided to sell her car, _____ most of her friends thought was a terrible idea.
2. She had _____ driving to work every day for more than ten years.
3. At first, she found it hard to get used _____ cycling in the rain.
4. _____ the bad weather, she never once missed a day at the office.
5. Within a few weeks, she noticed that she was saving money, as cycling costs far _____ than driving.
6. What surprised her most was _____ much fitter she felt.
7. If she _____ known how good it would feel, she would have sold the car years ago.
8. Now she says she would never go back to driving, _____ matter how cold the winter gets.

Exercise 2: Word formation

Use the word in capitals to form a word that fits the gap.

Example: The hotel staff were extremely ___ and answered all our questions. (HELP) → helpful

9. The museum's new exhibition was a huge _____. (SUCCEED)
10. Many people find it _____ to sit on these hard wooden chairs for hours. (COMFORT)
11. Her _____ to help others made her popular with everyone. (WILLING)
12. The instructions were so _____ that nobody knew what to do. (CONFUSE)
13. Scientists are worried about the _____ of many forests in the region. (APPEAR)
14. He apologised for his _____ behaviour at the meeting. (POLITE)
15. The _____ of the new bridge took almost three years. (CONSTRUCT)
16. You can _____ your chances of getting the job by preparing well. (STRONG)

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Exercise 3: Key word transformations

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word in capitals. Do not change the word and use two to five words. Write the full second sentence.

Example: I last went swimming two years ago. (FOR) → I haven't been swimming for two years.

17. It's possible that Tom missed the last bus. (MIGHT) → Tom _____ the last bus.

18. I haven't seen Laura for three years. (LAST) → The _____ Laura was three years ago.

19. People say the castle was built in the 12th century. (SAID) → The castle _____ built in the 12th century.

20. I regret not studying harder for the exam. (WISH) → I _____ harder for the exam.

21. Someone is repairing my laptop at the moment. (HAVING) → I _____ at the moment.

22. Paul didn't come to the party because he was ill. (IF) → Paul would have come to the party _____ ill.

23. It wasn't necessary for you to bring any food. (NEED) → You _____ any food.

24. 'Don't touch the paintings,' the guide told us. (NOT) → The guide told _____ the paintings.

25. The film was so boring that we left early. (SUCH) → It was _____ that we left early.

Exercise 4: Collocations and fixed phrases

Write ONE word in each gap to complete the collocation or fixed phrase.

Example: Could you ___ me a favour and water my plants while I'm away? → do

26. The new manager _____ a good impression on everyone at the first meeting.
27. I can't decide right now – I need some time to _____ it over.
28. It's no _____ complaining about the weather; we can't change it.
29. She _____ a lot of effort into organising the conference.
30. We were all _____ the impression that the meeting had been cancelled.
31. Please _____ in mind that the shop closes early on Saturdays.
32. The two companies finally _____ to an agreement after months of discussion.

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33. I'd like to _____ advantage of this opportunity to thank you all.

34. Jonas was so nervous that he couldn't _____ sense of the questions.

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Answer key – Use of English B2 – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Open cloze

1. **which**
   'Which' introduces a non-defining relative clause referring to the whole previous idea.
2. **been**
   Past perfect continuous: had + been + -ing.
3. **to**
   'Get used to' is followed by a noun or -ing form.
4. **Despite**
   'Despite' + noun shows contrast; 'in spite of' would need three words.
5. **less**
   She was saving money, so cycling costs less; 'far' intensifies the comparative.
6. **how**
   'How much + comparative' expresses the degree of change.
7. **had**
   Third conditional: if + past perfect, would have + past participle.
8. **no**
   'No matter how' means 'however'.

Exercise 2: Word formation

9. **success**
   A noun is needed after 'a huge'.
10. **uncomfortable**
    A negative adjective is needed because the chairs are hard.
11. **willingness**
    A noun is needed as the subject; -ness turns the adjective into a noun.
12. **confusing**
    The -ing adjective describes the thing that causes the feeling.
13. **disappearance**
    A negative noun is needed: dis- + appear + -ance.
14. **impolite**
    He apologised, so a negative adjective with im- is needed.
15. **construction**
    A noun is needed after 'the'; -ion forms the noun.
16. **strengthen**
    A verb is needed after 'can'; strong → strength → strengthen.

Exercise 3: Key word transformations

17. **Tom might have missed the last bus.**
    'Might have + past participle' expresses possibility in the past.
18. **The last time I saw Laura was three years ago.**
    'The last time I + past simple' replaces 'haven't ... for'.
19. **The castle is said to have been built in the 12th century.**
    Impersonal passive: is said + perfect passive infinitive for a past action.
20. **I wish I had studied harder for the exam.**
    'Wish + past perfect' expresses regret about the past.
21. **I am having my laptop repaired at the moment.**
    Causative 'have something done' in the present continuous.
22. **Paul would have come to the party if he hadn't been ill.**
    Third conditional: if + past perfect for an unreal past situation.
23. **You didn't need to bring any food.**
    Both 'didn't need to bring' and 'needn't have brought' express that something was not necessary in the past, so either form correctly rewrites 'It wasn't necessary for you to bring any food.'
24. **The guide told us not to touch the paintings.**
    Reported negative command: told + object + not to + infinitive.
25. **It was such a boring film that we left early.**
    'Such + a + adjective + noun + that' replaces 'so + adjective + that'.

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Exercise 4: Collocations and fixed phrases

26. **made**
    We say 'make an impression on someone'.
27. **think**
    'Think something over' means consider it carefully.
28. **use**
    'It's no use/good + -ing' means there is no point doing something.
29. **put**
    We say 'put effort into something'.
30. **under**
    'Be under the impression' means believe something, often wrongly.
31. **bear**
    Both 'bear in mind' and 'keep in mind' are fixed phrases meaning 'remember', so either 'bear' or 'keep' is correct.
32. **came**
    We say 'come to an agreement'.
33. **take**
    We say 'take advantage of something'.
34. **make**
    'Make sense of' means understand.

Notes for teachers: Set each task under timed conditions (about 10 minutes each), then have students compare answers in pairs before checking. Common mistakes include using more than five words in transformations, changing the key word, and forgetting prefixes such as dis-, un- or im- in word formation. As a follow-up, ask students to write their own key word transformations for a partner to solve.

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