English Comprehension: Easy Practice Paper 4 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	C	Lines 4–6 say that "before she had gone half-way down the path she was so hot and breathless that she was obliged to stop." The counting to thirty is mentioned, but it is the reason she did not mind stopping, not the reason she stopped.
2	A	To be obliged to do something is to have no choice about it, so "forced to stop" carries the same meaning. She is not pleased or ashamed about stopping, and "allowed" would mean the opposite: that she could stop if she wished.
3	D	The passage does not name it at once, but line 13 has Mary say, "You showed me where the key was yesterday," and lines 39–41 show her drawing the key out of that same pocket. The skipping-rope was in her hands, and the knob was under the ivy, not in her pocket.
4	B	"Slowly" tells us how she began, so it describes the verb "began." A word that describes a verb in this way is an adverb, and many adverbs end in -ly.
5	E	She challenges the robin and then adds that she does not believe he knows, which is teasing rather than serious. She is not angry, and she carries on searching, so she has certainly not given up.
6	B	Showing off is something people do. By writing about the robin as though it had a person's vanity, the author gives a human quality to an animal, and that is personification.
7	E	The sentence sits just before the gust of wind, and it prepares the reader for Mary's own explanation of it. The author is telling us where her idea of Magic came from, not saying that the wind truly was magical.
8	A	The wind is strong enough to wave the branches and to move the hanging ivy to and fro, and that movement from side to side is what "sway" means. Nothing is torn off the wall, since the ivy is still hanging there afterwards.

myfreeschool

9	C	Lines 26–27 say that suddenly the gust of wind swung aside some loose ivy trails. Mary does pull at the leaves, but only afterwards, once she has caught the ivy and seen the knob beneath it.
10	D	Lines 29–30 say she had seen a round knob which had been covered by the leaves hanging over it. She finds the square iron lock later, in lines 36–38, after pulling the leaves aside.
11	B	"Trailing" describes the sprays and "untrimmed" describes the ivy, so there are two adjectives. "Sprays" and "ivy" are nouns, and "the" and "of" are not adjectives.
12	D	The ivy is not compared to a curtain using "like" or "as"; the author says it *was* a curtain. Saying that one thing is another in order to describe it is a metaphor. Had it read "hung like a curtain", it would have been a simile.
13	A	A thumping heart and shaking hands can mean fear, but the author names the reason in the same sentence: her delight and excitement. She is thrilled, not frightened.
14	E	The words "as if" show that the author is imagining the bird's feelings rather than stating them. The effect is to make the robin a companion in the moment, which is why he sings and twitters beside her instead of flying off.
15	C	Line 39 says that it was the lock of the door which had been closed ten years. Two is the number of hands it took to turn the key, and thirty is how far Mary had counted.
16	E	Lines 41–42 say "It took two hands to do it, but it did turn." The key fitted the keyhole straight away, and nothing is said about rust or about reaching up.
17	B	The passage says she looked behind her up the long walk to see if anyone was coming, and that no one was. The garden is a secret, and she does not want to be watched going into it.
18	D	Repeating the word makes the reader take longer over the sentence, so the door seems to open as slowly for us as it does for Mary. It builds up the excitement of the moment rather than telling us anything new about the door.

myFreeSchool

19	A	The whole passage leads up to Mary finding the hidden knob, then the lock, then the door itself. The skipping and the wind are how she comes to make the discovery rather than what the passage is about, and no nest is mentioned anywhere.
20	C	She stands with her back against the door, breathing quite fast with excitement, and wonder, and delight. To be wonderstruck is to be filled with wonder, which is exactly what the author describes. Nothing suggests that she is bored or sorry to be there.

myfreeschool