English Comprehension: Easy Practice Paper 5 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	B	The passage gives the reason straight away: she was tired "of having nothing to do". Her sister has a book, but Alice has nothing, and it is boredom rather than tiredness of the body that sets the whole story going.
2	D	Alice has peeped into her sister's book and turned it down at once because it has no pictures and nobody talking in it. She is not against books — she wants one that amuses her, which is exactly the sort of judgement a child of her age makes.
3	A	The word is paired with "sleepy" and blamed on the hot day, so it describes how heavy and slow-witted the heat has made her feel for the moment. It is not saying that Alice is unintelligent — a few lines later she is reasoning about waistcoat-pockets.
4	A	She is "considering" whether the pleasure of making a daisy-chain is worth the trouble of getting up and picking the daisies. It is a wonderfully small thing to be weighing up, and setting it beside a talking rabbit is part of the joke.
5	C	A rabbit that speaks aloud ought to astonish anybody, yet Alice takes it calmly; the author even tells us that afterwards she thought she ought to have wondered at it. Keeping her so unruffled is how the story slides from an ordinary riverbank into Wonderland without a jolt.
6	E	Italic print puts weight on words. Talking did not move Alice, but a rabbit owning a waistcoat with a pocket, and a watch to go in it, is the detail the author leans on — and it is the one that brings her to her feet.
7	B	To start in this old sense is to move all at once out of surprise. Alice does not begin anything; she springs up from the bank, and the next thing she does is run across the field after the Rabbit.

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8	A	Wanting to know is described here as though it were a fire inside her. The picture of heat is doing the work of "very strongly indeed", and it is that feeling, not the heat of the day, that sends her running across the field.
9	C	The whole point of the line is what she did *not* do. She goes down the hole the instant the Rabbit does, and the sensible question — how to get out — never enters her head. It is the same headlong nature that made her run across the field.
10	A	The rabbit-hole is compared to a tunnel using the word "like", and a comparison made with "like" or "as" is a simile. A metaphor would have said the hole *was* a tunnel, with no comparing word at all.
11	C	She cannot see below her because it is too dark, so she looks at the sides instead and finds them furnished like the inside of a house. The lamps and the locked doors come later, once she has landed and reached the hall.
12	A	The label promises orange marmalade and the jar turns out to hold nothing, which is what makes the disappointment "great". She does not drop it — she puts it tidily into a cupboard as she passes.
13	D	She is dropping down a well with no idea where it ends, and her worry is that a falling jar might hurt whoever is below. That small piece of good manners in an impossible situation is one of the ways the author makes her likeable.
14	C	Instead of being terrified she is already picturing the telling of the story afterwards, and enjoying it. She even decides she would not mention it — which is her way of making the boast sound modest.
15	B	The brackets hold the voice of the storyteller rather than Alice. He looks over her shoulder and drily grants that she probably would say nothing about falling off a house — a joke shared with the reader behind Alice's back.
16	C	Each of them tells us how something was done — how the Rabbit ran past, how Alice spoke to Dinah, how she walked down the middle of the hall — so each one is an adverb. The □ly ending is a common sign of an adverb, though not a certain one.

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17	D	Alice has no need to explain who Dinah is, since she is talking to herself. The brackets let the storyteller hand the fact quietly to the reader without interrupting her chatter.
18	B	"Do cats eat bats?" and "Do bats eat cats?" are quite different questions, but Alice cannot answer either, so muddling them costs her nothing. The author points this out to show how far she has drifted towards sleep.
19	C	The adjectives are "little", "three-legged" and "solid", and all three describe the table. "Table" and "glass" are nouns, and "all" is not describing the table itself.
20	D	Every part of the passage hangs on the Rabbit: Alice watches it, chases it across the field, drops down its hole after it, and hears it round a corner in the hall. Dinah, the doors and the reading are details along that one road.

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