



12. By next month, all staff will \_\_\_\_ access the new system.  
a) can  
b) may  
c) could  
d) be allowed to
13. He \_\_\_\_ park in the director's space yesterday because the director was away.  
a) was allowed to  
b) could  
c) can  
d) might
14. \_\_\_\_ you allowed to have pets in your flat?  
a) Do  
b) Are  
c) Can  
d) Have
15. They \_\_\_\_ take the exam again after they failed the first time.  
a) can  
b) could to  
c) were allowed to  
d) mayed
16. When he worked abroad, he \_\_\_\_ take an extra week of holiday each year.  
a) could to  
b) can  
c) mayed  
d) was allowed to
17. Since the new policy, employees \_\_\_\_ to take longer lunch breaks.  
a) have been allowed  
b) could  
c) can to  
d) were allow
18. She \_\_\_\_ watch TV only after she had finished her homework.  
a) could to  
b) was allowed to  
c) can  
d) mayed to
19. When I was at university, I \_\_\_\_ borrow up to ten books at a time.  
a) can  
b) was able  
c) could  
d) may
20. Visitors aren't \_\_\_\_ to feed the animals at the zoo.  
a) can  
b) able  
c) let  
d) allowed



## Answers

1. a) was allowed to
2. b) aren't allowed to
3. c) were allowed to
4. d) be allowed to
5. a) wasn't allowed to
6. b) weren't allowed to
7. c) been allowed
8. d) could
9. a) are allowed to
10. b) was allowed to
11. c) wasn't allowed to
12. d) be allowed to
13. a) was allowed to
14. b) Are
15. c) were allowed to
16. d) was allowed to
17. a) have been allowed
18. b) was allowed to
19. c) could
20. d) allowed



# Explanations

## 1. “was allowed to” (a)

For a specific past event (last Tuesday), use 'was/were allowed to', not 'could'. We use 'could' for general past permission, not single occasions.

## 2. “aren't allowed to” (b)

'Aren't allowed to' expresses a current rule or prohibition. 'Can't' is also correct, but 'don't can' is never correct in English.

## 3. “were allowed to” (c)

This describes a specific past event (after a particular exam), so 'were allowed to' is correct. 'Could to' is never correct — 'could' is never followed by 'to'.

## 4. “be allowed to” (d)

For future permission, use 'will be allowed to'. Modal verbs like 'can' and 'may' cannot follow 'will'.

## 5. “wasn't allowed to” (a)

'Wasn't allowed to' describes a past prohibition. 'Couldn't' would also work here, but 'couldn't to' and 'didn't can' are always wrong.

## 6. “weren't allowed to” (b)

'Weren't allowed to' describes a past prohibition that applied over a period. 'Couldn't' would also be acceptable here.

## 7. “been allowed” (c)

'Has never been allowed to' uses the present perfect of 'be allowed to'. Modal verbs (can, could, may) cannot be used with 'has/have'.

## 8. “could” (d)

'Could' is acceptable here because it describes a general, habitual past permission (something that happened regularly), not a specific one-time event.

## 9. “are allowed to” (a)

'Are allowed to' describes a current rule about what is permitted. 'Can' would also work, but 'can to' is never correct.

## 10. “was allowed to” (b)

This is a specific past event (getting clearance and then seeing the report), so 'was allowed to' is correct. 'Could' is not used for one-time past permissions.

## 11. “wasn't allowed to” (c)

'Wasn't allowed to' describes a past prohibition rule. 'Couldn't' would also work, but 'couldn't to' is never correct.

## 12. “be allowed to” (d)

'Will be allowed to' expresses future permission. We cannot combine 'will' with other modal verbs like 'can' or 'may'.

## 13. “was allowed to” (a)

This is a specific past event (yesterday), so 'was allowed to' is correct. 'Could' would suggest general ability, not a one-time permission.

**14. “Are” (b)**

The structure is 'Are you allowed to...?' This is a present-tense question about what is permitted.

**15. “were allowed to” (c)**

This describes a specific past permission (after a particular failure), so 'were allowed to' is correct.

**16. “was allowed to” (d)**

'Was allowed to' describes a past permission rule. 'Could' would also be acceptable here since it was habitual (every year).

**17. “have been allowed” (a)**

'Have been allowed to' uses the present perfect of 'be allowed to', indicating permission that started in the past and continues now.

**18. “was allowed to” (b)**

'Was allowed to' describes the specific condition under which permission was given in the past.

**19. “could” (c)**

'Could' is acceptable here because it describes a general, habitual past permission (a rule that applied throughout university), not a one-time event.

**20. “allowed” (d)**

'Aren't allowed to' is a common way to express prohibition. The full structure is: be + not + allowed + to + verb.