



Answers

1. c) on
2. a) in
3. d) at
4. b) at
5. a) on
6. d) in
7. b) in
8. c) on
9. a) in
10. d) at
11. c) on
12. b) at
13. d) at
14. a) in
15. b) in
16. c) in
17. a) at
18. d) in
19. b) on
20. c) in



Explanations

1. “on” (c)

'On fire' is a fixed expression meaning burning. We always say 'on fire', never 'in fire' or 'at fire'.

2. “in” (a)

'In tears' is a fixed expression meaning crying. We say 'in tears', 'in pain', 'in love' — 'in' often describes an emotional or physical state.

3. “at” (d)

'At fault' means responsible for a mistake or problem. This is a fixed expression — we always say 'at fault'.

4. “at” (b)

'At risk' means in danger of something bad happening. We say 'at risk of' something.

5. “on” (a)

'On purpose' means deliberately, intentionally. The opposite is 'by accident'. We always say 'on purpose', never 'in purpose' or 'at purpose'.

6. “in” (d)

'In trouble' means facing problems or punishment. We say 'in trouble', 'in danger', 'in difficulty' — 'in' describes being inside a difficult situation.

7. “in” (b)

'In advance' means beforehand, before the event. We always say 'in advance', not 'on advance' or 'at advance'.

8. “on” (c)

'On a diet' is a fixed expression. We also say 'on medication', 'on a course', 'on a trip' — 'on' suggests being engaged in an activity or plan.

9. “in” (a)

'In a hurry' means rushing, having little time. We say 'in a hurry', 'in a rush', 'in a panic' — 'in' describes the state you are currently experiencing.

10. “at” (d)

'At work' means at the workplace. This is a fixed expression like 'at home', 'at school', 'at university'.

11. “on” (c)

'On strike' means refusing to work as a form of protest. We also say 'on duty', 'on guard', 'on patrol'.

12. “at” (b)

'At war' is a fixed expression meaning in a state of military conflict. We also say 'at peace' (the opposite).

13. “at” (d)

'At least' means a minimum of, no fewer than. This is a very common fixed expression.

14. “in” (a)

'In secret' means secretly, without others knowing. We also say 'in private' and 'in public'.

15. “in” (b)

'In general' means overall, as a whole, usually. It introduces a general statement rather than a specific one.

16. “in” (c)

'In charge of' means responsible for managing or leading. We always say 'in charge of', not 'on charge of' or 'at charge of'.

17. “at” (a)

'At once' means immediately, right now. It's a common fixed expression used to express urgency.

18. “in” (d)

'In common' means shared between people. 'Have something in common' means to share interests, qualities or experiences.

19. “on” (b)

'On sale' means available at a reduced price. Note the difference: 'on sale' (discounted) vs 'for sale' (available to buy, not necessarily discounted).

20. “in” (c)

'In public' means in front of other people, openly. The opposite is 'in private'. We also say 'in secret'.