







## Answers

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



# Explanations

## 1. “to” (b)

'Devote something to' is a fixed collocation meaning to give your time, effort or life to a cause or activity.

## 2. “with” (d)

'Cope with' means to deal with something difficult successfully. It is always followed by 'with', never 'on' or 'in'.

## 3. “to” (a)

'Attribute something to' means to say that something is caused by or is the result of. The preposition is always 'to'.

## 4. “from” (c)

'Refrain from doing something' means to deliberately stop yourself from doing it. It is always followed by 'from + -ing'.

## 5. “with” (b)

'Associate something with' means to connect one thing with another in your mind. The preposition is always 'with'.

## 6. “in” (d)

'Confide in someone' means to tell someone private things that you trust them to keep secret. Despite the meaning of sharing 'with' someone, the correct preposition is 'in'.

## 7. “in” (a)

'Specialize in' means to focus on a particular area of work or study. It is always followed by 'in'.

## 8. “to” (c)

'Explain something to someone' is the correct pattern. A common error is to say 'explain someone' (without 'to'), which is incorrect in English.

## 9. “with” (a)

'Interfere with' means to prevent something from working properly or happening as planned. Always followed by 'with'.

## 10. “for” (d)

'Compensate for' means to make up for something negative. The preposition is always 'for'.

## 11. “with” (b)

'Comply with' means to obey a rule, law or request. Note: 'conform to' has a similar meaning but takes a different preposition.

## 12. “from” (c)

'Result from' means to be caused by something. The failure caused the accident. Compare: 'result in' means to cause something (opposite direction: 'The failure resulted in an accident').

## 13. “for” (a)

'Account for' means to explain or give the reason for something. It can also mean to make up a proportion of something (e.g. 'Sales account for 60% of revenue').

## 14. “from” (b)

'Benefit from' means to gain an advantage from something. Always followed by 'from'.

**15. “in” (d)**

'Persist in doing something' means to continue doing something in a determined way, even when others want you to stop. The preposition is always 'in'.

**16. “from” (c)**

'Differ from' means to be unlike something. In British English, 'from' is the standard preposition. Avoid 'differ with' (which means to disagree with a person, not to be different).

**17. “of” (b)**

'Dispose of' means to get rid of something. Always followed by 'of'. Note: 'dispose' without 'of' has a different, more formal meaning.

**18. “to” (a)**

'Conform to' means to follow established rules or standards. Compare: 'comply with' has a similar meaning but uses 'with' instead of 'to'.

**19. “on” (d)**

'Hinge on' means to depend entirely on one thing. It is a more formal alternative to 'depend on' and is often used in professional and academic contexts.

**20. “of” (c)**

'Accuse someone of doing something' is a fixed pattern. The preposition is always 'of', followed by a noun or -ing form.