

20. When the primary funding source was unexpectedly withdrawn, the research team had no alternative but to ___ their modest departmental budget to complete the project.

a) draw back from

b) hold back from

c) get back to

d) fall back on



Answers

1. a) account for
2. c) stem from
3. b) put forward
4. d) drew on
5. b) rule out
6. c) came into
7. a) bring about
8. d) build on
9. a) coming up with
10. c) came down to
11. b) live up to
12. d) make up for
13. a) got round to
14. d) set out
15. c) turned out
16. b) came about
17. b) wind up
18. c) tap into
19. a) put down to
20. d) fall back on



Explanations

1. “account for” (a)

'Account for' means to explain or give reasons for something, especially a discrepancy or anomaly. 'Attribute to' assigns a cause but requires a different structure (attribute X to Y). 'Result in' means to cause an outcome — the wrong direction here. 'Amount to' means to total up to a quantity.

2. “stem from” (c)

'Stem from' means to originate from or be caused by — it traces back to the source. Here, the concerns originate from inadequate maintenance. 'Lead to' and 'give rise to' point in the opposite causal direction (cause → effect). 'Bring about' means to cause something to happen (transitive).

3. “put forward” (b)

'Put forward' means to propose or suggest a plan, idea, or candidate for formal consideration. 'Put aside' = save for later or disregard temporarily. 'Put through' = connect a phone call or cause someone to experience something. 'Put across' = communicate an idea effectively, but does not mean to propose.

4. “drew on” (d)

'Draw on' means to use a resource, experience, or body of knowledge as a basis for something. 'Draw up' = prepare a formal document or plan. 'Draw out' = prolong or encourage someone to speak more freely. 'Draw back' = retreat or hesitate to do something.

5. “rule out” (b)

'Rule out' means to exclude something as a possibility. 'Phase out' = discontinue gradually over time (used for products, policies — not possibilities). 'Stamp out' = eradicate completely (used for diseases, crime). 'Wipe out' = destroy entirely (used for populations, debts).

6. “came into” (c)

'Come into' a fortune, money, or inheritance is a fixed collocation meaning to receive or inherit wealth. 'Run into' = encounter someone by chance or collide with. 'Go into' = enter a profession, state, or begin discussing. 'Get into' = become involved in or develop an interest in.

7. “bring about” (a)

'Bring about' means to cause something to happen — it is transitive and takes an object. 'Come about' means to happen (intransitive — 'How did this come about?') and cannot take an object. 'Set about' = begin doing something energetically. 'Go about' = approach or tackle a task.

8. “build on” (d)

'Build on' means to use something as a foundation for further development or progress. 'Draw up' = prepare a formal document from scratch. 'Follow up' = pursue or investigate something further after an initial action. 'Take up' = begin a hobby or occupy space/time.

9. “coming up with” (a)

'Come up with' means to think of or produce an idea, plan, or solution. 'Come down to' = be essentially a matter of. 'Come round to' = eventually accept a viewpoint after initial resistance. 'Come up against' = encounter a difficulty or obstacle.

10. “came down to” (c)

'Come down to' means to be essentially a matter of — it identifies the core issue at the heart of something. 'Come up against' = encounter a problem or opposition. 'Come round to' = gradually accept an idea. 'Come up with' = produce or think of an idea.

11. “live up to” (b)

'Live up to' means to meet or fulfil expectations, standards, or promises. 'Keep up with' = maintain the same pace as others. 'Put up with' = tolerate something unpleasant. 'Make up for' = compensate for a loss or deficiency.

12. “make up for” (d)

'Make up for' means to compensate for or counterbalance something negative. 'Put up with' = tolerate — not something you attempt to do as compensation. 'Do away with' = abolish or eliminate. 'Get away with' = escape punishment for wrongdoing.

13. “got round to” (a)

'Get round to' means to finally find time or motivation to do something that has been delayed. 'Get on with' = continue with something already in progress or maintain a good relationship. 'Get away with' = escape consequences for wrongdoing. 'Get through to' = successfully communicate with someone or reach by phone.

14. “set out” (d)

'Set out' means to state, present, or describe facts and objectives clearly and systematically — common in academic and formal writing. 'Set about' = begin doing something with determination. 'Set off' = begin a journey or trigger an alarm/reaction. 'Set up' = establish or arrange something.

15. “turned out” (c)

'Turn out' means to prove to be or have a particular result — 'it turned out to be true'. 'Turn up' = appear or arrive, often unexpectedly. 'Turn over' = flip to the other side or generate revenue. 'Turn around' = reverse a negative situation.

16. “came about” (b)

'Come about' means to happen or occur — it is intransitive. The improvement 'came about' (happened) as a result of the regulations. 'Bring about' is transitive and needs a causal agent as the subject (The regulations brought about the improvement — not *The improvement brought about). 'Set about' = begin doing. 'Go about' = approach a task.

17. “wind up” (b)

'Wind up' a company means to formally dissolve it through legal proceedings, settling all debts and distributing assets. This is a specific business/legal term. 'Break up' = separate into parts or end a relationship. 'Hold up' = delay or rob at gunpoint. 'Mix up' = confuse one thing with another.

18. “tap into” (c)

'Tap into' means to access, utilise, or exploit a resource, market, or feeling that already exists. 'Look into' = investigate or research. 'Go into' = enter a profession or discuss something in detail. 'Get into' = become interested or involved in.

19. “put down to” (a)

'Put down to' means to attribute something to a particular cause or reason. 'Put up to' = encourage or persuade someone to do something (often wrong). 'Put up with' = tolerate something unpleasant. 'Put through to' = connect someone via telephone.

20. “fall back on” (d)

'Fall back on' means to resort to or use something as a backup when preferred options are unavailable. 'Draw back from' = retreat or withdraw from a position or commitment. 'Hold back from' = restrain oneself from doing something. 'Get back to' = return to a previous activity or contact someone later.