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Name _____
Date _____

✏ELTE Expressing authority quiz 263

Score _____

1. Our new supervisor is a real micromanager. She wants to _____ every tiny detail of our work. (Hint: Controlling excessively)

(A) control
(B) manage
(C) approve
(D) inspect

2. The manager is always breathing down my _____, checking every email I send and every phone call I make. (Hint: Monitoring someone constantly)

(A) head
(B) neck
(C) back
(D) shoulder

3. He loves throwing his _____ around just because he is the department director. (Hint: Using authority aggressively)

(A) power
(B) position
(C) weight
(D) rank

4. The head of the department pulled _____ and forced everyone to accept his decision. (Hint: Using a higher position)

(A) authority
(B) rank
(C) weight
(D) control

5. Although she is technically the assistant manager, she is the one who calls the _____. (Hint: Making all the important decisions)

(A) orders

(B) shots

(C) rules

(D) moves

6. She bends over _____ to please the boss, even if it means working at weekends. (Hint: Making an excessive effort)

(A) backwards

(B) forward

(C) sideways

(D) around

7. The director started cracking the _____ when productivity dropped and deadlines were missed. (Hint: Putting pressure on employees)

(A) stick

(B) whip

(C) hammer

(D) belt

8. My parents kept me on a tight _____ when I was younger; I had to tell them where I was going at all times. (Hint: Controlling someone's freedom)

(A) chain

(B) rope

(C) leash

(D) lead

9. He is clearly on a power _____. He enjoys humiliating people just because he is their supervisor. (Hint: Enjoying the feeling of authority)

(A) journey

(B) trip

(C) ride

(D) flight

10. The boss has all the employees under his _____. Nobody dares to disagree with him. (Hint: Having complete control)

(A) finger

(B) thumb

(C) hand

(D) arm

11. When the employee challenged his authority, the boss got hot under the _____. (Hint: Becoming visibly angry)

(A) shirt

(B) collar

(C) jacket

(D) sleeve

12. Don't be fooled by his expensive clothes and nice smile. He's just a bully in a _____. (Hint: An aggressive person hiding behind professional status)

(A) tie

(B) jacket

(C) suit

(D) uniform

13. The company is ruled with an iron _____. Employees are not allowed to question any decision. (Hint: Extremely strict and authoritarian management)

(A) hand

(B) fist

(C) arm

(D) grip

14. Be careful when you approach the boss this morning. He has a short _____. (Hint: Gets angry very easily)

(A) temper

(B) fuse

(C) patience

(D) mood

15. Whenever something goes wrong, the manager passes the _____. He always blames someone else. (Hint: Avoiding responsibility)

(A) responsibility

(B) decision

(C) buck

(D) blame

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Answer Key
November 11, 2026

✏ELTE Expressing authority quiz 263

1. Our new supervisor is a real micromanager. She wants to _____ every tiny detail of our work. (Hint: Controlling excessively)

✓ **A** control

B manage

C approve

D inspect

i A micromanager is a person who wants to control every small aspect of other people's work instead of trusting them to do their jobs independently.

2. The manager is always breathing down my _____, checking every email I send and every phone call I make. (Hint: Monitoring someone constantly)

A head

✓ **B** neck

C back

D shoulder

i To breathe down someone's neck means to watch someone very closely, often making them feel uncomfortable or under pressure.

3. He loves throwing his _____ around just because he is the department director. (Hint: Using authority aggressively)

A power

B position

✓ **C** weight

D rank

i To throw your weight around means to use your authority or influence in an arrogant, intimidating or aggressive way.

4. The head of the department pulled _____ and forced everyone to accept his decision. (Hint: Using a higher position)

A authority

✓ B rank

C weight

D control

i To pull rank means to use your higher position in an organisation to get your way, often without considering other people's opinions.

5. Although she is technically the assistant manager, she is the one who calls the _____. (Hint: Making all the important decisions)

A orders

✓ B shots

C rules

D moves

i To call the shots means to be the person who makes the decisions and has control over what happens.

6. She bends over _____ to please the boss, even if it means working at weekends. (Hint: Making an excessive effort)

✓ A backwards

B forward

C sideways

D around

i To bend over backwards means to make an extraordinary effort to help someone or satisfy their expectations.

7. The director started cracking the _____ when productivity dropped and deadlines were missed. (Hint: Putting pressure on employees)

A stick

✓ B whip

C hammer

D belt

i To crack the whip means to put pressure on people to work harder, faster or more efficiently.

8. My parents kept me on a tight _____ when I was younger; I had to tell them where I was going at all times. (Hint: Controlling someone's freedom)

A chain

B rope

✓ C leash

D lead

i To keep someone on a tight leash means to control their behaviour, movements or decisions very strictly.

9. He is clearly on a power _____. He enjoys humiliating people just because he is their supervisor. (Hint: Enjoying the feeling of authority)

A journey

✓ B trip

C ride

D flight

i To be on a power trip means to enjoy having authority and use it to dominate, intimidate or humiliate others.

10. The boss has all the employees under his _____. Nobody dares to disagree with him. (Hint: Having complete control)

A finger

✓ B thumb

C hand

D arm

i To have someone under your thumb means to have power and control over them, often making them do what you want.

11. When the employee challenged his authority, the boss got hot under the _____. (Hint: Becoming visibly angry)

A shirt

✓ B collar

C jacket

D sleeve

i To get hot under the collar means to become angry, irritated or annoyed, especially when someone challenges or criticises you.

12. Don't be fooled by his expensive clothes and nice smile. He's just a bully in a _____. (Hint: An aggressive person hiding behind professional status)

A tie

B jacket

✓ C suit

D uniform

i A bully in a suit describes someone who behaves aggressively, intimidates others and abuses their authority while maintaining a respectable professional appearance.

13. The company is ruled with an iron _____. Employees are not allowed to question any decision. (Hint: Extremely strict and authoritarian management)

A hand

✓ B fist

C arm

D grip

i To rule with an iron fist means to exercise authority in an extremely strict, harsh and uncompromising way.

14. Be careful when you approach the boss this morning. He has a short _____. (Hint: Gets angry very easily)

A temper

✓ B fuse

C patience

D mood

i To have a short fuse means to become angry very quickly, often over relatively minor problems.

15. Whenever something goes wrong, the manager passes the _____. He always blames someone else. (Hint: Avoiding responsibility)

A responsibility

B decision

✓ C buck

D blame

i To pass the buck means to avoid responsibility for a problem or mistake by shifting it onto someone else.