ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

400 Must Have Words for the TOEFL LESSON 30 – Crimes at Sea Vocabulary Test

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1	C	2	A	3	E	4	B	5	D	6	D	7	E	8	A	9	C	10	B

Explanations

1. **Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the opposite of each word below.**

detain
✓ **C) let go**
To **detain** means to keep someone somewhere and not allow them to leave, e.g. **The police detained the suspect for questioning.** The opposite is **let go**, which means to release someone or allow them to leave.

2. **distort**
✓ **A) clarify**
To **distort** means to change facts or a shape so that it becomes false or unclear, e.g. **The report distorted the truth.** The opposite is **clarify**, which means to make something clear and easy to understand.

3. **villainy**
✓ **E) good deeds**
Villainy means very bad, wicked or criminal behaviour, the kind of thing a villain does. The opposite is **good deeds**, which are kind and helpful actions.

4. **intentionally**
✓ **B) by accident**
Intentionally means on purpose, because you planned or wanted to do it, e.g. **He broke the window intentionally.** The opposite is **by accident**, which means without planning or wanting it to happen.

5. **deviant**
✓ **D) normal**
Deviant describes behaviour that is different from what most people consider acceptable or usual. The opposite is **normal**, which means usual, typical and expected.

6. **Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the underlined part of each sentence.**

The police force's difficult situation involved a bank robber who threatened to shoot a bank employee if any police approached.
✓ **D) predicament**
A **predicament** is a difficult or unpleasant situation that is hard to get out of, e.g. **The police were in a predicament.** It is the only noun among the options that means a situation; **piracy** is a noun too, but it is a crime, not a situation.

7. Despite laws restricting animal imports, thousands of monkeys and lemurs and other wild animals are brought illegally into the United States.
✓ **E) smuggled**
To **smuggle** means to bring goods or animals into or out of a country secretly and illegally, e.g. **They smuggled cigarettes across the border.** The clue is **despite laws restricting animal imports**, so the animals are **smuggled** into the country.

8. The enemy captured and took away the general's son.
✓ **A) abducted**
To **abduct** means to take someone away by force, usually illegally, e.g. **The child was abducted from the park.** So **captured and took away** is closest to **abducted**. It is not **coerced**, which means forced someone to do something, not taken them away.

9. Two men were convicted of stealing a boat near the Riau Islands.
✓ **C) piracy**
Piracy is the crime of attacking and stealing ships or boats at sea. The structure **convicted of + noun** also needs a noun, and **convicted of piracy** is a common collocation.

10. By threatening to set fire to their ship, the governor of Bermuda pressured the pirate crew to give themselves up.
✓ **B) coerced**
To **coerce** someone means to force or pressure them to do something by using threats, e.g. **They were coerced into signing the contract.** The clue is **by threatening**, so the governor **coerced** the crew to surrender.