ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

400 Must Have Words for the TOEFL LESSON 37 – Painting and Sculpture Vocabulary Test

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1	C	2	A	3	D	4	E	5	B	6	B	7	A	8	A	9	B	10	B
11	D	12	B																

Explanations

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

abstract
✓ **C) presenting an idea, not a realistic picture**
Abstract art shows an idea, a feeling or shapes and colours rather than a realistic picture of something. Example: **Her abstract paintings are just lines and circles of colour.**

2. **depict**
✓ **A) to show**
To **depict** something means **to show** it in a picture, a sculpture or with words. Example: **The painting depicts a busy market.** Not **depiction**, because that is the noun, not the verb.

3. **esthetically**
✓ **D) in a way that relates to beauty**
Esthetically (British spelling **aesthetically**) means **in a way that relates to beauty** or to how something looks. Example: **The building is esthetically pleasing.**

4. **perspective**
✓ **E) way of seeing things from a certain place**
Perspective is a **way of seeing things from a certain place**, or a point of view. In art it also means the technique of showing depth and distance on a flat surface.

5. **portrayal**
✓ **B) depiction**
A **portrayal** is a **depiction**: the way someone or something is shown in art, film or writing. Example: **The film's portrayal of the king was very realistic.**

6. **Circle the word that best completes each sentence.**

The materials that go into a work of art usually have little _____ value.
✓ **B) intrinsic**
Intrinsic value is the value that something has in itself. Paint, canvas and stone are cheap; the work of art is valuable because of what the artist does with them. **Abstract value** is not a natural collocation here.

7. In the 1970s, artists known as “the Boston School” revived _____ by rejecting abstract techniques and trying to capture the actual appearance of their subjects.
✓ **A) realism**
Realism is a style that shows things as they really look. The clue is **rejecting abstract techniques** and **capture the actual appearance of their subjects**. **Context** (the situation around something) does not fit.

8. The colors of light that we can see are known as the visible _____.
✓ **A) spectrum**
The **visible spectrum** is the range of colours of light that the human eye can see, from red to violet. **Spectrum** means a full range of something.

9. Medieval artists did not try to use _____ to give a sense of depth to their paintings.
✓ **B) perspective**
Perspective is the technique that makes a flat painting show depth and distance. The clue is **to give a sense of depth**. **Context** has nothing to do with depth in a picture.

10. The small, separate strokes of impressionist paintings give the works a dreamlike _____.
✓ **B) dimension**
A **dimension** here is an aspect or quality of something, so a **dreamlike dimension** is a dreamlike quality. Not **portrayal**, because a portrayal is a picture of something, not a quality that the strokes give the work.

11. **Which sentence best expresses the essential information of this passage?**
✓ **D) Works of art can mean different things, depending on one’s perspective.**
The passage starts by saying that whether something is art is **a matter of opinion**, and it ends with art that looks at the world **from a fresh perspective**. So the main idea is that art can mean different things to different people. The passage never says that realistic art has more meaning, or that pleasing art is too simple.

12. **According to this reading, what is one big difference between abstract art and realistic art?**
✓ **B) Abstract art is harder to understand.**
The passage says a realistic portrayal is **easily recognizable**, while an abstract depiction may resemble flowers **only in the artist's mind**. This means abstract art is harder to understand. The passage says nothing about selling or producing art.