ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 1 Unit 9: The Starfish

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21	**A**	22	**B**	23	**C**	24	**D**												

Explanations

1. **Choose the right definition for the given word.**
wave
✓ **C) a raised line of water**
A **wave** is a raised line of water that moves across the sea or ocean. Example: **The waves were very big today.**

2. taste
✓ **C) flavor**
Taste means the **flavor** of something, what you notice in your mouth when you eat or drink. Example: **I love the taste of mango.**

3. against
✓ **A) to be touching something**
Against means touching something, often leaning on it. Example: **She sat back against a rock.**

4. rock
✓ **D) a hard thing in the ground**
A **rock** is a hard thing in the ground, a big piece of stone. Example: **We sat on a rock by the sea.**

5. throw
✓ **B) to put something into the air**
To **throw** means to put something into the air with your hand. Example: **Throw the ball to me.**

6. island
✓ **A) land**
An **island** is land with water all around it. Example: **They live on a small island.**

7. discover
✓ **B) to find something**
To **discover** means to find something, often for the first time. Example: **I discovered a nice shell on the beach.**

8. step
✓ **C) to walk**
To **step** means to walk, or to move your foot forward. Example: **Step carefully on the wet floor.**

9. beach
✓ **B) a sandy or rocky place by the ocean**
A **beach** is a sandy or rocky place by the ocean. Example: **We played on the beach all day.**

10. fix
✓ **A) to make something work**
To **fix** means to make something work again. Example: **Can you fix my bike?**

11. **Choose the right word for the given definition.**
to be touching something
✓ **B) against**
Against means touching something. Example: **The bike is against the wall.**

12. to break something
✓ **C) damage**
To **damage** something means to break it or hurt it. Example: **The storm damaged the house.**

13. a way that you feel
✓ **B) emotion**
An **emotion** is a way that you feel, like happy, sad or angry.

14. very honest
✓ **D) frank**
Frank means very honest; you say what you really think. Example: **To be frank, I don't like it.**

15. land in the middle of water
✓ **C) island**
An **island** is land in the middle of water.

16. **Choose the word that is a better fit for each sentence.**
I like to play on the _____.
The big _____ pushed the swimmer back.
✓ **B) beach / wave**
You play on the **beach** (the sandy place by the sea). A big **wave** (moving water) can push a swimmer back.

17. They walked across the _____ to find food.
I am scared of some animals that live in the _____.
✓ **B) island / ocean**
You can walk across an **island** because it is land. Animals like sharks live in the **ocean**; you cannot walk across the ocean.

18. My dad knows how to _____ cars.
If you _____ the light, we won't be able to see at night.
✓ **A) fix / damage**
Dad can **fix** cars (make them work). If you **damage** (break) the light, it will not work at night.

19. We have to go around that large _____.
We are _____ planning to go to Florida this winter.
✓ **B) rock / still**
You go around a large **rock** (a big stone). **Still** means that something has not changed: we are still planning the trip.

20. Do you know how to _____ a football?
Please _____ into the house.
✓ B) throw / step
You **throw** a football with your hands. **Step into the house** means walk into it.

21. What is this story about?
✓ A) A girl who wants to save starfish
The story is mostly about the little girl who throws the starfish back into the water to save them. Birds are only mentioned once at the start.

22. What causes the little girl's emotion?
✓ B) She cannot prevent starfish from dying in the sand.
The girl is sad because she wants to **prevent** all the starfish from dying on the sand, but she cannot. The story says: **She was also sad about the starfish.**

23. What does the man think is NOT good about the island?
✓ C) The starfish dying on the sand
The writer enjoyed the waves, the birds and the food. Only the dying starfish made him sad: **It made me sad, but I knew I could not fix the problem.**

24. What does the girl think the man can perhaps do?
✓ D) Help her save starfish
The story says: **She asked me if I could perhaps help her.** She wanted help to save the starfish.

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