ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 2 Unit 20: Albert Einstein

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1	**A**	2	**A**	3	**B**	4	**A**	5	**B**	6	**E**	7	**D**	8	**A**	9	**C**	10	**B**
11	**C**	12	**B**	13	**D**	14	**C**												

Explanations

1. **Check the sentence with the bolded word that makes better sense.**

a. Learning Spanish was a **gradual** process for me.

b. The boy **retired** his mother.
✔ **A)**
Gradual means happening slowly, little by little, so **a gradual process** makes sense. Sentence B is wrong: you **retire** from your job when you are old; you cannot retire a person.

2. a. The bottle fell and broke in an **instant**.

b. I **accomplish** sleeping before I go to bed.
✔ **A)**
In an instant means very quickly, in a very short time, so sentence A makes sense. Sentence B is wrong: **accomplish** means to finish something you worked hard on, like a goal, not to sleep.

3. a. Four is the **approximate** number of forty.

b. The old man **retired** from his job.
✔ **B)**
To **retire** means to stop working, usually because you are old, so sentence B makes sense. Sentence A is wrong: **approximate** means almost exact, and four is not almost forty.

4. a. It is not always easy to **accomplish** hard goals.

b. The race car won by going at a **gradual** speed.
✔ **A)**
To **accomplish** a goal means to do it successfully, so sentence A makes sense. Sentence B is wrong: a **gradual** speed is slow, and a slow car does not win a race.

5. a. Peanuts are an **instant** to grow and eat.

b. His **approximate** height is two meters.
✔ **B)**
Approximate means close to the exact number, so **his approximate height is two meters** makes sense. Sentence A is wrong: an **instant** is a very short moment, not something you grow or eat.

6. **(Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**
My new friend is an _____ who came from Italy.
✔ **E) immigrant**
An **immigrant** is a person who comes to live in a new country. The clue is **who came from Italy**.

7. He goes to the same _____ school that I do.
✔ **D) elementary**
Elementary school is the school for young children, before high school. The word goes before **school** to describe it.

8. He does not know many English words. Having to learn new words is a hard _____ for him to get past.
✔ **A) barrier**
A **barrier** is something that stops you or makes things hard. The clue is **hard … to get past**.

9. When he says things wrong, he feels like a _____. I tell him not to worry.
✔ **C) failure**
A **failure** is someone who does not succeed. When he makes mistakes, he feels he is not doing well.

10. Soon, he will know English very well. When I help him learn, he is happy and gives me _____ for my good deed.
✔ **B) recognition**
Recognition means thanks or praise for something good you did. The clue is **for my good deed**.

11. **What is this story about?**
✔ **C) How Einstein got past barriers to accomplish many great things**
The story begins with **I had many barriers before I became famous** and ends with **I overcame many hard times**. So it is about how he got past barriers and did great things. Not **instant recognition**: the passage says his success did not come **in an instant**.

12. **Why did Einstein's family become immigrants?**
✔ **B) They couldn't pay their rent in Germany and had to leave.**
Paragraph 2 says his family lived in poverty and **could not pay the rent in Germany**, so they became immigrants and went to Italy.

13. **Why was Einstein's rise in the ranks of scientists gradual?**
✔ **D) Other scientists didn't approve of his ideas at first.**
Paragraph 3 says that **at first, other scientists did not approve of my work**, so his rise was a gradual process.

14. **According to the passage, all the following are true about Einstein EXCEPT _____.**
✔ **C) he had a duty to retire**
The last paragraph says **I never retired. It was my duty to keep working.** So **he had a duty to retire** is not true. The other three options are all in the last paragraph.