ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 3 Unit 29: An Interesting Life

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Explanations

1. **Choose the right word for the given definition.**
to show in a picture
✓ **A) portray**
To **portray** means to show someone or something in a picture, a story or a film. Example: **The painting portrays a young girl.**

2. something that causes an event
✓ **C) circumstance**
A **circumstance** is a fact or situation that causes or affects an event. Example: **Under these circumstances, we had to cancel the trip.**

3. a feeling of sadness
✓ **B) grief**
Grief is a strong feeling of sadness, usually because someone has died. Not **frown**, which is a face you make when you are unhappy or angry, not the feeling itself.

4. a box for burying dead people
✓ **C) coffin**
A **coffin** is the long box that a dead person is put in before it is buried.

5. a device for making small things look bigger
✓ **B) microscope**
A **microscope** is a device that makes very small things, like bacteria, look much bigger so we can see them.

6. **Choose the right definition for the given word.**
certificate
✓ **D) a document that claims a fact**
A **certificate** is an official document that states a fact, for example that you finished a course or got married. Not "a document for permission", which is a **license**.

7. cope
✓ **A) to deal with a difficult situation**
To **cope** means to deal successfully with a difficult situation. Example: **She coped well with the stress of her new job.**

8. trace
✓ **B) to follow the line or shape of something with a finger or pen**
To **trace** means to follow the line or shape of something with your finger or a pen. Example: **The boy traced his finger over the paper.** Not "to look at for a long time", which is **gaze**.

9. groom
✓ **C) a man about to be married**
A **groom** (or bridegroom) is a man who is getting married. The woman is the **bride**.

10. bomb
✓ **C) an object that explodes**
A **bomb** is an object that is made to explode and cause damage.

11. The scientist said that there were many _____ that led to the accident at the _____ power plant.
✓ **B) circumstances / nuclear**
After **many** we need a plural noun: **circumstances** (the facts or situations that caused the accident). Before **power plant** we need an adjective: **nuclear**, which describes energy made by splitting atoms.

12. I was so busy that I could only _____ at my daughter's _____ of achievement. I will take a better look at it when I get home.
✓ **A) glance / certificate**
Glance at means to look at something quickly; the clue is "so busy" and "take a better look later". A **certificate of achievement** is a document that shows someone has done something well.

13. The entire family was filled with _____ as their father's _____ was slowly lowered into the ground.
✓ **B) grief / coffin**
Filled with is followed by a feeling, so the first gap is **grief** (deep sadness after a death). What is lowered into the ground at a funeral is the **coffin**.

14. I was completely _____ when I heard the news of her accident. I hope that her husband can _____ with the situation.
✓ **B) devastated / cope**
After **was completely** we need an adjective: **devastated** means extremely shocked and upset. **Cope with** means to deal with a difficult situation.

15. Maria _____ her _____ so that all of her classmates could get a good view of it.
✓ **A) rotated / souvenir**
The first gap needs a verb in the past: **rotated** means turned around. After **her** we need a noun: a **souvenir** is something you buy to remember a place.

16. After receiving a great deal of _____ about her idea, Katie _____ but was determined not to quit.
✓ **B) criticism / frowned**
After **a great deal of** we need an uncountable noun: **criticism** (comments about what is wrong). After the subject **Katie** we need a past verb: **frowned** (made an unhappy face).

17. Tony _____ at the pictures of the new forms of bacteria that were discovered. Curious, he viewed samples of them through a powerful _____.
✔ **A) gazed / microscope**
Gazed at means looked at something for a long time. After **a powerful** we need a noun: a **microscope** makes tiny things like bacteria look bigger.

18. Eric did not have a _____ to operate the sophisticated _____.
✔ **B) license / submarine**
A license to do something is an official document that gives you permission. A **submarine** is a boat that can travel under water, the sophisticated machine he wanted to operate.

19. Lisa _____ her new _____ as the perfect husband. But we all knew that he had many faults.
✔ **B) portrayed / groom**
After **Lisa** we need a past verb: **portrayed** means described or showed someone in a certain way. Her new **groom** is the man she has just married, the "husband" in the next part.

20. The engineer _____ a line with his finger to where he thought the police officers would find the _____.
✔ **A) traced / bomb**
Traced a line with his finger means he followed a path with his finger, for example on a map. At the end we need a noun: a **bomb** is an object that explodes.

21. The grandfather explained that the picture of the coffins was taken after a nuclear bomb devastated a city.
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 5 says the picture showed a row of **coffins**, and the grandfather said, "This was after a nuclear bomb was dropped. It **devastated** a city." So the statement is true.

22. The first photo the grandson gazed at was of a submarine.
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 3 says the grandfather took a photo of the **submarine** he was on during the war, and "the grandson **gazed** at it". This is the first photo in the story.

23. The toy microscope was a souvenir from a science museum.
✔ **A) TRUE**
The grandfather says, "This is a **souvenir** I bought at the science museum," when he shows the toy microscope.

24. The certificate was from the day the grandson was born.
✔ **B) FALSE**
The certificate was the grandfather's **marriage license** "from the day I married your grandmother", not from the grandson's birth.

25. The groom and bride in the last photo were happy.
✔ **A) TRUE**
The last photo showed a young bride and groom, and the text says "**They were very happy.**"

26. Which of the following was NOT in the box?
✔ **C) Letters**
The box had photographs, a souvenir (the toy microscope) and a marriage license, but the passage never mentions **letters**.

27. What did the grandfather say he did during the war?
✔ **A) Worked on a submarine**
The grandfather said, "That's the **submarine** I was on during the war," so he served on a submarine. Not "made nuclear bombs": the bomb photo shows a city after the bomb, not his job.

28. How did the grandson feel at first about the circumstances behind each photograph?
✔ **C) He was bored.**
Paragraph 2 says the grandson "thought his grandfather's stories were **boring**". He became interested only later. Not "He frowned": it was the grandfather who frowned.

29. All of the following are true about the toy microscope EXCEPT _____.
✔ **C) the grandson only glanced at it**
The passage says the microscope was a **souvenir** bought at a museum and that the grandfather **rotated** it in his hand. It never says the grandson only **glanced** at it; in fact, he became really interested.

30. The photographs portrayed important events from the grandson's life.
✔ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 1 says the photographs portrayed important events from the **grandfather's** life, not the grandson's.

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