ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 4 Unit 1: The History of Chocolate

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11	**D**	12	**E**	13	**C**	14	**B**	15	**B**	16	**A**	17	**A**	18	**C**	19	**D**	20	**E**
21	**B**	22	**D**	23	**C**	24	**A**	25	**E**	26	**E**	27	**A**	28	**C**	29	**D**	30	**B**
31	**A**	32	**A**	33	**B**	34	**A**	35	**B**	36	**A**	37	**A**	38	**C**	39	**D**	40	**C**

Explanations

1. **Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.**
The population growth in the city was incredibly _____. It is quite surprising that people settled there at such a fast _____.
✔ **A) rapid / rate**
Rapid means very fast, so it describes how quickly the population grew. **Rate** is the speed at which something happens, and it fits the phrase **at such a fast rate**.

2. Many _____ laws make it illegal for business to compete in unfair ways. However, the specific laws in different countries _____ greatly.
✔ **A) contemporary / vary**
Contemporary means modern, of the present time, so **contemporary laws** are today's laws. **Vary** is a verb meaning to be different, and it follows the subject **the specific laws**: they **vary greatly**.

3. Because it is quite _____ on the island, various kinds of plants grow well there. However, some of these plants are _____ to humans.
✔ **A) humid / toxic**
Humid means warm and wet in the air, which helps plants grow well. **Toxic** means poisonous, and **toxic to humans** is a common phrase.

4. The cheese has a smooth _____. However, some people find it hard to eat because of its powerful _____.
✔ **A) texture / aroma**
Texture is how something feels when you touch or eat it, so cheese can have a **smooth texture**. **Aroma** is a strong smell, which explains why some people find the cheese hard to eat.

5. A _____ of people suggested that nearby cities could fight the invaders if they cooperated with each other. As a result, everyone _____ their efforts and defeated the invaders.
✔ **A) cluster / combined**
A **cluster** is a small group of people or things close together: **a cluster of people**. **Combined** means joined together, so everyone **combined their efforts** to defeat the invaders.

6. The artist uses _____ differences of color in her landscapes. This has an overall calming and _____ effect on the viewer.
✔ **B) subtle / soothing**
Subtle means small and not easy to notice, so it describes **differences of color**. **Soothing** means making you feel calm, which matches **calming** in the same sentence.

7. A huge garden was _____ in the middle of the city. However, a species of rare plants gave off an unpleasant _____.
✔ **A) cultivated / odor**
Cultivated means planted and grown with care, so a garden can be **cultivated**. An **odor** is a smell, often a bad one: **an unpleasant odor**.

8. During a four- or five-course meal, one should drink something to clean the _____ between courses. The perfect _____ for this is, of course, water.
✔ **B) palate / beverage**
Your **palate** is the part of your mouth that senses taste, so you **clean the palate** between courses. A **beverage** is a drink, and water is the perfect beverage for this.

9. I can explain the basic story in a simple, _____ way. A boy is given a _____ message, and he begins an exciting adventure.
✔ **A) condensed / divine**
Condensed means made shorter, so a **condensed** explanation gives only the main points. **Divine** means coming from God or a god: **a divine message**.

10. The island of Oahu is not a natural _____ like Maui. However, tourists still have plenty to enjoy on Oahu, from visits to pineapple _____ to traditional celebrations.
✔ **B) paradise / plantations**
A **paradise** is a perfect, beautiful place, and it fits after **a natural**. **Plantations** are large farms where one crop is grown, such as **pineapple plantations**.

11. A **soothing** cup of tea _____.
✔ **D) is good for a sore throat**
Soothing means making pain or worry feel better. A **soothing** cup of tea **is good for a sore throat**.

12. The **odor** of the cheese _____.
✔ **E) was too strong to be enjoyable**
An **odor** is a smell, often an unpleasant one. A smell can be **too strong to be enjoyable**.

13. The pot's **texture** _____.
✔ **C) feels so smooth**
Texture is how a surface feels when you touch it. So a pot's texture can **feel so smooth**.

14. The chemical is **toxic** _____.
✔ **B) to insects and small animals**
Toxic means poisonous. We say something is **toxic to** someone: **toxic to insects and small animals**.

15. The **contemporary** fiction class _____.
✔ **B) includes work from the 21st century**
Contemporary means belonging to the present time. So a **contemporary fiction class includes work from the 21st century**.

16. The **rate** at which these flowers grew _____.
✔ **A) was surprisingly fast**
A **rate** is the speed at which something happens. So the rate of growth **was surprisingly fast**.

17. My mother **cultivates** _____.
✔ **A) several species of flowers as a hobby**
To **cultivate** plants means to grow them and take care of them. So she **cultivates several species of flowers as a hobby**.

18. The **plantation** had _____.
✔ **C) twenty workers who grew cotton**
A **plantation** is a large farm where crops like cotton are grown. So the plantation **had twenty workers who grew cotton**.

19. The thick and **humid** forest _____.
✔ **D) covered almost a third of the country**
Humid means warm and wet. A large forest can **cover almost a third of the country**.

20. That **cluster** of stars in the sky makes _____.
✔ **E) the shoulder of Taurus the Bull**
A **cluster** is a group of things close together, like stars. A group of stars can **make the shoulder of Taurus the Bull**, a shape in the night sky.

21. The scientists wanted to find a cure for the sickness, _____.
✔ **B) so they combined the chemicals**
Combined means mixed or joined together. The scientists wanted a cure, **so they combined the chemicals**; **so** shows the result.

22. He offered to share his water, _____.
✔ **D) but I wanted my own beverage**
A **beverage** is a drink. **But** shows a contrast: he offered to share, **but I wanted my own beverage**.

23. I prefer mocha to coffee _____.
✔ **C) because it has a subtle taste of chocolate**
Subtle means light and not strong. **Because** gives the reason: mocha has **a subtle taste of chocolate**.

24. Many new jobs were created, _____.
✔ **A) so economic growth was rapid**
Rapid means very fast. New jobs were created, **so economic growth was rapid**; **so** shows the result.

25. The report was ten pages long, _____.
✔ **E) but the condensed version was shorter**
Condensed means made shorter. **But** shows the contrast: the report was long, **but the condensed version was shorter**.

26. The doctor asked him to open his mouth, _____.
✔ **E) and she looked at his palate**
The **palate** is the top part of the inside of your mouth. The doctor asked him to open his mouth, **and she looked at his palate**.

27. She walked in the door, _____.
✔ **A) and she smelled the aroma of cookies**
An **aroma** is a nice, strong smell. She came in **and she smelled the aroma of cookies**.

28. Because the island is so warm and beautiful, _____.
✔ **C) people call it a paradise**
A **paradise** is a perfect, beautiful place. The sentence begins with **Because**, so the second part has no linking word: **people call it a paradise**.

29. Because patients' bodies are so different, _____.
✔ **D) the effects of the medicine will vary**
Vary means to be different. Bodies are different, so **the effects of the medicine will vary**.

30. It didn't rain all summer, _____.
✔ **B) and Jim thought it was a divine message**
Divine means coming from God or a god. Something unusual, like no rain all summer, can seem like **a divine message**.

31. Wild chocolate trees grow well in humid weather.
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 2 says that wild chocolate trees **can grow easily in the humid Amazon rainforest**. So the statement is true.

32. The Mayans and Aztecs said chocolate was a divine plant brought from paradise.
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 3 says the Mayans and Aztecs thought chocolate trees were **brought from paradise by gods** and calls it a **divine tree**. So the statement is true.

33. The Mayans cultivated chocolate trees on plantations.
✔ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 4 says Cortes saw the plantations where **the Aztecs** cultivated chocolate trees. It does not say this about the Mayans, so the statement is false.

34. Beans were combined with condensed milk to give chocolate a smooth texture.
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 5 says the beans **were combined with condensed milk to give the chocolate a smooth texture**. So the statement is true.

35. The first chocolate beverages were made in Europe.
✔ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 1 says chocolate **was first made in the Americas**, not in Europe. The Mayans and Aztecs made the first chocolate beverages, so the statement is false.

36. The different types of chocolate available today vary widely.
✔ **A) TRUE**
The last paragraph says **the different types of chocolate available today vary widely**. So the statement is true.

37. Which word is NOT used to describe chocolate in the reading?
✔ **A) Aroma**
Paragraph 2 describes chocolate treats as **sweet, soothing, and delicious**. **Aroma** is a noun for the smell of chocolate (paragraph 5), so it is not a word that describes chocolate.

38. Which of the following did NOT consume chocolate as a beverage?
✓ C) Mayan gods
Paragraph 3 says the Mayans and Aztecs believed the **gods** brought chocolate trees from paradise. It never says the gods drank chocolate. The Aztecs made the beverage, and paragraphs 4 and 5 say Europeans, including kings and queens, enjoyed drinking it.

39. Which group of people believed that chocolate was toxic to women and children?
✓ D) The Aztecs
Paragraph 3 says **the Aztecs believed that it would be toxic to women and children**.

40. What allowed chocolate to be produced at a rapid rate?
✓ C) New machines
Paragraph 5 says **new machines** allowed chocolate makers to produce chocolate **at a very rapid rate**.

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