ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 4 Unit 13: The Big Race

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Explanations

1. **Choose the right definition for the given word.**
irritable
✓ **B) to get angry easily**
An **irritable** person **gets angry easily**, often over small things. Example: **He is irritable when he is tired.**

2. zoom
✓ **A) to move quickly**
To **zoom** means **to move very quickly**. Example: **The cars zoomed down the road.**

3. subconscious
✓ **A) not aware**
Something **subconscious** is in your mind, but you are **not aware** of it. Example: **Dreams can show our subconscious fears.**

4. charm
✓ **A) to please**
To **charm** someone means **to please** them, so they like you. Example: **She charmed everyone with her smile.**

5. brew
✓ **A) to make coffee**
To **brew** means to make a hot drink such as **coffee** or tea, or to make beer. Example: **Mum brewed some coffee.**

6. **Choose the answer that best fits the question.**
Which of these is a good source of protein?
✓ **C) Beef**
Protein helps build muscles, and meat such as **beef** has a lot of it. Tea and sugar have almost no protein.

7. Stuff can be best described as what?
✓ **B) A collection of unnamed things**
Stuff is a general word for a group of things when you don't name each one. Example: **Put your stuff in your bag.**

8. What is the most nutritious snack below?
✓ **A) An apple**
Nutritious food is good for your body and keeps you healthy. **An apple** is nutritious. Fries, candy and ice cream have a lot of fat or sugar.

9. What is something you might put your signature on?
✓ **A) A business letter**
Your **signature** is your name written in your own special way. People sign official papers such as **a business letter**.

10. If you lag behind your friends, you _____.
✓ **A) are slower than them**
To **lag behind** means to move more slowly than others, so you **are slower than them**. Example: **The little boy lagged behind his parents.**

11. What are things that happen and will happen in a person's life?
✓ **B) Their destiny**
A person's **destiny** is everything that happens and will happen in their life. Example: **She believed it was her destiny to be a doctor.**

12. Which of the following is similar to a small truck?
✓ **A) A van**
A **van** is a vehicle like a small truck, used to carry people or things.

13. What is a small drop of water called?
✓ **A) Bead**
A **bead** can be a small drop of liquid, such as water or sweat. Example: **Beads of sweat ran down his face.**

14. What does it mean to have influence over something?
✓ **D) To affect**
To **affect** something means to have an influence on it, or to change it. Example: **The weather affects my mood.**

15. What are fire alarms meant to do?
✓ **C) Warn people**
To **warn** means to tell people about danger. Fire alarms make a loud noise to **warn people** about a fire.

16. **Alex had a nightmare that he forgot his stuff at home.**
✓ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 1 says that in Alex's **nightmare** he was running a race and fell just before the finish line. The dream was not about forgetting his stuff, so the statement is false.

17. **The dream made Alex irritable on the day of the race.**
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 1 says Alex worried that the dream meant he would lose, and then **he became irritable**. So the statement is true.

18. Alex wanted to eat something with a lot of sugar for breakfast.
✓ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 2 says Alex didn't want his mother's breakfast because **it had too much sugar**. He wanted something **nutritious**, so the statement is false.

19. Alex did a workout with his jump rope to help him forget about the nightmare.
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 4 says Alex started his **workout** with his jump rope. It adds: **Maybe exercising would help him forget about the nightmare.** So the statement is true.

20. Beads of sweat formed out of Alex's sweat glands.
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 4 says: **Beads of sweat formed out of Alex's sweat glands.** This happened just before the race, so the statement is true.

21. Alex lagged behind while the other runners zoomed past him.
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 5 says the runners **zoomed** toward the finish line. By the time Alex started, he **lagged** far behind everyone. So the statement is true.

22. What did Alex think his destiny might be?
✓ **B) To become a loser**
Paragraph 4 says Alex **thought it might be his destiny to become a loser**. Not 'to have nightmares': he already had one, and it made him worry about losing.

23. What did Alex's father offer to help him do?
✓ **C) Pack his stuff**
Paragraph 2 says his father asked, **Do you want help packing your stuff?** Not 'brew some coffee', because it was his mother who brewed the coffee.

24. What did the boy at the track ask Alex for?
✓ **B) His autograph**
Paragraph 3 says a boy ran toward Alex and asked, **Can I have your autograph?** Alex refused to give him his signature.

25. What was Alex so affected by that he lost the race?
✓ **A) His nightmare**
The last paragraph says Alex **shouldn't have let the nightmare affect him**. He was thinking about the dream and didn't hear the horn. Not 'the horn': he lost because he didn't hear it, and the horn did not affect him.

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