ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

4000 Essential English Words 4 Unit 4: The Tricky Fox

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Explanations

1. **Choose the answer that best fits the question.**
What does a sad movie cause people to do?
✔ **A) To weep**
To **weep** means to cry. A sad movie can make people cry, so they **weep**.

2. Where would a bird build a home?
✔ **C) On a roost**
A **roost** is a place where a bird rests or sleeps, such as a branch or a nest. A **rim** is the edge of something, and a **pit** is a hole in the ground.

3. Which word best describes a wet towel?
✔ **B) Damp**
Damp means a little wet. A wet towel is **damp**.

4. What does it mean to fly?
✔ **A) To soar**
To **soar** means to fly high in the air, like an eagle **soaring** above the hills.

5. Which word would best describe a smooth, wet stone?
✔ **C) Slippery**
Slippery describes something smooth or wet that is hard to hold or stand on. A smooth, wet stone is **slippery**.

6. Which word describes something that would have a rim?
✔ **B) A cup**
A **rim** is the top edge of a round object. A cup has a **rim**; a thought or a smell does not.

7. Which word describes something that has a beak?
✔ **A) A bird**
A **beak** is the hard, pointed mouth of a bird.

8. What is typical about fish?
✔ **A) They can swim.**
Typical means normal for most members of a group. Almost all fish can swim, so that is **typical**. The other options are true only for a few fish, or not at all.

9. Which of these people would most likely be moaning?
✔ **D) A hurt woman**
To **moan** means to make a long, low sound because you are in pain or unhappy. A **hurt** woman is the person most likely to moan.

10. Which person has been proven to have committed an immoral act?
✔ **B) A criminal**
Immoral means bad or wrong. A **criminal** is a person who has been proven to have broken the law, so he has done something wrong.

11. **Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.**
All of the people in the movie will _____ if they remain _____ of the monster.
✔ **B) perish / oblivious**
After **will** we need a verb: **perish** (die). **Remain** is followed by an adjective: **oblivious** (not aware). The people will die if they are not aware of the monster.

12. When the owl wants to make a _____, it is _____ of using an empty barn.
✔ **A) roost / fond**
After **make a** we need a noun: **roost** (a place where a bird rests). The pattern **be fond of** + -ing means 'like doing': the owl likes using an empty barn.

13. He grabbed the can by its _____, then tossed it far down into the _____.
✔ **B) rim / pit**
You hold a can by its **rim** (its top edge). You throw something down into a **pit** (a deep hole in the ground).

14. The eagle _____ into the clouds when it goes on a long _____.
✔ **B) soars / flight**
The first gap needs a verb that agrees with **the eagle**: **soars** (flies high). After **a long** we need a noun: **flight** (a trip through the air).

15. Every time the sick woman would _____ in pain, her daughter would _____.
✔ **A) moan / weep**
The clue **in pain** goes with **moan** (make a low sound because something hurts). Her daughter was sad, so she would **weep** (cry).

16. It is not _____ for a policeman to do _____ things like stealing.
✔ **B) typical / immoral**
It is not typical for means 'it is not normal for'. Stealing is a wrong act, so the second gap is **immoral** (bad, not right).

17. Every part of the bird was beautiful, _____ for its short, ugly _____.
✔ **B) except / beak**
Except for means 'but not'. After **short, ugly** we need a noun: **beak**. All of the bird was beautiful, but not its beak.

18. Because his assistant is teaching them _____ plays, the coach will _____ of the time wasted.
✓ **A) trivial / disapprove**
Trivial means not important, so it describes the plays. **Disapprove of** means to think something is bad: the coach will not like the wasted time.

19. Because it _____ covered the fence, the gardener had to remove all of the _____.
✓ **A) utterly / ivy**
Utterly means completely, and it describes how the fence was covered. **Ivy** is a plant that climbs up walls and fences, so the gardener removed the ivy.

20. The ground became dangerous and _____ because everyone placed their _____ towels there.
✓ **A) slippery / damp**
Became is followed by an adjective about the ground: **slippery** (easy to slide on). The towels were **damp** (a little wet), and that made the ground slippery.

21. **Fox used the rim of a bottle to dig a deep pit.**
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 1 says Fox **used the sharp rim of a bottle to dig a pit**. The pit was deep, because later Fox could not climb out of it.

22. **Fox had a roost near the pit.**
✓ **B) FALSE**
The **roost** belonged to Eagle: Fox **saw Eagle watching him from her roost**. Fox did not have a roost.

23. **The damp ivy was too slippery for Fox to climb out.**
✓ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 4 says the walls were **covered in damp ivy** and **it was too slippery for him to climb out**.

24. **Immoral and mean behavior was typical of Fox.**
✓ **A) TRUE**
The animals say, **That is typical behavior for Fox. He does mean things all the time. Sometimes, he is completely immoral.**

25. **Fox was oblivious to the hidden pit.**
✓ **B) FALSE**
Fox dug the pit himself, so he knew about it. The story says he was **oblivious to the hidden animals**, not to the pit.

26. **Eagle flew into the pit to save Fox.**
✓ **A) TRUE**
The story says **Eagle began her flight to the bottom of the pit**. Then she picked Fox up and **soared out of the pit**.

27. **How did Rabbit fall into the pit?**
✓ **B) Fox pushed him into the pit.**
Paragraph 1 says Fox **jumped out and pushed Rabbit into the pit**. Not 'Fox laughed and ran away': that happened after Rabbit fell in.

28. **Why did Fox thank Eagle?**
✓ **C) She did not let Fox perish.**
Fox said he would **perish** (die) if he did not get out. Eagle carried him out, so she saved his life. Not 'She became fond of Fox': the other animals became fond of him later.

29. **Why did Fox moan and weep?**
✓ **D) He felt utterly helpless.**
Paragraph 4 says **He was utterly helpless. He moaned and began to weep.** He could not climb out of the pit.

30. **What happened after Eagle's flight to the bottom of the pit?**
✓ **D) She picked up Fox with her beak.**
After Eagle flew down to the bottom of the pit, **She picked up Fox with her beak** and flew out of the pit.

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