ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# 4000 Essential English Words 5 Unit 18: The Soldier's Decision

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| 1 | **D** | 2 | **A** | 3 | **C** | 4 | **A** | 5 | **C** | 6 | **B** | 7 | **B** | 8 | **A** | 9 | **C** | 10 | **D** |
| 11 | **C** | 12 | **A** | 13 | **A** | 14 | **C** | 15 | **D** | 16 | **B** | 17 | **B** | 18 | **D** | 19 | **B** | 20 | **A** |
| 21 | **D** | 22 | **C** | 23 | **A** | 24 | **A** | 25 | **C** | 26 | **A** | 27 | **B** | 28 | **A** | 29 | **B** | 30 | **A** |
| 31 | **A** | 32 | **B** | 33 | **B** | 34 | **B** | 35 | **A** | | | | | | | | | | |

## Explanations

**1.** **Choose the answer that best fits the question.**
Who would most likely serve in a corps?
✔ **D) A soldier**
A **corps** is a group of soldiers or a part of an army with a special job, e.g. **the medical corps**. So the person most likely to serve in one is **a soldier**.

**2.** What would you find near a compound?
✔ **A) A fence**
A **compound** is an area of buildings surrounded by a wall or fence, such as a prison camp or military base. So you would expect to find **a fence** around it.

**3.** Which would you most likely see in an auditorium?
✔ **C) A crowd**
An **auditorium** is a large room or building where people sit to watch a show, speech or concert. So you would most likely see **a crowd** there.

**4.** Who would most likely be involved in combat?
✔ **A) A warrior**
**Combat** means fighting, especially in a war. A **warrior** is a fighter, so a warrior is the one most likely to be involved in combat.

**5.** Which of the following is a dumb thing to do?
✔ **C) To play with matches**
**Dumb** (informal) means stupid or not sensible. **Playing with matches** is dangerous because it can start a fire, so it is a dumb thing to do.

**6.** **Choose the one that is opposite in meaning to the given word.**
foe
✔ **B) friend**
A **foe** is an enemy, someone who fights against you. The opposite is a **friend**.

**7.** amnesty
✔ **B) prison**
**Amnesty** is an official pardon that frees people from punishment, e.g. letting prisoners go free. Its opposite in this list is **prison**, where people are kept as punishment.

**8.** combat
✔ **A) peace**
**Combat** means fighting, especially between soldiers or armies. The opposite is **peace**, a time when there is no fighting.

**9.** sacred
✔ **C) evil**
**Sacred** means holy or very special and deserving great respect. Of the options, **evil** (very bad and wicked) is the opposite.

**10.** distract
✔ **D) focus**
To **distract** someone is to take their attention away from what they are doing. The opposite is to **focus**, which means to give all your attention to one thing.

**11.** dumb
✔ **C) loud**
Here **dumb** means silent or not speaking, as in the passage: the soldier **sat quietly, as if he were dumb**. The opposite is **loud**.

**12.** commonplace
✔ **A) unusual**
**Commonplace** means ordinary and happening often, e.g. **Mobile phones are commonplace now.** The opposite is **unusual**.

**13.** hack
✔ **A) mend**
To **hack** means to cut something roughly with hard, quick strokes, which damages it. The opposite is to **mend**, meaning to repair something.

**14.** aggressive
✔ **C) calm**
**Aggressive** means angry and ready to attack or fight. The opposite is **calm**, meaning peaceful and not upset.

**15.** provoke
✔ **D) soothe**
To **provoke** someone is to make them angry on purpose so that they react. The opposite is to **soothe**, which means to make someone calm.

**16.** **Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.**
realm
✔ **B) area**
A **realm** is an area of activity or knowledge, e.g. **the realm of sword fighting**. So the closest meaning is **area**.

**17.** auditorium
✔ **B) assembly hall**
An **auditorium** is a large hall where an audience sits to watch or listen to something. An **assembly hall** has the same meaning.

**18.** rust
✔ **D) decay**
**Rust** is the red-brown layer that forms on iron or steel when it is wet, as the metal slowly breaks down. So it is a kind of **decay**.

**19.** corps
✔ **B) troop**
A **corps** is an organised group of soldiers. The closest meaning is **troop**, a group of soldiers.

**20.** meditate
✔ **A) think**
To **meditate** is to sit quietly and think deeply or calm your mind. The closest meaning is **think**.

**21.** compound
✔ **D) camp**
A **compound** is an enclosed area with buildings, such as the **prisoners' compound** in the story. The closest meaning is **camp**.

**22.** reign
✔ **C) rule**
A **reign** is the time when a king or queen rules, or the act of ruling. The closest meaning is **rule**.

**23.** arena
✔ **A) stadium**
An **arena** is a large place with seats around it where sports or fights take place. The closest meaning is **stadium**.

**24.** nick
✔ **A) scratch**
A **nick** is a small cut on a surface or on the skin, e.g. **a nick on the cheek**. The closest meaning is **scratch**.

**25.** captive
✔ **C) prisoner**
A **captive** is a person who has been caught and is kept somewhere so they cannot escape. The closest meaning is **prisoner**.

**26.** **Choose C if the italicized word is used correctly. Choose I if the word is used incorrectly.**
The *arena* was filled with adoring fans.
✔ **A) C**
An **arena** is a large place where crowds watch sports, concerts or fights, so it can be **filled with fans**. The word is used correctly.

**27.** The wooden fence was covered in a thick layer of *rust*.
✔ **B) I**
**Rust** forms only on metal such as iron or steel, not on wood. A **wooden** fence cannot be covered in rust, so the word is used incorrectly.

**28.** His *reign* only lasted three years before he became sick and passed away.
✔ **A) C**
A **reign** is the period when a king or queen rules. Saying his reign **lasted three years** is correct use of the word.

**29.** You will like Jack. You both have so much *commonplace* together.
✔ **B) I**
**Commonplace** is an adjective meaning ordinary or usual, so it cannot follow **have so much**. The correct phrase is **have so much in common**, meaning to share many interests. The word is used incorrectly.

**30.** Her perfume was too strong. I was *distracted* by it during the meeting.
✔ **A) C**
To be **distracted** means your attention is pulled away from what you are doing. A strong smell can take your attention away from a meeting, so the word is used correctly.

**31.** **The gate between the soldier and the auditorium was coated with rust.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 3 says: **A gate coated in rust stood between him and the auditorium's floor.** So the statement is true.

**32.** **The prisoner was led from the arena to the compound.**
✔ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 3 says he was led **from the prisoners' compound to one of the king's arenas**. The statement reverses the direction, so it is false.

**33.** **While he meditated, the soldier was distracted by his opponent.**
✔ **B) FALSE**
Paragraph 5 says Darius tried to provoke him, **But the soldier was not distracted.** He kept sitting quietly, so the statement is false.

**34.** **The king gave the brave soldier amnesty and made him join his elite army corps.**
✔ **B) FALSE**
The last paragraph says the king **gave the peaceful soldier amnesty**, but it never says he made him join the army corps. Joining the corps is only mentioned as a possible reward for winners in paragraph 1, so the statement is false.

**35.** **The quiet soldier felt that all life was sacred.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 2 says: **He now felt that all life was sacred.** So the statement is true.