ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# 4000 Essential English Words 5 Unit 2: The Helpful Abbey

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| 1 | **A** | 2 | **A** | 3 | **D** | 4 | **B** | 5 | **D** | 6 | **E** | 7 | **D** | 8 | **A** | 9 | **B** | 10 | **E** |
| 11 | **C** | 12 | **A** | 13 | **D** | 14 | **C** | 15 | **B** | 16 | **B** | 17 | **B** | 18 | **A** | 19 | **A** | 20 | **A** |
| 21 | **A** | 22 | **A** | 23 | **B** | 24 | **A** | 25 | **A** | | | | | | | | | | |

## Explanations

**1.** **Choose the answer that best fits the question.** What would probably happen if you deprived someone of food?
✔ **A) They could die.**
To **deprive** someone of something means to take it away or not let them have it. A person who gets no food for a long time could **die**. The other options describe good feelings, which make no sense here.

**2.** A rugged surface would feel _____.
✔ **A) very rough**
**Rugged** describes land or a surface that is uneven, rocky and **rough**, e.g. **a rugged mountain path**. **Smooth** is the opposite.

**3.** If you were speculating about something, you would be doing what?
✔ **D) Making a guess**
To **speculate** means to form an opinion without knowing all the facts, so it means **making a guess**. Not **stating a fact**, because when you speculate you are not sure.

**4.** Where would someone take an oath?
✔ **B) In court**
An **oath** is a formal, serious promise, for example to tell the truth. Witnesses usually take an oath **in court**.

**5.** If something were covered with moisture, then it would feel _____.
✔ **D) wet**
**Moisture** means small amounts of water in the air or on a surface. Something covered with moisture feels **wet**.

**6.** Traveling across the _____ was more difficult than it seemed.
✔ **E) prairie**
After **across the** we need a noun for a place. A **prairie** is a large, flat area of grassland, e.g. in North America. **Arid** and **rugged** are adjectives, so they cannot stand alone after **the**.

**7.** The ground was very _____, and the grass was high.
✔ **D) rugged**
**Rugged** ground is rough and uneven, which makes travel difficult. Not **arid**, because very dry land would not have high grass.

**8.** John had been in a place with a (an) _____ climate for a long time.
✔ **A) arid**
An **arid** climate is very dry, with little or no rain. It contrasts with the **humid** place in the next sentence.

**9.** He forgot that in a humid place, everything was covered with _____.
✔ **B) moisture**
**Moisture** is small drops of water on surfaces or in the air. In a **humid** (damp) place, everything is covered with moisture.

**10.** The people who attend that church _____ for two weeks in March.
✔ **E) fast**
Here **fast** is a verb meaning to eat little or no food for a period, often for religious reasons. The next sentence, about eating only **a small meal of soup**, supports this.

**11.** Then they go to the _____ where they pray and eat a small meal of soup.
✔ **C) cathedral**
A **cathedral** is a large, important church. After **go to the** we need a place where people **pray**.

**12.** We didn't know what to do with such a (an) _____ supply of wood.
✔ **A) abundant**
**Abundant** means more than enough. They didn't know what to do with so much wood. Not **scarce**: the next sentence shows that wood used to be scarce, but now there is a lot of it.

**13.** We had gotten used to making small fires when it was so _____.
✔ **D) scarce**
**Scarce** means there is very little of something. When wood was scarce, they could only make **small fires**.

**14.** In order for the students to attend the dance, they had to take a (an) _____.
✔ **C) oath**
The fixed phrase is **take an oath**, which means to make a formal promise. The next sentence confirms that the students had to **promise** to behave well.

**15.** Those that didn't promise to be on their best behavior were not _____.
✔ **B) eligible**
**Eligible** means allowed to do or have something because you meet the conditions. Students who didn't promise to behave were not allowed to attend the dance.

**16.** **Choose C if the italicized word is used correctly. Choose I if the word is used incorrectly.**
Climbing up the *prairie* was more difficult without the help of ropes.
✔ **B) I**
A **prairie** is a large, flat area of grassland, so you cannot climb up it with ropes. A word like **cliff** or **mountain** would fit here.

**17.** There was no way he could mend the holes in his shirt. It was too *rugged* to wear.
✔ **B) I**
**Rugged** describes rough, rocky land, not clothes. A shirt full of holes is **ragged** (old and torn).

**18.** In some countries, only people who owned land were *eligible* to vote.
✔ **A) C**
**Eligible** means allowed to do something because you meet the conditions. Here only landowners met the condition for voting, so the word is used correctly.

**19.** The capital was in the middle of the country. They had to travel *inland* to get there.
✔ **A) C**
**Inland** means away from the coast and towards the middle of a country. Travelling to a capital in the middle of the country means going inland.

**20.** He knew she didn't like him, but he helped her *nonetheless*.
✔ **A) C**
**Nonetheless** means 'in spite of that' or 'however'. He helped her even though she didn't like him, so the word is used correctly.

**21.** **The moisture in the soil was gone because a drought made the prairie become arid.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 1 says there had been no rain (a **drought**), so the climate became **arid** and **there was no moisture left in the soil**. The statement is true.

**22.** **The hungry families traveled inland to an abbey that still had abundant food.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 2 says the families heard about an abbey where food was still **abundant**, so they **traveled inland** to it. The statement is true.

**23.** **Food was scarce, but the monks had to deprive the families nonetheless.**
✔ **B) FALSE**
Food did become **scarce**, but the abbot said it would be wrong to **deprive** the families of food. The monks helped them **nonetheless**. The statement is false.

**24.** **At first, there was ample food and enough room in the cathedral for everyone.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 3 says that when only a few families arrived, there was **ample** food and they could sleep in the cathedral. It became full only later. The statement is true.

**25.** **The rugged journey to the abbey had left many people's clothing looking ragged.**
✔ **A) TRUE**
Paragraph 4 says **the rugged journey had made their clothes ragged**. **Ragged** means old and torn. The statement is true.

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