ENGLISH VOCABULARY TESTS

Advanced Dictionary Skills Quiz: Usage Labels, Corpus, Thesaurus

15 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/advanced-dictionary-skills-quiz-usage-labels-corpus-thesaurus/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 15

1. A dictionary marks stingy (= not generous with money) as ___: the word criticises the person it describes.
A) disapproving **B)** approving
C) dated **D)** technical

2. Words that insult a person or a group are labelled ___ or offensive.
A) humorous **B)** derogatory
C) dialect **D)** dated

3. Swear words carry the strongest warning label of all: ___.
A) disapproving **B)** formal
C) taboo **D)** dated

4. Dictionaries label “my trusty steed” (an old poetic phrase for a faithful horse, said here about an old bicycle) ___: people use it to be funny.
A) technical **B)** derogatory
C) taboo **D)** humorous

5. “Myocardial infarction” is the doctors’ ___ term for a heart attack.
A) technical **B)** dialect
C) variant **D)** humorous

6. “Lass”, for a girl or young woman, is ___ from Scotland and northern England.
A) variant **B)** dialect
C) technical **D)** taboo

7. The small box in the entry for fun explains that a good party is fun, not funny. It is a ___.
A) cross-reference **B)** thesaurus
C) usage note **D)** concordance

8. To find which adjectives usually go with smell, look in a ___.
A) thesaurus
B) picture dictionary
C) translation app
D) collocation dictionary

9. “Pitch-black” (= completely dark) ___ with nights and rooms, but not with coffee.
A) collocates **B)** collocations
C) colocates **D)** collates

10. Dictionary writers search a ___ of millions of real texts to see how a word is really used.
A) thesaurus **B)** corpus
C) corpse **D)** cross-reference

11. The search showed thirty lines, each with deeply in the middle and its partners on both sides: a ___.
A) usage note **B)** variant
C) concordance **D)** cross-reference

12. Stars or a key symbol next to a headword in some learner’s dictionaries show the word’s ___.
A) variant **B)** dialect
C) register **D)** frequency

13. To see whether writers really say “a big rain”, type it in quotation marks: an ___.
A) exact-phrase search
B) exact search phrase
C) phrase-exact search
D) exactly-phrase search

14. Her ___ listed slim and skinny as synonyms, but they are only ___: one praises, one can criticise.
A) concordance … variants
B) thesaurus … near-synonyms
C) thesaurus … variants
D) corpus … cross-references

15. “Yoghurt” and “yogurt” are ___ spellings, and the entry for yogurt has a ___ that sends you to yoghurt.
A) near-synonym … usage note
B) dialect … concordance
C) variant … cross-reference
D) variant … collocate

Finished? Check your answers online

Get your score with instant feedback, and download the **answer key with explanations**, on the test page:
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