ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 10 – Day 1

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Explanations

1. **After being admonished by his father, he began to ____ the want ads daily.**
   ✓ **C) peruse**
   Peruse means to read something carefully. The clue is **the want ads**: job adverts are something you read, and **daily** shows a regular habit. In the passage, Jerry tries **to peruse a company report**. Example: **She perused the contract before signing it.**

2. **When the black cat crossed her path, Ellen had a ____ of disaster.**
   ✓ **E) premonition**
   A **premonition** is a feeling that something bad is going to happen. The gap follows **a** and comes before **of disaster**, so a noun is needed. A black cat is a sign of bad luck, so Ellen expects trouble. The passage speaks of **the premonition of calamity**.

3. **The pickets promulgated a warning that they would not ____ in their efforts to enhance their standard of living.**
   ✓ **D) desist**
   Desist means to stop doing something. The structure **would not ___ in their efforts** needs a base verb meaning 'stop', so the pickets are saying they will keep going. In the passage, Jerry's uneasy feelings **would not desist**. Example: **The court ordered the company to desist from using the name.**

4. **As the snake prepared to strike, the girls ____ in horror.**
   ✓ **A) recoiled**
   To **recoil** is to move back suddenly because of fear or disgust. The past tense **recoiled** fits the action, and **in horror** is the clue. In the passage, Jerry **recoiled with fear** when the phone rang.

5. **She blamed her absence from the game on the ____ weather, but we knew that was sour grapes.**
   ✓ **B) inclement**
   Inclement describes bad, stormy weather. It is an adjective, so it fits before the noun **weather**. The passage mentions people who can predict **inclement weather** by an ache in their bones. **Sour grapes** means pretending you don't care about something because you can't have it. Here, she blamed the weather, but really she was hiding her disappointment.

6. **Definitions:** Match the new words with their meanings.

   inclement
   ✓ **A) unfavorable, stormy**
   Inclement means unfavourable or stormy, and it is used mostly about weather. Example: **The match was cancelled because of inclement weather.**

7. **peruse**
   ✓ **B) to read carefully**
   Peruse means to read carefully and in detail. Example: **He perused the menu before ordering.** In everyday speech it is sometimes used to mean 'skim', but the original meaning is 'read carefully'.

8. **premonition**
   ✓ **D) forewarning**
   A **premonition** is a forewarning: a feeling that something, usually bad, is about to happen. Example: **She had a premonition that the plane would be late.**

9. **desist**
   ✓ **C) cease**
   Desist means to cease, or stop, doing something. It is a formal word and is often followed by **from**: **Please desist from talking.**

10. **recoil**
    ✓ **E) draw back**
    To **recoil** is to draw back suddenly because of fear, shock or disgust. Example: **He recoiled when he saw the spider.**

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