ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 16 – Day 3

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1	C	2	E	3	D	4	B	5	A	6	B	7	D	8	A	9	C	10	E

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✔ **C) cache**
A **cache** is a secret hiding place, or the hidden store of things kept there. The art thieves had hidden what they stole, and a lucky (**fortuitous**) remark revealed that hiding place. In the passage, the bees guard their precious **cache** of nectar. Not **coterie**: a coterie is a small group of people, and the thieves themselves are not what was hidden and found.

2. **We warned him that his reprehensible _____ would eventuate in a loss of all his friends.**
✔ **E) cupidity**
Cupidity means greed, a strong desire for money or possessions. The gap needs a noun after **his reprehensible**, and greed is a fault that could **eventuate in** (end in) the loss of all his friends. The passage says the worker bees show a complete absence of **cupidity**.

3. **The good-hearted doctor went into the jungle purely for _____ reasons.**
✔ **D) altruistic**
Altruistic means unselfish, acting for the good of others. The gap needs an adjective before **reasons**, and **good-hearted** and **purely** show that the doctor wanted nothing for himself. The passage calls the worker bees **altruistic** because they work for the whole community.

4. **A _____ of bridge players made our clubroom their permanent habitat.**
✔ **B) coterie**
A **coterie** is a small group of people who share an interest. Here the shared interest is bridge (a card game). The pattern **A _____ of bridge players** needs a noun for a group. In the passage, a special **coterie** of bees heats or cools the hive.

5. **Every time the irate motorist told about the accident he had a tendency to _____ the story.**
✔ **A) embellish**
To **embellish** a story is to touch it up, adding details that make it more exciting but are often untrue. The gap comes after **to**, so it needs a verb, and **embellish** is the only verb among the options. Example: **He always embellishes his fishing stories.**

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

altruistic
✔ **B) unselfish**
Altruistic means unselfish, caring about the welfare of others more than about oneself. Example: **an altruistic doctor who works for free**.

7. **embellish**
✔ **D) adorn, touch up**
Embellish means to adorn (decorate) something, or to touch up a story by adding details. Example: **Some workers embellish the hive.**

8. **cache**
✔ **A) secret hiding place**
A **cache** is a secret hiding place, or the hidden supply stored in it. Example: **a cache of nectar**. Don't confuse it with **cash** (money); both words sound the same.

9. **coterie**
✔ **C) small group having something in common**
A **coterie** is a small, often exclusive group of people who share an interest or activity. Example: **a coterie of bridge players**.

10. **cupidity**
✔ **E) greed**
Cupidity means greed, an excessive desire for money or possessions. Example: **The bees show a complete absence of cupidity.**

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