ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 18 – Day 1

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

**1.** *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) innate**
**Innate** means natural or inborn, something you have from birth rather than learn. Here **innate cunning** is a natural cleverness that let him see through the spy's trick. Not **spontaneous**, which describes an unplanned action, not a quality a person is born with.

**2.** **The divers made an _____ attempt to rescue the dog from the murky waters.**
✓ **E) abortive**
**Abortive** means fruitless or failing; an **abortive attempt** is one that does not succeed. The article **an** before the gap also needs a word starting with a vowel sound. Example: **After several abortive attempts, they finally reached the summit.**

**3.** **Because Phil refused to _____ his philosophy, the directors were forced to invalidate his appointment.**
✓ **A) modify**
**Modify** means to change something slightly. Phil would not change his philosophy, so the directors cancelled his appointment. Not **accommodate**, because you accommodate people or needs, not your own philosophy.

**4.** **My English teacher admonished me: “I realize that the speech was to be _____, but it was not supposed to be incoherent or fraught with fallacious statements.”**
✓ **D) spontaneous**
**Spontaneous** means done without preparation, unrehearsed. The teacher accepts that the speech was unplanned but complains that it was confused and full of false statements. Example: **a spontaneous speech**.

**5.** **A quarrel was precipitated when the dietician refused to _____ the patient’s special needs.**
✓ **B) accommodate**
**Accommodate** means to adjust to or provide for someone's needs. The dietician would not **accommodate the patient's special needs**, and this started a quarrel. Not **modify**, because the dietician was not asked to change the patient's needs but to meet them.

**6.** **Definitions:** If vocabulary is getting to be your stock in trade, you should have no trouble in matching the new words with their meanings.

**abortive**
✓ **A) fruitless, useless, failing**
**Abortive** means fruitless, useless or failing. In the passage, the **abortive attempts** to teach chimps spoken languages did not succeed.

**7.** **modify**
✓ **E) to change**
**Modify** means to change something, usually a little. The researchers **had to modify the language somewhat**, which means they changed it slightly for the chimps.

**8.** **accommodate**
✓ **B) to make fit, adjust to**
**Accommodate** means to make something fit or to adjust to it. The psychologists changed sign language to **accommodate** the chimps' natural gestures, so that the language fitted them.

**9.** **spontaneous**
✓ **D) without preparation, unrehearsed**
**Spontaneous** means happening without preparation, unrehearsed. The chimps' **spontaneous gestures** were movements they made on their own, without being taught or planned.

**10.** **innate**
✓ **C) natural**
**Innate** means natural or inborn. The passage contrasts **innate movements** (natural ones the chimps were born with) with learned ones.

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