ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 19 – Day 1

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) profligate**
Profligate means wasteful, spending money carelessly. The gap needs an adjective before **husband**, and a man who wastes his salary on alcohol is profligate. In the passage, the king's **profligate rule** left the treasury bankrupt.

2. **Each spouse said that the other was culpable for their conjugal _____.**
✓ **D) strife**
Strife means discord or angry disagreement. **Conjugal strife** is conflict between a husband and wife, which fits a couple who blame each other. Compare **domestic strife** in the passage.

3. **“The number of my followers is _____,” said the flamboyant politician.**
✓ **E) legion**
Used as an adjective after a verb, **legion** means very many, a large number. **My followers are legion** means I have a huge number of followers. The passage uses the same pattern: the number of prisoners **was legion**.

4. **The need for a trial of the leaders of the abortive _____ was obviated when they fled the country.**
✓ **A) coup**
A **coup** is a sudden seizure of government power, a kind of revolution. An **abortive coup** is one that failed. In the passage, Prince Schubert took power after a **bloodless coup**.

5. **The dictator’s _____ was a veneer for his insecurity and feelings of inferiority.**
✓ **B) megalomania**
Megalomania is an abnormal desire for wealth and power, or an exaggerated belief in one's own greatness. The sentence says it hid (**was a veneer for**) the opposite feelings: insecurity and inferiority. The gap needs a noun, so the adjective **profligate** does not fit.

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

megalomania
✓ **E) abnormal desire for wealth and power**
Megalomania is an abnormal desire for wealth and power. Example: **King Andre's megalomania ruined his country.**

7. **profligate**
✓ **C) wasteful**
Profligate means wasteful, especially with money. Example: **a profligate ruler who emptied the treasury.**

8. **strife**
✓ **A) discord, disagreement**
Strife means discord, angry disagreement or conflict. Example: **domestic strife was mounting.**

9. **legion**
✓ **D) a large number**
Legion means a large number, a multitude. Example: **His critics are legion.**

10. **coup**
✓ **B) revolution**
A **coup** is a sudden seizure of power from a government, a kind of revolution. Example: **a bloodless coup brought the prince to power.**

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